TRACKING THE GATEWAY BIKE PLAN
A LAYERED APPROACH TO BICYCLING METRICS

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5 2017
SUSTAINABILITY SUMMIT
What is the Gateway Bike Plan?
Who implements the plan?
How do we track progress?
What is the Gateway Bike Plan?

The Gateway Bike Plan is the blueprint for building a regional on-street network of bikeways in St. Louis City, St. Louis County, and St. Charles County, with connections to area trails and greenways.

The Plan was completed in 2011 and is being implemented by communities across the region.
VISION: The Gateway Bike Plan will create the bicycle component to the regional transportation network that accommodates all users and promotes consistent design and development of bicycle facilities.

MISSION: Increase the number of people using bicycles for transportation while reducing the number of crashes involving bicycles.
Recommended Bike Network (1019 miles)
Gateway Bike Plan Goals

Goal 1: Provide a prioritized system of routes that are contiguous and connected to other on- and off-road facilities.

Goal 2: Improve safety for all modes of transportation through the careful design and implementation of bicycle facilities.

Goal 3: Improve safety for all modes of transportation through the implementation of educational and enforcement programs.

Goal 4: Expand the public’s view that bicycles are a viable/acceptable mode of transportation through encouragement programs.

Goal 5: Increase the commitment of public officials to support or initiate public policy for bicycling in all levels of government—state, local, and regional.
Who is working to implement the Plan?

Other partners include:
- local municipalities
- advocacy organizations
- bike shops
- area residents

The Gateway Bike Plan Working Group
The Gateway Bike Plan Effect

- **Shared Sense of Purpose**
  - Regional Perspective
  - Culture of Collaboration

- **Clear and Direct Path to a Desired End**
  - Vision, goals, objectives
  - Actions for different agencies and partners
  - Performance measures to track progress
Counting Bikes

BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN COUNT RESULTS

ST. LOUIS ON THE RISE

- Ranked the 23rd most walkable city in the Nation
- Ranked 22nd for share of bicycle commuters, among the 75 largest US cities
- 270% increase in bike commuting since 2000
- Fastest bicycle commuting growth rate among the largest US cities

BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN COUNT PROCESS OVERVIEW

- Fueled by Great Rivers Greenway, implemented by Trailnet since 2011
- Data is reported to the National Bicycle and Pedestrian Documentation Project
- Helps drive local bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure and programming
- In 2016, 122 volunteers donated 2,444 hours of their time to collect data, to count 13,000 people

THE DATA

- 2013: Counts held at 54 locations over 4 days in September
- 2014: Counts held at 61 locations over 2 days in September
- 2015: Counts held at 60 locations over 2 days in September
- All individuals on bicycle and foot over the span of two hours are counted for two days
- The percent change of activity from 2015-2016 is calculated based on an average cook day

HIGHEST ACTIVITY Locations in 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th># Counted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Forest Park Plaza</td>
<td>1,672</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forest Park Plaza &amp; St.</td>
<td>1,270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand &amp; Lindbergh</td>
<td>1,005</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Overall Rate of Change by Mode

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1685</td>
<td>1,638</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,531</td>
<td>1,569</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6916</td>
<td>7,238</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Largest Increase by Mode

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oakland &amp; Tamm</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>57.5</td>
<td>130%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baxter &amp; Clayton</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manchester &amp; Bipp</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clarkson &amp; Kehrs Mill</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>10.5</td>
<td>425%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ferguson &amp; Page</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>183%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lucas - Hunt &amp; Natural Bridge</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>113%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clarkson &amp; Kehrs Mill</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>560%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lucas - Hunt &amp; Natural Bridge</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>113%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Florissant &amp; Suburban</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>47.5</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Counts sponsored by the Great Rivers Greenway District

Additional thanks to AASHTO and EdiGraph, the Gateway Bike Plan Working Group, and East-West Gateway Council of Governments
Counting Bikes

2015 TOP BIKE COUNT LOCATIONS

1. Marine at Crystal Springs Quarry
2. Skinker at Forest Park Pkwy
3. Tower Grove at Shaw
4. Wydown at Skinker
5. Wydown at Big Bend
6. West Pine at Kingshighway
7. Gravois at Potomac
8. Euclid at Forest Park Pkwy
9. Clayton at I-270
10. Holmes at Scott
Counting Bikes

AVERAGE STATION COUNT VOLUMES, 2012 - 2015

- Pedestrian
- Bicycle

-23% 53% -11%
Reported Bicycle Crashes

- St Charles County
- St Louis County
- St Louis City

- 2010: 126, 132, 37
- 2011: 114, 127, 29
- 2012: 114, 107, 31
- 2013: 107, 105, 28
- 2014: 112, 102, 24
- 2015: 109, 107, 35
Evaluating & Documenting Success

The Gateway Bike Plan is the region’s blueprint for making bicycling safer, easier, and more convenient for residents of St. Louis City, St. Louis County, and St. Charles County. Initially spearheaded by Great Rivers Greenway and completed in 2011, the Gateway Bike Plan is now being implemented by area municipalities, local non-profits, and other community partners committed to advancing bicycling throughout the St. Louis region.

This report card identifies Great Rivers Greenway’s and its partners’ implementation successes during 2015, including new on-street bikeways, bicycle safety and skills training courses, professional development for area planners and engineers, and policy changes that support active transportation.

2013

The Gateway Bike Plan identifies a regional system of on-street bikeways in St. Louis City, St. Louis County, and St. Charles County to be constructed over the next 20 years. The goal is to connect key destinations such as parks, trails and greenways, college and universities, transit and transfer centers, employment centers, and town centers. Increasing the number of regional bikeways provides transportation options for residents as well as improving the quality of life in the St. Louis region.

In addition to identifying the regional system of on-street bikeways, the Gateway Bike Plan includes strategies for education, encouragement and enforcement to make bicycling safer for residents of all ages and abilities. This is an important component and an opportunity for neighborhoods, local communities, interested citizens and bicycling advocates to join together to improve bicycling in the region.

This is the first report card to the community since the Plan’s completion, with a goal to track how much progress has been made in the first few years. The Gateway Bike Plan is committed to helping implement the Gateway Bike Plan.

2014

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This is the fourth annual report to the community since the Plan’s completion. With a Plan that covers three counties and numerous jurisdictions, tracking the progress each year is very important. In 2014, 64 miles of bikeways were implemented through the Gateway Bike Plan region. Numerous safety skills and education classes for bicyclists were conducted by Tralinet and local businesses, and educational opportunities for municipal and county transportation engineers were provided. The expansion of the on- and off-street bicycle networks, and connection of key facilities has dramatically increased the opportunities for safe active transportation throughout the St. Louis region.

To track the Gateway Bike Plan’s progress, each key element is graded based on defined targets established by the plan. A lower grade (C and below) reflects a faculty of the bicycle plan that may need more attention. Categories that received higher grades (A or B) include areas in which the Gateway Bike Plan is making significant progress. Scores for these elements are on the following page.

Great Rivers Greenway is committed to helping implement the Gateway Bike Plan and assisting local agencies with technical assistance, funding education and encouragement programs, and offering partnerships on projects. For more information on the Gateway Bike Plan, visit stl.bikoplan.com

ANNUAL REPORT

2015

Want To Get Involved?

There are plenty of ways you can do to help make our region a better place to bike:

- Get out and enjoy life on two wheels. Visit greatersgreenway.org for riding tips, interactive trail maps, and downloadable maps of the Bike St. Louis Network of on-street bikeways.
- Learn more about the Gateway Bike Plan at stl.bikoplan.org.
- Ask your city and county officials what they’re doing to support bicycling in your community.
- Volunteer for Great Rivers Greenway’s annual bike ride and pedestrian count program.
- Invite your friends, neighbors, and elected officials out for a bike ride.

ANNUAL REPORT

2012

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This is the second annual report to the community since the Plan’s completion. With the first few years underway, we are evaluating progress toward achieving the plan’s goals. This report card is designed to provide an overview of progress to date. In 2012, major progress was made with implementing many new bike facilities: improving bike routes, installing bike lanes and bike share stations, encouraging local businesses to create bike-friendly environments, and developing new bicycle parking programs. This progress was evaluated using data collected during 2012 from surveys, focus groups, interviews, and best practices.

Great Rivers Greenway is committed to helping implement the Gateway Bike Plan. The plan is working to identify areas for future improvements and is working on projects to improve bicycling in the St. Louis region. This is the third annual report to the community since the Plan’s completion. With a Plan that covers three counties and numerous jurisdictions, tracking the progress each year is very important. In 2014, 64 miles of bikeways were implemented through the Gateway Bike Plan region. Numerous safety skills and education classes for bicyclists were conducted by Tralinet and local businesses, and educational opportunities for municipal and county transportation engineers were provided. The expansion of the on- and off-street bicycle networks, and connection of key facilities has dramatically increased the opportunities for safe active transportation throughout the St. Louis region.
A Comprehensive Approach

**Engineering**
Creating safe, connected, and comfortable places for bicycling and walking

**Education**
Equipping people with the knowledge, skills and confidence to bike and walk

**Encouragement**
Fostering a culture that supports and encourages active transportation

**Equity**
Increasing access and opportunity for all residents, including disadvantaged, minority and low income populations

**Enforcement**
Building safe and responsible behaviors on the road and building respect among all road users

**Evaluation**
Monitoring efforts to active transportation and planning for the future
Network Growth

ANNUAL NEW MILES OF BIKEWAYS

- Pre-GBP miles – 126
- Post-GBP miles – 140
  - 2011 – 12
  - 2012 – 33
  - 2013 – 21
  - 2014 – 44
  - 2015 – 30
  - 2016 – TBD
Encouraging Activity

ENHANCE ACTIVITY

Encouragement activities foster a culture that welcomes and celebrates bicycling. Local governments, non-profit organizations, bike shops, and community groups across the region host events and activities throughout the year to encourage more people to get out and ride.

TARGET

1 Bike Friendly Community per year

ACHIEVEMENT

3 Bike Friendly Designations awarded in 2015

15 Bicycling promotion events per year

65 documented events occurred in 2015

MAJOR 2015 ACCOMPLISHMENT

Bike St. Louis Map Update
Teaching Riders, Teaching Doers

EDUCATION

Education is not just about giving people the skills and confidence they need to get out and ride. It’s also about equipping local governments with the tools and training to help make bicycling a part of the transportation system.

GRADE

A+

TARGET

5-10 training courses per year

ACHIEVEMENT

17 documented training courses throughout the region

including 11 Bike Smart courses and 6 CyclingSavvy courses.

4 training workshops for professionals and decision-makers

15 training opportunities held throughout the region

including 12 APBP webinars, 2 FHWA webinars, and the APBP Professional Development Seminar, which included more than 21 available courses and over 90 hours of training opportunities.

MAJOR 2015 ACCOMPLISHMENT

The region hosted the national Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professional’s Professional Development Seminar, a 3-day training for planners, engineers, advocates, and elected officials. Forty-seven of the 260 attendees were from the St. Louis area.
Designing State-of-the-Art Facilities

DESIGN OF APPLICATION STANDARDS
Well-designed streets support safe travel for all modes of transportation, from motor vehicles and transit to bicycling and walking. Applying design standards that address active transportation make bicycling a safer, easier, and more convenient travel choice.

TARGET
- Identify and address 5 high crash locations
- Complete up to 3 special facilities to address unique issues

ACHIEVEMENT
- 0 new intersections identified or addressed
- 2 special bikeway projects

NACTO
Urban Bikeway Design Guide
April 2011 Edition

Chestnut Protected Bike Lane
Morganford Green Bike Lane Markings
Laying the Policy Foundation

SUPPORTING POLICIES

Policies are the foundation on which local governments and organizations base their decisions. Policies that support bicycling, like Complete Streets policies and bicycle parking ordinances, can have a profound impact on the way we design and build our streets and our communities.

TARGET

Fund regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator

ACHIEVEMENT

City of St. Louis hired its first Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator

East West Gateway and Great Rivers Greenway share duties for regional bikeway coordination and Gateway Bike Plan implementation, with contracted support from Alta Planning + Design & Trailnet.

3 jurisdictions adopting a Complete Streets Policy

The City of St. Louis strengthened its existing Complete Streets Policy

In addition, the City of Kirkwood adopted its first bicycle and pedestrian master plan, and the Cities of Wildwood and St. Louis joined the national Mayor’s Challenge for Safer People, Safer Streets, led by the USDOT.
Enforcing the Law

ENFORCEMENT

Law enforcement officers play an important role in fostering mutual respect and responsibility among all road users. From police officer bike patrol training to bicycle traffic regulation courses, law enforcement agencies across the region are taking a proactive approach to creating safe streets for people on bike, on foot, and in motor vehicles.

TARGET

1 bike-related law enforcement training every two years

ACHIEVEMENT

3 law enforcement trainings in 2015

MAJOR 2015 ACCOMPLISHMENT

St. Louis Bicycle Works continued to partner with the St. Louis County & Municipal Police Academy to train officers in effective bicycle riding and bicycle patrol tactics, which supports community policing and increased awareness for bicycling. Two 32-hour police cyclist courses and one 8-hour bicycle maintenance course were offered in 2015.
What’s been accomplished so far?

- 140 miles of on-street bikeways constructed since the plan’s adoption (266 miles total!)
- New Bike St Louis and Regional Bikeways maps
- Creation of a regional committee to oversee plan implementation
- An average of 40 events a year to encourage people to get out and bike
- An average of 22 bike education classes per year
- An average of 18 training courses for engineers, planners, and city officials to help create bike-friendly communities
Learn More

stlbikeplan.org

plan documents and maps
annual report cards
community briefing kits
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