A walking workshop was held on **October 30th, 2021**.

Approximately **10 people** attended this in-person event.

This tour of Northgate Blvd. was developed as one of the many ways to **gather community input**.

A **walking tour guidebook** was prepared that included the walking route and questionnaires to record observations made by the community.
• 4 observation stops were included in the workshop:
  A. Smythe Academy: Northgate Blvd. and Haggin Ave.
  B. El Camino Ave. Intersection
  C. Jefferson Ave/Arden Garden Connector Intersection
  D. Northgate Shopping Center – Driveway ins/outs
3 additional locations were identified by the community:

E. Jedidiah Smith Trail
F. Northfield Drive
G. Walk along Northgate Blvd. between El Camino Ave. and Arden Garden
Significant amount of trash along the sidewalk, caught against fences.

Very narrow sidewalk.

Rolled curb made it feel inviting for vehicles to drive onto sidewalk.

Vehicles traveling fast, loud, can feel them.

Mud built up on the sidewalk between the curb near Smythe.
LOCATION A - SMYTHE ACADEMY

- No shade on this portion of the Blvd.
- School circulation issues at drop-off/pick-up.
- Observed motorists driving in the bike lane.
- Obstructions in sidewalk (utility poles) as well as overgrown plants on fences make it impossible for two people to walk side-by-side.
• Ped signal wasn’t long enough for the group to cross, let alone children, older adults, and disabled.
• Part of the problem is that peds must wait a couple of seconds after the ped signal to cross to make sure all motorists stop.
• Motorists make right turn on red without watching for pedestrians.
• Not enough space on corners to allow pedestrians to wait, and when they are waiting, feel very close to traffic.
• Concern about speed through the intersection as vehicles travel down the slope. Observed vehicle speeding from westbound Arden-Garden onto northbound Northgate.

• Concern about unprotected left in both directions but especially southbound Northgate onto Jefferson, compounded by the high speeds on northbound Northgate.
• Observe vehicles not yielding to through movement when making a left turn – turning vehicles are so focused on oncoming traffic that they do not look for bikes and peds.
• If motorist yields properly, sometimes sit for several signal cycles.
• While on the walk, we observed a red light runner.
• Driveways are heavily used.
• Motorists not watching for pedestrians at shopping center driveways.
• Observed potential conflicts in the center left turn lane.
• Observed people with grocery bags crossing Northgate to and from the shopping center (no crosswalk).
• Observed speeding and motorists driving across parking lanes within the shopping center parking lot.
• At north end of shopping center, along El Camino, bike lane narrows significantly and observed conflicts with vehicles turning right onto Northgate.
• This location wasn’t part of the walking workshop, but it was pointed out as a barrier to accessing the shared use paths along the river.

• Access to the Ninos Parkway is on the west side of Northgate.

• It is uncomfortable (possibly illegal with the double yellow centerline) to cross Northgate on a bike at this location to connect from American River to Ninos Parkway.

• To travel north on Northgate people ride against southbound traffic on the narrow sidewalk.

• The desire is to get to Garden Hwy/Jefferson to connect to Nino Parkway.
• Desire to improve comfort along Northfield to connect to Mutual Housing.
• Concerns about the motorhomes parked along Northfield.
• It was said that 5-600 kids living at Mutual Housing, highest density of children in the region.
• More housing proposed along Northfield.
• Noisy.
• Can feel the wind of the trucks traveling by, they feel close, even closer to the people using bike lanes.
• There are a lot of roots breaking up sidewalks.
• There aren’t many visual queues looking up the Blvd. to encourage motorists to slow down.
• No amenities at bus stops.
• Long distance without crosswalk, people driving across the street from one parking lot to another.
• Crossing the stop controlled side streets is uncomfortable.
GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

• The group expressed that they like the PHB on El Camino Ave near Del Paso
• This group liked the idea of a road diet, but recognize the need for community driven advocacy to garner wide support
• One participant reported that Northgate was once two lanes