



## City Thread's AMP program helps U.S. cities implement safer, more connected mobility networks faster.

Transportation, mobility, and access improvements offer cost-effective solutions to cities' challenges. Still, traditional methods of planning, project development, community engagement, and messaging often leave residents searching for better answers, and the resulting projects rarely achieve their desired intent.

Improvements to the built environment take too long to implement, infrastructure is disconnected and incomplete, and poor messaging around projects creates fear and distrust, empowering a vocal minority of opposition.

The Accelerated Mobility Playbook (AMP) provides a roadmap for accelerating project delivery, completing network-focused implementation plans, and conducting authentic community engagement that showcases existing popular support. It also enables leaders to get ahead of the opposition and neutralize misinformation.

The AMP is divided into three distinct phases. The phases build on each other—creating the goals, trust, capacity, and support needed to accelerate project delivery.

Phase 1 of the AMP is an audit of a city's current practice and an action plan for improved implementation and partnership. This phase is presented in two parts:

- A **Readiness Assessment** details the results of an audit conducted by City Thread to benchmark the current mobility environment. Understanding the current practice of project delivery, capacity of city staff and local partners, backing from elected leadership, intensity of community support, and philanthropic engagement allows City Thread to identify challenges that will affect accelerated implementation and the creation of effective partnerships.
- An **Action Plan** outlines opportunities to improve mobility network implementation methods, build lasting and effective partnerships with community stakeholders, and amplify existing public support for changes to the city's streets. The recommendations include suggested campaign objectives, budget guidance, and next steps for community action.

With the AMP action plan in hand, Phases 2 and 3 follow to build a diverse coalition of community supporters, launch a supportive media campaign, develop a process for rapid project delivery, and accelerate the construction of complete mobility networks.



## Delivering success with a high ROI

City Thread partners have used the Accelerated Mobility Playbook to achieve bold, measurable outcomes in their communities. With an average private investment of \$2.5 million in partner cities, the ROI is \$8.70 for public infrastructure investment for every \$1 private funding used to support local coalition building.

### **AUSTIN, TEXAS**

Working closely with elected officials and local nonprofit partners, the City's Transportation department installed 115 miles of new, all-ages, and abilities-protected bike lanes, side paths, and intersection crossings throughout Austin in only two years.

### **PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND**

The Providence Streets Coalition, led by more than 100 organizations and businesses, propelled the city to accelerate its "Great Streets Network" buildout by 800%, completing more than 40 miles of projects in just two years.

### **BENTONVILLE, ARKANSAS**

With 89% support from Bentonville voters, the "Bentonville Moves, Everyone Wins" media campaign is building awareness and strengthening support for rapid implementation of the city's sidewalks, greenways, and protected bike-lane network.

### **PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA**

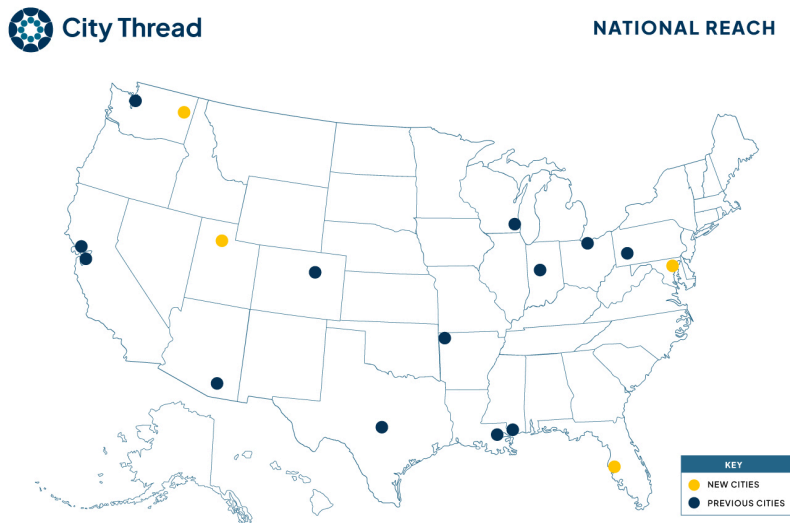
Working closely with local nonprofit partners, the city's Department of Mobility and Infrastructure installed 50 miles of new bike-friendly connections throughout Pittsburgh in only two years.



## PAST + CURRENT AMP COMMUNITIES

Cities can be bold and ambitious.

Since City Thread's AMP program launched, participants have begun accelerating the implementation of 350 miles of connected, comfortable, and safe-protected bike lanes, sidewalks, greenways, and intersections. Working with our current cities, 550 miles of complete mobility networks are on the way.



## BENTONVILLE

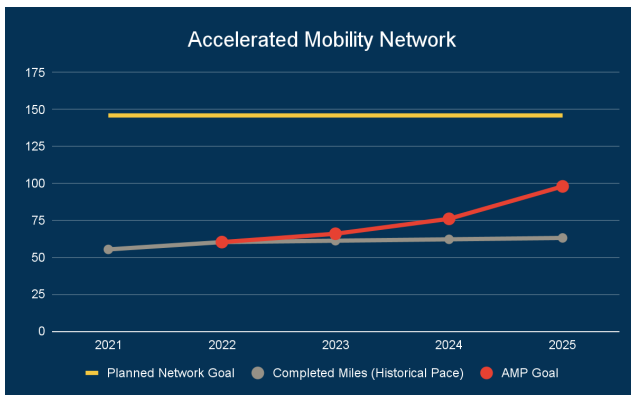
### Moving from World Class Trails to Fully Connected Mobility Networks

Bentonville, Arkansas, takes pride in its history, small-town charm, and unique natural features. With its success come challenges. Population growth and the related pressures of housing and transportation create a daunting mix of difficulties. Today, Bentonville leaders are looking for ways to address them. Bicycling can help.

Buoyed by world-class mountain bike trails and the Razorback Greenway, cycling's popularity has grown tremendously in recent years. This has developed a culture of outdoor recreation and interest in expanding bicycling to other parts of residents' everyday lives.



Like many cities, Bentonville has taken all the “right” steps - securing funding to construct projects, adopting forward-looking policies and long-term plans, and engaging leadership across both public and private sectors. But on their own, these steps haven’t led to rapid improvements in mobility.



In 2023, more than 500 like-minded organizations and individuals joined the Bentonville Moves Coalition (BMC), demonstrated a public appetite for safer mobility choices in Bentonville, and secured a public commitment from Mayor Orman to complete 30 miles of new bikeways by 2025.

Today, Bentonville leaders are using City Thread’s dynamic, accelerated approach to overcoming these challenges as they seek to construct one-third of their planned network in only two years. New strategies, coordinated between municipal and community partners, help pinpoint public support for mobility solutions and mobilize community-based coalitions in partnership with the city.



The public supports the Connecting Bentonville Plan, especially when connectivity and safety are prioritized.

- A majority support the Connecting Bentonville Plan. Eighty percent (89%) of voters support the plan's implementation. [up 9pts from 80% in 2023]
- Seventy-four percent (74%) believe the city needs to act quickly so people can get around without putting more cars on the road. [up 14pts from 60% in 2023]
- Seventy-three percent (73%) of voters believe it's important to support a separated mobility network so everyone can get around more safely and easily. [up 10pts from 63% in 2023]

Audience research, specifically polling, has been a valuable tool in maintaining political will and understanding where voters stand on mobility network construction and investment. Together, city officials and residents are moving forward faster.



## ABOUT

Formed in 2022, City Thread's three partners, Zoe Kircos, Sara Studdard, and Kyle Wagenschutz, follow a co-leadership model of non-profit management. We have more than 50 years of experience in planning, project management, coalition building, communication, and grantmaking.

From 2018–21, Kyle and Sara led the Final Mile, a program that asked, "why can't cities move faster to deliver the mobility projects their residents want?" In answering that question by bringing resources, strategies, and solutions to the table, Kyle and Sara helped five cities collectively build 335 miles of high-quality bicycle infrastructure in just two years. City Thread's Accelerated Mobility Playbook captures those lessons and brings them to cities across the U.S. City Thread is proud to work with partners such as Equitable Cities, Global Designing Cities Initiative, and the Funders Network.

Visit [www.citythread.org](http://www.citythread.org) to learn more about City Thread, Zoe, Sara, and Kyle.