

## How can you Help?

### *Residents and Local Businesses:*

- Contact state and local government representatives and ask for their support ([www.in.gov](http://www.in.gov) or [www.indygov.org](http://www.indygov.org))
- Attend Homeowners Association meetings and/or contact presidents, board members, organizations in your neighborhood
- Join and/or support the INSTEPP Committee. (Meetings are the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month, at George's Neighborhood Grill at 5:30pm. Note: There is no July meeting.)
- Provide financial support

### *Government Representatives:*

- Help identify funding sources
- Identify projects underway that are collaborative with our efforts
- Sponsor legislation supportive of alternative transportation improvements
- Support transportation legislation favorable to the construction of multi-modal improvements

### **WHO and WHAT are the BENEFITS:**

- ✓ Over 30 Neighborhoods and 35,000 residents in BRAG area
- ✓ Long term sustainability of approximately 350 Local Businesses
- ✓ Implementing "Complete Streets" policies
- ✓ Community health benefits
- ✓ Environmental impacts – reduction of air/noise pollution
- ✓ City and taxpayers by reducing reliance on road system and the need for future expansion projects
- ✓ Improved property values and quality of life factors
- ✓ Accessibility for mobility challenged individuals

**More information can be found at** [www.binford71.org](http://www.binford71.org).

### **Or contact :**

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# INSTEPP

*A BRAG Committee*

## **Indy Northside Sidewalks & Trails** **Engaging People with Places**

*A Great Indy Neighborhoods Initiative (GINI) Project*



**INSTEPP, short for Indy Northside Sidewalks & Trails Engaging People with Places, is a resident led sub-committee of the BRAG organization.** BRAG (Binford Redevelopment and Growth) is a 501 (c)(3) community development group focused on and committed to creating a better and sustained quality of life on the northeast side of Indianapolis.

**INSTEPP (formerly the Pedestrian Access Committee) was formed because residents recognized a need to create safe places to walk, run, and bike beyond individual neighborhood limits.**

- A 2007 survey of area residents identified an improvement in pedestrian and bicycle access as the number one issue for improving the quality of life in our northeast side community.
- There are over 350 businesses, schools, churches, parks and other destinations in the BRAG area that are accessible only by car

Residents in the BRAG area seek paths, sidewalks or trails that will provide the opportunity to bike, walk, run, and otherwise be connected to these amenities. In order to achieve this, INSTEPP efforts are focused on:

- Developing a plan that outlines specific priorities and tasks to improve pedestrian access in the BRAG area
- Identifying key partners
- Building and supporting relationships with city, state and local departments, including the Indianapolis Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO).

**The INSTEPP committee has identified three primary goals:**

- 1) Provide safe pedestrian and bike access along:
  - 71<sup>st</sup> Street from Allisonville Road to Hague Road
  - 75<sup>th</sup> Street from Allisonville Road to Hague Road
  - Hague Road from 82<sup>nd</sup> Street to 71<sup>st</sup> Street
  - Shadeland Avenue from 82<sup>nd</sup> Street to Fall Creek Road
- 2) Provide safe pedestrian crossing at major intersections
- 3) Provide safe pedestrian crossing of Binford Boulevard



There are other local projects underway that are collaborative with INSTEPP efforts. In May of 2009, the **Binford Village Study**, was initiated by the MPO. This study will evaluate the needs and potential impacts of a light rail station near the intersection of 71<sup>st</sup> Street and Binford Boulevard. Providing alternative modes of transportation to get people to and from a transit supportive destination will be a key part of this study. In addition, the City of Indianapolis is currently constructing shared bike lanes along Allisonville Road. These bike lanes are located along the west boundary of BRAG and will provide further connectivity to portions of north/central Indianapolis.

BRAG was awarded one of six Great Indy Neighborhoods Initiative (GINI) grants from the Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC), Indianapolis Neighborhood Resource Center (INRC) and the City of Indianapolis. The grant makes funding and technical assistance available for 3 years to plan and implement quality of life enhancements. But the progress of desirable projects such as INSTEPP depends largely upon the continuance of community input and resident-driven efforts.