



## Community Engagement for PVD Great Streets

Throughout the planning process for Great Streets, the Department of Planning and Development created a public engagement strategy that prioritized the voice of community members who utilize our streets in their everyday lives.

Over the course of several months, the City hosted a series of neighborhood meetings to gather input on the Providence Great Streets Initiative, during which more than 275 comments were collected from more than 180 attendees about topics ranging from traffic calming to street lighting to bike lanes. Comments and ideas gathered at the neighborhood meetings were then translated into draft recommendations for project.

In addition to the meetings, in early May of 2019, those recommendations were available for public view in an online interactive map, where community members had a month-long opportunity to vote on project ideas and provide additional mapped comments.

Alexis Kievning, the Neighborhood Liaison & Digital Media Specialist for the Department of Planning and Development, also worked to "meet the community where they are" by getting the word out in all 25 City neighborhoods. This outreach included flyering bus stations on major corridors around the City and in Kennedy Plaza, libraries, and directly to small businesses near each project site. These bilingual flyers were also sent home with students in most of the neighborhoods and they were hung up on school bulletin boards at the schools where we hosted public meeting.

Additionally, she made herself available to the neighborhood and merchant associations, among other community groups, by attending their monthly meetings to discuss the project and the forthcoming meetings. At each meeting, she also provided residents with an open Q&A opportunity and followed up with leaders if there were any questions, she was unable to answer in that moment.