

II. Where are We Going and How Do We Get There?

A. Vision Statement

San Antonio and Bexar County recognize bicycling as a clean, healthy and affordable form of transportation and recreation. A comprehensive on-road and off-road bicycle network will make our community a place where bicycling will be desirable for trips of all kinds by all segments of the population.

B. Goals and Objectives

Goal # 1: Institutionalize Bicycling

Recognize and incorporate bicycling as a significant and required element for all transportation, land use, and economic development planning for the San Antonio/Bexar County region.

Objectives

- a. Create full-time Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator staff positions at the local governmental and transportation agencies.
- b. Include bicycle transportation in the review process during planning and design of projects as well as during review of subdivision and development proposals to ensure proper inclusion of bicycle, pedestrian and transit needs in plans, projects and design. Require that the following review processes include an assessment of bicycle transportation needs as defined in this plan:

Transportation

- Subarea Transportation Studies
- Design Concept Reports
- Candidate Assessment Reports
- Corridor Studies

Land Use and Economic Development

- Comprehensive Plan
- Master Development Plans
- Standard New Development
- Subarea Plans
- Greenways

- c. Coordinate bicycle planning with other communities and agencies through participation in the MPO's Bicycle Mobility Task Force.

- d. Conduct periodic surveys of bicyclists in the San Antonio/Bexar County region to determine bicycle use patterns and collect other information useful in development of the local bicycle network.
- e. Assist local agencies, neighborhood groups and user groups in developing future neighborhood and corridor plans for bicycling.

Goal # 2: Build the Network to Increase Ridership

Create a comprehensive on-road and off-road bicycle network throughout the San Antonio/Bexar County region.

Objectives

- a. Promote uniform facility design and implementation throughout the San Antonio/Bexar County area.
- b. Plan and prioritize reasonably direct routes between major activity centers while emphasizing the use of collector streets to increase bicycle access throughout the urban area.
- c. Maintain and improve the quality, quantity and operation of bikeway network facilities.
- d. Create a regional off-road system of creek-based linear parks connected by hike and bike trails.
- e. Connect existing bicycle facilities and eliminate gaps in the region's current bicycle network.
- f. Establish and maintain a GIS database of all regional facilities and develop a regional bicycle facility map.
- g. Develop standards for bicycle parking in existing and new land use development including possible changes to local parking ordinances.
- h. Continue to work with VIA Metropolitan Transit to further integrate bicycling with the transit system.

Goal # 3: Find the Funding

Identify and secure local, state, federal and private funding to expand and improve bicycle transportation facilities and programs in the San Antonio/Bexar County region. Create a continuing local source for bicycle funding.

Objectives

- a. Identify and obtain adequate funding from local, state and federal sources for bicycle improvements to the bicycle network.
- b. Seek grant sources for additional bicycle funding as well as private funding.

Goal # 4: Make Bicycling Safer through Education and Enforcement

Develop a program to educate elected officials and the general public concerning the opportunities, benefits, and safety aspects of bicycling in the San Antonio and Bexar County region.

Objectives

- a. Work with the MPO's Bicycle Mobility Task Force and other organizations to create and promote bicyclist and motorist safety and education outreach programs.
- b. Improve bicycling safety through the enforcement of bicycle rules and regulations.
- c. Promote greater respect for bicyclists by other roadway users with a continuous on-going "Share the Road" campaign.
- d. Increase public information through the development of a regional interactive bicycle web site.
- e. Continue to use Hike & Bike Month as a forum for education and promotion of bicycling activities.

III. Background

In early 1975 the City of San Antonio Department of Planning and Community Development published a draft Bicycle Master Plan. That plan recommended a network of corridors suitable for development of bikeways. The Bicycle Master Plan was accepted by various public agencies such as the Planning and Zoning Commission and the San Antonio River Authority. It was also presented to the City Council but not adopted as City policy at that time.

In December 1994 the San Antonio – Bexar County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) approved a long-range Metropolitan Transportation Plan (TransVision 2015) which contained a Bicycle Mobility Plan. Goals of the 1994 Bicycle Mobility Plan were to 1) double bicycle ridership by 2005, 2) decrease the bicycle accident rate by 15% by 2005 and 3) increase the awareness of bicycling as a valid form of transportation throughout the community. The Bicycle Mobility Plan called for the creation of the MPO's Bicycle Mobility Task Force as well as