

# Closing the Gap: Improving Neighborhood Walkability

## Observation

While walking through my neighborhood, I noticed a section where the sidewalk abruptly ends, forcing pedestrians to walk in the street before reconnecting further ahead.

## Current Experience Flow



## Key Problems

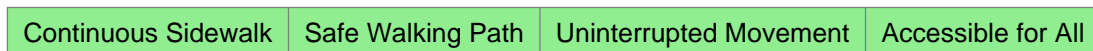
**Safety Risk:** Exposure to moving vehicles, especially for vulnerable users.

**Flow Disruption:** Path is not continuous, interrupting movement.

**Accessibility Issues:** Difficult for strollers, wheelchairs, and bikes.

**Emotional Impact:** Discomfort, hesitation, reduced sense of safety.

## Improved Experience Flow



## Why This Happens (Hypothesis)

Incomplete planning, budget constraints, poor coordination between builders, and lack of pedestrian-first design.

## Proposed Solution

Extend and connect the sidewalk to create a continuous path aligned with existing infrastructure.

## Impact

**Safety:** Reduced exposure to traffic.

**Accessibility:** Improved mobility for all users.

**Experience:** Smooth, uninterrupted walking.

**Community Value:** Encourages walking and improves perception.

## My Role

I identified a gap in the pedestrian experience and proposed system-level improvements to enhance safety, accessibility, and flow.