

REGIONAL BIKE PLAN EARLY ACTION PROGRAM FACT SHEET



Overview

The Regional Bike Plan Early Action Program (EAP) is a \$200 million initiative to dramatically expand the bike network throughout the San Diego region in order to make riding a bike a safer, easier, and more attractive for people of all ages and abilities. This historic initiative was approved by the SANDAG Board of Directors on September 27, 2013, and it represented the single largest financial commitment to expand bike infrastructure in the region’s history.

The Bike EAP comprises about 40 projects totaling about 77 miles of new bikeways – all designed to enhance neighborhood connections to schools, shopping centers, and parks, as well as transit stations and other major regional destinations. Many of the projects call for bikeways that are physically separated from vehicle traffic. The bikeways will also aim to calm traffic and make walking safer and more comfortable where possible. The goal is to complete the EAP projects as rapidly as possible, ideally within ten years.

The projects are spread throughout San Diego County, from San Ysidro and Imperial Beach to Vista and Oceanside, from inland urban cores to scenic coastal communities.

The EAP provides new safe and comfortable bike connections between destinations such as Downtown San Diego and urban neighborhoods like Hillcrest, North Park, City Heights, and Mid City. It will create a new connection between Downtown San Diego, Imperial Beach, and National City to the Mexican border in San Ysidro. And it will build regional connections between Oceanside and San Diego, Escondido and Oceanside, Santee and Ocean Beach, and more.

Bike EAP Builds on Earlier Planning Efforts

The Bike EAP is the culmination of many years of planning efforts and the result of extensive public outreach. It builds on Riding to 2050: The San Diego Regional Bike Plan, adopted in 2010, to provide a regional strategy to make biking a safe and comfortable option for everyday trips. The EAP also helps to fulfill the vision laid out in San Diego Forward: The Regional Plan to cut greenhouse gas emissions and reduce congestion by promoting biking, walking, riding transit, and ridesharing.

Goals

The Bike EAP aims to achieve four major goals:

- » Create vibrant, safe, and inviting streets that improve neighborhood connections and link to the regional bike network
- » Encourage more people to ride bikes for everyday trips
- » Improved safety for all street users
- » Capitalize on improved access from infrastructure investments to strengthen economic/business development opportunities

The bikeways also aim to capitalize on proximity to smart growth areas. Based on national research, bikeways are used more often when they connect high-density activity hubs within a short distance of each other. However, the bikeway network will also encourage people to choose to bike for short, local trips to places like schools, restaurants, or the grocery store.

(Continued on reverse)



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Benefits of a Bikeway Network

- » Better and connected bike infrastructure creates safer roadways for all people – those who bike, walk, and drive

- » A bikeway network provides access to schools, jobs, transit, and businesses
- » Safe and protected bike infrastructure encourages people to ride bikes
- » People who ride bicycles have a better sense of well-being, and lower rates of heart disease and stress

Status

Currently, 70 of the 77 linear miles, or 90%, in the bike EAP are underway, including 7.5 miles that are open to the public.

Funding

The Bike EAP is funded by *TransNet*, the regional half-cent sales tax for transportation approved by San Diego County voters and administered by SANDAG. *TransNet* funding will be leveraged to bring in state and federal dollars so the region can complete more bike projects and reap even greater economic, health, and mobility benefits. By dedicating local funds for bike projects, the region is in a good position to compete for outside funding. SANDAG will maximize funding opportunities from other sources by moving all the bike projects toward construction on a rolling timeline, so at any given time there will be shovel-ready projects.

For More Information

Visit KeepSanDiegoMoving.com/RegionalBikeways or contact Active Transportation Program Manager Chris Kluth at chris.kluth@sandag.org or (619) 699-1952.

