

## **SOLANO COUNTYWIDE BICYCLE PLAN PURPOSE STATEMENT, GOALS, AND OBJECTIVES**

**ALTERNATIVE MODES ELEMENT PURPOSE STATEMENT:** One County, Many Choices for Mobility ~ To establish program and facilities for the transition toward sustainable transit-oriented communities with integrated multimodal<sup>1</sup> transportation choices for Solano’s residents, workers, and visitors. This will be accomplished by incorporating alternative modes as a central part of travel to ensure accessible, convenient, healthy, safe, efficient and cost-effective travel options to enhance connectivity, and will be compatible with local land use planning.

**BICYCLE PLAN PURPOSE STATEMENT:**

**“To enable safe and efficient bicycle travelling as an everyday means of transportation in Solano County”**

**GOALS:** Goals are the milestones by which achievement of the Purpose Statement are measured. The Goals also represent the vision for Solano County’s bicycle system in the future. In order to implement the Purpose of the Solano Countywide Bicycle Plan, the following goals are/will be established:

**GOALS:**

1. Plan and maintain a current Countywide Bikeway Network.
2. Build the bicycle transportation network by planning, designing, constructing and managing transportation facilities that will meet the needs of the cycling public.
3. Improve bicyclist safety in Solano County.
4. Increase the use of bicycles as a viable alternative to the automobile.
5. Develop an integrated and coordinated transportation system that connects bicycling with other modes of transportation, which includes, but is not limited to, driving, walking, and taking public transportation.
6. Provide safe access for bicyclists to all points in Solano County.
7. Develop a bicycle network that connects to northern California’s alternative modes system.
8. Develop the Countywide Bicycle Plan to serve as a bicycle master plan or a foundation for local agencies to use in the development of a local bicycle plan.
9. Develop a standard countywide wayfinding signage system to regionally direct bicyclists that can be adopted by local agencies.

**OBJECTIVES:** Objectives are the actions by which achievement of the Goals are measured.

**OBJECTIVES:**

**Goal #1: Plan and maintain a current Countywide Bikeway Network.**

**Objective 1** - Establish Selection Criteria for the Countywide Bikeway Network to include (but not limited to) the following criteria:

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<sup>1</sup> A system or corridor that accommodates all modes of surface transportation including bicycles, pedestrians, transit vehicles, ferries, trains and personal vehicles

- a. Safety and Access (gap closures, accessibility, safety)
- b. Quality of Life (health benefits, reduction of vehicle usage, best practices in design)
- c. Implementation (community participation, long-term plans/policies, cost-benefit calculations, strategically funded project)

**Objective 2** - Maintain the Countywide Bicycle Plan, which identifies existing and future needs, and provides specific recommendations for facilities and programs to be phased in over the next 20 years.

- a. Update the Countywide Bicycle Plan every three to five years, or as necessary to maintain eligibility for state and federal funds.
- b. Review the projects identified in the Countywide Bicycle Plan annually to identify projects that have been completed.
- c. Ensure that the Countywide Bicycle Plan is consistent with all existing regional, state, and federal bicycle documents, and is consistent with current adopted local bikeway master plans.
- d. Develop the Countywide Bicycle Plan as a resource and coordinating document for local jurisdictions while utilizing existing /planned local bikeway facilities to the extent possible

**Objective 3** - Develop detailed and ranked improvements in the Countywide Bicycle Plan

- a. Identify the top ten to twenty bikeway segments to be completed in the short-term (2010-2015), mid-term (2015-2020), and long-term (2020-2035), based on a variety of objective and subjective criteria, including (but not limited to) number of activity centers served, closure of critical gaps, immediate safety hazards, existing and potential bicycle use, support from the public and local jurisdictions, and availability of funding.
- b. Develop detailed implementation information on each recommended segment, including length, classification, adjacent traffic volumes and speeds, proximity to activity centers, cost, and overall feasibility.
- c. Develop education and maintenance programs that may be adopted by local jurisdictions.

**Goal #2: Build the bicycle transportation network by planning, designing, and maintaining transportation facilities that will meet the needs of the cycling public.**

**Objective 4** - Maximize the amount of state and federal funding for bikeway improvements that can be received by Solano County

- a. Identify current regional, state, and federal funding programs, along with specific funding requirements and deadlines
- b. Encourage multi-jurisdictional funding applications of the regional bikeway system
- c. Develop a prioritized list of countywide improvements along with detailed cost estimates, and identify appropriate funding sources for each proposal
- d. Encourage the formation of reliable local, regional, and state funding sources which can be used to leverage federal funds

- e. Encourage the local jurisdictions to identify and include countywide bikeway improvements in their Capital Improvement Plans
- f. Develop education and maintenance programs that may be adopted by local jurisdictions
- g. Update and maintain the Solano Bicycle and Pedestrian Program (SBPP) to strategically fund the construction of projects

**Objective 5** - Build upon the existing bikeway facilities and programs in Solano County

- a. Develop an implementation plan for the Solano Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan
- b. Inventory the existing system
- c. Identify existing and proposed bike paths, lanes, and routes, and design regional system to maximize use to the extent feasible
- d. Identify and implement gap closure projects
- e. Include bicycle facilities in the development of all new road, and roadway improvement projects
- f. Encourage the use of existing natural and manmade corridors such as creeks, railroad rights of way, and corridors for future bike path alignments
- g. Identify existing bicycle education programs, and target future expansion as need warrants
- h. Conduct before and after bicycle counts at specific locations and times to measure the relative effectiveness of various investments. Submit all data to the STA for review and storage
- i. Ensure that new roadways, transportation projects, and developments improve bicycle travel and system continuity
- j. Work with local agencies to improve maintenance of existing bikeways and roadway shoulders
- k. Identify guidelines for best practices in bicycle project planning that local agencies may adopt
- l. Develop a Safe Routes to Transit (SR2T) plan
- m. Maintain the Safe Routes to School (SR2S) plan and implementation of the program

**Objective 6** - Encourage public participation and continuation of the Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC)

- a. Continue regular meetings of the BAC; BAC members should help member agencies develop local bikeway master plans and submit them for approval to local City Councils
- b. Identify a Bicycle Coordinator in each jurisdiction who is a staff member whose responsibility is to (a) provide support to the BAC, (b) act as a liaison to the City, (c) complete funding applications, and (d) provide inter-departmental coordination
- c. Public involvement in the planning process should be maximized through workshops and other means

**Goal #3: Improve bicyclist safety in Solano County.**

**Objective 7** - Improve bicycle safety conditions

- a. Monitor and track bicycle-related collision levels through available data sources
- b. Develop a system for reporting and responding to maintenance problems on the existing bikeway system
- c. Incorporate bicycle safety curriculum into existing motorist education and training
- d. Include lighting and emergency call boxes along Class I bike paths carrying high numbers of commuters as they are eligible for a variety of regional, state, and federal funding sources
- e. Identify bicycle routes located in agricultural spraying zones, and warn bicyclists through signing about the potential hazard and the typical spraying periods
- f. Incorporate provisions for safe bicycle travel and/or detours in traffic control plans and through construction zones

**Objective 8** - Coordinate with other safety programs (i.e. Safe Routes to School (SR2S), Safe Routes to Transit (SR2T))

- a. Develop a comprehensive bicycle education program with opportunities to be taught to all school children in Solano County
- b. Develop a bicycle education program for adults in Solano County

**Goal #4: To increase the use of bicycles as a viable alternative to the automobile, with an emphasis on Safe Routes to School and Safe Routes to Transit programs.**

**Objective 9** - Develop a regional bikeway system which meets the needs of commuter and casual bicyclists, helps reduce vehicle trips, and links residential neighborhoods with regional destinations countywide

- a. Develop a commuter bikeway system which provides direct routes between residential neighborhoods and regional employment areas, schools, and universities
- b. Identify connections to lower volume streets, off-street bike paths, as well as regional and natural destinations countywide
- c. Develop a countywide bikeway system which is connected to proposed local and regional bikeway systems, and which is a maximum of two (2) miles from any residential neighborhood in Solano County
- d. Develop a bikeway network which balances the need for directness with concerns for safety and user convenience. Where needed, develop a dual system which serves both the experienced and inexperienced bicyclist
- e. Strive to develop Class I (bike paths) and Class II (bike lanes) over Class III (bike routes)

**Objective 10** - Develop a coordinated marketing strategy to encourage bicycling in Solano County.

- a. Develop a series of promotional/marketing incentives to encourage employees to use bicycles to reach work. Quantify the estimated future benefits of bicycling in terms of air quality, congestion, and health

- b. Encourage and expand the Solano Napa Commuter Information (SNCI) bicycle incentives program
- c. Periodically update the BikeLinks map for public distribution to reflect new bicycle facilities and information
- d. Sponsor and support annual bicycle events such as Bike to Work Week, countywide bicycle tours, and adult safety courses in conjunction with other congestion management efforts
- e. Encourage the coordination of a bicycling advocacy groups, such as cycling clubs and coalitions

**Goal #5: To develop an integrated and coordinated transportation system that connects bicycling with other modes of transportation, which includes, but is not limited to, driving, walking, and taking public transportation.**

**Objective 11** - Solicit input from bicyclists and pedestrians for all transportation projects

**Objective 12** - Maximize the multi-modal connections to the Bikeway System

- a. Ensure that the countywide bikeway system serves all multi-modal stations, ferry terminals, and park-and-ride lots in Solano County
- b. Work with local and regional transit agencies to install bike lockers at terminals, bike racks on all buses, and designated storage areas on Capitol Corridor trains and ferries serving Solano County
- c. Develop an intermodal transportation system that serves the transportation needs of Solano County's residents, workers, and visitors in a manner that is compatible with characteristics of natural, economic, and social resources
- d. Encourage review of projects by the BAC

**Objective 13** - Implement Caltrans Context-Sensitive Solutions and Metropolitan Transportation Commission's (MTC) Complete Streets policies as an approach to plan, design, construct, and operate a comprehensive multimodal transportation system

- a. Refer to Caltrans Context Sensitive Solutions resources:  
<http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/oppd/context/index.htm>
- b. Fill out and submit a complete streets checklist with all applications for funds administered by STA:  
[http://www.mtc.ca.gov/planning/bicyclespedestrians/routine\\_accommodations.htm](http://www.mtc.ca.gov/planning/bicyclespedestrians/routine_accommodations.htm)

**Goal #6: Provide safe access for bicyclists to all points in Solano County**

**Objective 14** - Plan and implement a bikeway network that enables bicyclists to reach all areas in Solano County

**Objective 15** - Inventory areas that are not safely accessible by bicycle

**Goal #7: Develop a bicycle network that connects to northern California's alternative modes system**

**Objective 16** – Implement the projects identified in the 2004 California Cross State Bicycle Route Study that are within Solano County

**Objective 17** - Maintain current policies that are consistent with MTC's regional bikeway network

- a. Review Regional Bikeway Network projects

**Objective 18** - Plan and implement inter-county bikeway connections (i.e. Yolo County, Napa County, Sacramento, other)

**Goal #8: Develop the Countywide Bicycle Plan to serve as a bicycle master plan or foundation for local agencies to use in the development of a local bicycle plan**

**Objective 19** - Encourage the City Council adoption of the Countywide Bicycle Plan by all STA member agencies

**Objective 20** - Make the Countywide Bicycle Plan available for adoption by local agencies that do not have a bicycle master plan

**Goal #9: Develop a standard countywide wayfinding signage system to regionally direct bicyclists that can be adopted by local agencies.**