

ADOT STATEWIDE BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN PLAN COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS (CCP)

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STATEWIDE BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN PLAN OVERVIEW

The principal focus of the proposed study is to address the most critical bicycle and pedestrian transportation planning needs on the State Highway System (SHS). This may include, but is not limited to, a bicycle and pedestrian needs analysis of all roads. Current conditions may be inventoried, needs assessed, and deficiencies identified to provide a baseline of typical conditions and issues regarding bicycling and walking on the SHS. Significant population growth and economic development in the last seven years requires new comprehensive planning to address growing demands placed on the SHS. Included within the *Plan* update will be a summary of bicycle and pedestrian improvements that have been made since the Arizona Statewide Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan was completed in 2003.

The major product of the study will be a final report which contains an updated plan for bicycle and pedestrian improvements over the short-, mid-, and long-range, incorporating both roadway and off-roadway bicycle and pedestrian transportation facilities.

Michael Sanders, Bicycle and Pedestrian Program Manager, ADOT-Multi-Modal Planning Division will serve as the ADOT Project Manager.

PUBLIC AND STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT OVERVIEW

Stakeholders can be external or internal to ADOT and include the general public, businesses, government agencies, tribal governments, non-government organizations, and other interest groups who have an interest in the outcome of project decisions.

The public and stakeholder involvement program is designed with the expectation that Arizona residents, bicycle organizations, pedestrian groups, and other groups desire to participate in decisions about how state resources will be applied to bicycle and pedestrian facilities. Public input into the plan is critical for its acceptance and ultimate successful implementation.

The Plan will be conducted with a collaborative process involving stakeholders that include ADOT staff, other public agency staff, elected officials, Councils of Government (COGs), Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs), tribal governments, and the public. Throughout the development of the Plan, information will be presented to and solicited from stakeholders through individual interviews, focus group meetings, public meetings, and other means of communication.

Objectives of the Public Involvement Plan

- Major objective is transparency and inclusion of interested individuals and groups
- Meaningful engagement of COGs and MPOs
- Comprehensive involvement of appropriate ADOT staff/divisions
- Public education of what the real issue is and what is required. Need to communicate the options clearly so that people can make informed choices.

Key Issues of the Public Involvement Plan

- Urban vs. rural needs
- Identification of interest groups
- COGs/MPOs (need to be meaningfully involved)
- Meaningful involvement of ADOT Staff and Divisions

Engaging Minority and Low-Income Populations

Executive Order 12898, *Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low Income Populations*, established environmental justice as a federal government priority. Environmental justice was initially established in Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act. This study will address environmental justice issues in the following manner.

Transportation improvement projects recommended by this study may differentially affect residents. This study must examine the potential effects, both positive and negative, that these projects may have on minority and low-income populations. Census data are readily available and describe the population living within geographic regions affected by proposed transportation improvements. Should any of the projects place a disproportionate burden on minority or low-income populations, the study must explain the considerations that dictated this recommendation over alternative actions. In addition, a concerted effort must be made to reach minority and low-income populations when conducting the study's public involvement activities. Documentation of efforts to address environmental justice issues must be included in the appropriate study products. Documentation of efforts to engage minority and low-income populations will be provided.

OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATION

This section will describe the study team’s techniques to reach out to the public and stakeholders to build awareness of the process and encourage participation. Techniques for outreach and communication will include an interactive project website, use of social media and other communication via email, stakeholder briefings, print materials, and media releases.

Identification of Interest Groups

Walking Groups (identified through Internet search and Blue Cross/Blue Shield)

Silver Sneakers

Arizona Hikers (online site)

Talk to the cities about surveying those that sign up for hikes through parks and rec

Saguaro Sun Striders Walking Club

Walksport Mall Walking Program

Wandering Soles

Tucson Volkssport

Ahwatukee Women’s Walking Club

Mothers Walking/Running Clubs

Thunder Mountain Trekkers

Arizona Road Racers

East Valley Runners

Havasu Hustlers

[Northern Arizona Trail Runners Association](#)

Sedona Road Runners

Yuma Desert Runners

West Valley Runners

<http://www.azbikeped.org/walking-for-recreation.html#localclubs>

<http://www.livingstreetsalliance.org/>

<http://www.flagstaff.az.gov/index.aspx?nid=1824>

Bicycle Groups

http://www.azbikeped.org/bicycle-organizations.html#local_clubs

Respondents to Bicycle Safety Survey



BSAP Survey
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Project Announcement and Public Involvement Plan Available for Review

First, we will do a public announcement of the project. The announcement will review the history of ADOT’s efforts to enhance bicycle and pedestrian facilities and the purpose and goals of the update. This is where the most important piece of communication is about the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. This is an “invitation” to be involved.

- News Release
- Announcements on Facebook, ADOT Blog, and Twitter

- Direct communication with local governments, COGs, MPOs, tribal governments, and interest groups

Outreach and Involvement at Planning Milestones

A major component of the communication program will be techniques such as direct outreach, electronic communication to stakeholders, and media releases to encourage participation at key points in the planning process to inform the planning team and guide decisions. The key points will be centered on the activities associated with the three working papers.

Continuous Comment Response

All communications about the project will encourage written comment, either via the interactive web site, email, fax, or mail. Participants in the process will be able to view online all comments received along with associated responses throughout the project.

INVOLVEMENT AT PLANNING MILESTONES

CCP will have the following responsibilities:

- Prepare public involvement work plan
- Review technical work plan
- Steering Committee and stakeholder activities
 - Compile and update stakeholder list
 - Review Steering Committee presentations
 - Facilitate Steering Committee meetings and assist with meeting notes
- Public involvement activities
 - Create/update website and compile responses
 - Prepare a comprehensive mailing list and distribute all mailings
 - Participate in team meetings
 - Review technical presentations and materials
 - Facilitate responses to questions
 - Prepare public involvement summaries
- Media coordination
 - Prepare/submit media releases
 - Prepare/submit ads
 - Lead responses to media
- ADOT briefings
 - Participate in team preparation meetings
 - Review meeting locations
 - Review technical presentation and materials
 - Participate in responses to questions
- Reports
 - Prepare final public involvement summary

Public outreach

There will be two rounds of online public outreach during the course of the study. Public meetings will not be held. Instead, social media and other means of electronic communication

will be used to disseminate information about the study and receive input. There will be direct outreach to stakeholders.

Techniques to conduct outreach and gather input

- Website
- Social media: Facebook, ADOT blog
- E-messages
- Surveys

Phase 1

Phase 1 will focus on Working Paper No. 1 (Vision and Goal Statements, Performance Criteria) and Working Paper No. 2 (Assessment of Current Conditions and Needs).

CCP will prepare Report 1: First Phase of Public Involvement and Summary.

The report will include the public involvement activities that were conducted related to bicycling and walking conditions within state highway rights of way. It will also describe what has occurred in the study process and future work tasks.

Phase 2

Phase 2 will present the content of Working Paper No. 3 (Activities to Achieve the Vision and Goals).

CCP will prepare Report 2: First Phase of Public Involvement and Summary.

The report will include the public involvement activities that were conducted related to the efforts required to meet the vision and goals.

Final public involvement summary

CCP will prepare a summary of all public involvement activities to be included in the final report.