

Attachment C
Racial Equity Pocket Question Form

1. What are the racial impacts?

Street and bike path projects have a significant impact on quality of life, and execution of resurfacing projects can exacerbate or alleviate existing racial inequities depending on how they are approached. By prioritizing historically underserved areas in town with significant BIPOC populations, the Town may help in diminishing the transportation barriers experienced by community members in these areas.

2. Who is or will this experience burden?

The 2023 Street and Bike Path Resurfacing project may burden community residents due to parking restrictions or noise and temporary traffic delays and/or detours. Town Staff may be burdened due to time involved in managing the project.

3. Who is or will this experience benefit?

The 2023 Street and Bike Path Resurfacing Project includes 1.25 miles of resurfacing along with spot repairs around town to improve usability and preempt more expensive repairs down the line. This project will benefit those who reside on and/or utilize the streets and/or bike paths. Investments in street and bike path repair are critical to maintaining safe streets and bike paths. Included in the project are improvements to intersections at Neville Dr @ Alabama Ave, Neville Dr @ Davie Rd, and Bert St @ Davie Rd – all of which are in a historically underserved and racially diverse area of Carrboro.

4. What are the root causes of inequity?

Root causes of inequality can include “historical racial segregation, governmental policies, a stagnating minimum wage, outsourcing, globalization, changes in technology, and the waning power of labor unions.” (Johnson, 2022)

Neighborhoods and streets in need of improvements may be associated with characteristics like “distressed” or “unsafe”. BIPOC communities and/or neighborhoods have also been mixed with these descriptions, which threatens their ability to attract investment. Communities of color have historically fared poorly in decisions relating to transportation improvements. Dedicated funding sources are used to enhance predominately white neighborhoods while communities of color remain without basic infrastructure and safe streets.

5. What might be the unintended consequences of this action or strategy?

Unintended consequences of the project may include temporary disruptions to services or access in affected areas of Town. Repaired roads may result in higher vehicle speeds which may impact safety. Noise and other disturbances from construction activities may temporarily affect individuals’ daily routines, work schedules or quality of life.