



Aniya Porter

Teacher Brenda Gauss **School** John Early Museum Magnet Middle School | Nashville, TN

Issue What is the one social improvement that will help all of us live in a safer, more positive community?

Project Description We researched areas of need within the community. Our research showed areas of need in the community center, more bus shelters, and sidewalks in our community. We then created & conducted surveys to determine community opinions, thoughts, & support. My group chose sidewalks as our project. Our research showed that the number of injuries & fatalities in areas without sidewalks is greater than in areas with sidewalks. We also discovered that a large number of students in our school walk to & from school daily, not on sidewalks, putting their lives/health in danger. We then visited & presented to local area churches, wrote letters and contacted various city officials including our city councilman, Mr. Frank Harrison, the mayor of Nashville, Karl Dean, and our city planning commission. We displayed our project on our Museum exhibit night and issued invitations to all of the above named officials. Our city councilman did attend and was quite impressed with our level of work, our passion for the community and our communication techniques.

Project Outcome As a result of our project. Mayor Karl Dean has proposed \$17 million in his budget for the upcoming year for sidewalks in various communities throughout Nashville. He has also proposed \$12 million for added bus shelters and another \$7 million for updates and improvements to the community center.

Request We would like to see our efforts come to fruition by having those sidewalks in our community. We would like our elected official to support us by holding the mayor accountable for his promises.