Everyday walking
Living locally: 20-minute neighbourhoods
What it means for communities –

How easy or difficult is it for you to get to where you want to go on a daily basis?
“If you can’t walk the whole route, you can’t make the journey.”

“It’s so frustrating that we have lovely walks, but I can’t use them because of the steps, I walk my dog around the park, but the steps are too much so I can’t get to the health centre”, Margaret, Community Member with visual impairment and mobility issues.
Land ownership
A thorny issue…

The community explained that the Network Rail car park, built for the railway is underutilised and sits almost empty, whilst the houses behind the fence have requested more car parking space. Pedestrians would like to cross the car park to get to the train station rather than walk all the way round, but it has been fenced off and is privately owned, so they have no influence or control.
People are more likely to walk if the area is well kept.

Care & maintenance: Communities consistently report areas that require more / better cleansing and waste management systems. It was reported that walking is made unpleasant because of litter, fly tipping and general lack of care. People also linked the lack of care to feeling less safe and feeling that walking was less pleasant and they would prefer to avoid specific areas.
“I would love to have more shops around the village.”

“The Clansman bar is lying empty and the area around the main shops is unattractive, hazardous and difficult to navigate. The Community Centre requires a major upgrade and suffers frequent flooding - not attractive.”

“Shopping so poor across North Lanarkshire - bookies, pubs, cafes of sorts, not good enough and will not bring people in or encourage them to stay local.”
“Crossing the B825 doesn’t feel safe, and many of the older people struggle.” Anne-Marie, Community Council

“This is a really bad crossing.” (Baillie’s Lane, Airdrie), Alex, Rehabilitation Officer (Visual Impairment)

“I’d like safe places for walking.” Marian, Caldercruix
Public transport
And here’s the rub

“The 212 bus finishes at 6.30pm, and now the 312 won’t come into the village, there are no buses in the evening. And it’s quite a long walk from the station and uphill.”

“I don’t even know where the buses go, and there’s no information except online, well that’s no good for me”
Small changes, big difference

“If I could just stop for a rest”….
How to make a difference
The devil is in the detail!

Ask, involve, understand, and have the resources to respond!
THANK YOU!

Any questions?