

Proctor Open Streets Pilot

Community-led Process

Since 2022, the NPP and MAKERS have worked with the Proctor Neighborhood Steering Group to facilitate a community-led process that includes multiple rounds of community engagement, evaluation of existing conditions, and alignment of internal and external partners to support the Proctor neighborhood planning process.

Of the five major goals that the community identified as central to the eventual Proctor Neighborhood Plan, the idea of a reimagined and creative community space received strong support and became the Plan goal of *Community Space*. *Community Space* began quick implementation through 698 community members casting 2,094 votes on two, among many, community-identified potential projects that would receive all or some of a \$50,000 “booster grant”. An “Open Streets Pilot” was one of two actions to win the most votes for booster funding, and as a result the Proctor Steering Group set out with \$25,000 to adapt key streets to host community organized activations and promote shared streets concepts, following the council adoption of the Proctor Neighborhood Plan in February 2024.

Proctor Open Streets Pilot

With community support and booster funding in-tow, the Proctor Steering Group moved to create a new Proctor Open Streets Committee. This committee brought new community members and organizations and selected key streets to activate in their business district, informed by MAKERS festival street analysis. The Pilot, which became known as Proctor Blocks: Open Streets Events, was led by the community-driven Open Streets Committee. It culminated in 10 multi-hour street closures across the summer of 2024, enhancing various events such as the recurring BIPOC arts fest, free family and kids’ fun day, food fest featuring street and food truck vendors, and a historic street fair.

Results and Community Impact

- Streets Tested: 3 of the 7 candidate streets identified for activation were tested through the above community events and informed the City and broader community on what future temporary or permanent event activation could look like in Proctor and beyond.
- Evaluation Opportunity: During the festivities, NPP Staff intercept surveyed and heard feedback online from 76 event attendees, vendors, and volunteers. The reception of the Pilot was overwhelmingly positive with many respondents expressing interest in "bigger" and "more" street events and community activation.
- The Open Streets Pilot was one of the first large actions to be implemented as part of the Proctor Neighborhood Plan.