

Team Phoenix

<u>Team Member Name</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Major</u>
Clark Vaughn	Sophomore	Finance + Accounting
Don D'Arcangelo	Senior	Public Administration
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Advisor(s): Tory Kinson

Topic Title: Walkable Cities: Healthier, Sustainable Alternatives to the American Lifestyle

Audience: Blackstone Real Estate Income Trust

Sustainable Development Goal

SDG #3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

SDG #11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

Executive Summary

Many cities in our state face challenges related to car-dependent urban design, including traffic congestion, rising greenhouse gas emissions, limited access to daily necessities without a vehicle, and reduced opportunities for physical activity. Traditional development patterns separate housing, retail, and employment centers, which can negatively impact public health, economic accessibility, and environmental sustainability.

Our strategic solution is the development of walkable, mixed-use neighborhoods centered around accessible public transportation. By integrating housing, retail, and transit within compact, pedestrian-friendly communities, cities can reduce reliance on private vehicles, improve mobility for all residents, and lower emissions. Demonstration projects like car-free neighborhoods, designed with light rail access, bike infrastructure, and pedestrian connectivity, provide a scalable model for how urban areas in our state can enhance quality of life, strengthen local economies, and promote long-term environmental and public health benefits.