

To: Lincoln MPO Technical Committee
From: David Pesnichak, Transportation Planner
Date: 3/21/2013
Re: Bicycle and Pedestrian Capital Plan

Previous Action

On March 12, 2012, the Mayor's Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Committee (PBAC) voted unanimously to recommend that the Bicycle and Pedestrian Capital Plan, as amended, be accepted as an official policy document of the Lincoln Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO).

Requested Action

It is requested that the MPO Technical Committee review and vote to recommend that the Bicycle and Pedestrian Capital Plan, as amended, be accepted by the MPO Officials Committee.

To View Full Plan: <http://lincoln.ne.gov/city/plan/mpo/mporpts/bikeped/bikeped.htm>

Purpose of the Plan

The Lincoln/Lancaster County 2040 Comprehensive Plan and Long Range Transportation Plan are the planning documents that guide the community on the orderly and planned implementation of the City's multimodal transportation system.

One of the 2040 Plan's goals is to plan a safe, efficient, continuous, coordinated and convenient multi-modal transportation system that serves the needs of the community now and in the future. A multi-modal transportation system needs to incorporate bicycles and pedestrians into the planning and implementation of transportation improvement projects.

The purpose of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Capital Plan is to identify strategies and projects to develop a comprehensive bicycle and pedestrian network, to increase the use, safety, and convenience of bicycling and walking within and around the City of Lincoln and Lancaster County, and to promote bicycling and walking as integral components of the region's multi-modal transportation system.

Procedural Background

This Plan was continued as a part of the contract with the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) consultant, LSA, in 2011. LSA helped develop the initial scope of the project with remaining money from the LRTP process.

In late November 2011, a field inventory of pedestrian and bike networks was conducted utilizing the help of 25 volunteers who canvassed the entire city gathering data.

Following the initial data collection, an all-day Saturday workshop was held in December 2011. This workshop was attended by members of the PBAC, interdepartmental staff and the consulting team.

Utilizing the information collected in November 2011 and input from the all-day workshop, top issues and priorities were identified which allowed for the drafting of the initial document.

The MPO Technical Committee was briefed on the initial draft of the Plan in February 2012.

Once the initial draft was written and interdepartmental comments were received, a Public Open House was held at the Jayne Snyder Center in December 2012 which had an attendance of over 100 people, many of whom submitted comments on the Plan and the bicycling and pedestrian networks in general.

Over the next month, the comments from the public were incorporated into the Plan. This draft Plan was then presented to the PBAC and submitted for another round of interdepartmental review.

On March 12, 2013, the PBAC voted on the draft Plan and recommended unanimously that the Plan be accepted as an official policy document by the Lincoln MPO.