# MEETING AGENDA

**TxDOT Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC)**

**April 29, 2016 | 10:00 A.M.**

200 E. Riverside Drive, Bldg. 200, Conference Room E (RA200E)

Austin, TX 78704

Teleconference Available for BAC Members

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. Call to Order.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2. Safety briefing.</td>
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<td>3. Approval of minutes from January 29, 2016, BAC meeting. (Action)</td>
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<td>4. Report from BAC Chair.</td>
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<td>5. Report from TxDOT's Public Transportation Division Director regarding statewide bicycle and pedestrian matters.</td>
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<td>6. Discussion on implementing TxDOT's Strategic Direction Report for TxDOT's Bicycle Program. (Action)</td>
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<td>7. Discussion on Safe Routes to School non-infrastructure funding. (Action)</td>
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<tr>
<td>8. Discussion on development of TxDOT's webpage for TxDOT's Bicycle and Pedestrian Program. (Action)</td>
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<tr>
<td>9. Update from committee members on local and statewide issues.</td>
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<td>10. Public comment – public comments will only be accepted in person.</td>
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<tr>
<td>11. Discussion of agenda items for future BAC meetings. (Action)</td>
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<tr>
<td>12. Adjourn. (Action)</td>
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</table>

I certify that I have reviewed this document and that it conforms to all applicable Texas Register filing requirements.

CERTIFYING OFFICIAL: Joanne Wright, Deputy General Counsel, (512) 463-8630.
2015 State-Selected TAP Projects
Nonurban and Small Urban Projects

Legend
- Selected Nonurban Project
- Selected Small Urban Project
- TxDOT District Boundary Line
- TMA/Large Urbanized Area
- County Boundary Line

Note: Project locations are approximate.
BAC Committee Members Present and Participating:
Billy Hibbs, Chair
Russ Frank, Vice-chair
Karla Weaver
David Steiner

BAC Committee Members Participating Telephonically:
Allison Blazosky
Shawn Twing
Robert Gonzalez
Joseph Pitchford

TxDOT Present and Participating:
Eric Gleason, Director, Public Transportation Division (PTN)
Teri Kaplan, Statewide Bicycle / Pedestrian Coordinator (PTN)
Donna Roberts, Program Services Manager (PTN)
Josh Ribakove, Communications Manager (PTN)
Michael Sledge, Section Director, Creative Services (COM)

Also Present and Participating:
Stephanie Lind, CH2M Hill
Jeff Taebel, Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC / MPO)
Anita Hollmann, Pedestrian and Bicycle Coordinator, City of Houston
Mark Stine, BikeTexas

AGENDA ITEM 1: Call to Order.
Billy Hibbs called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M.

AGENDA ITEM 2: Safety Briefing.
Josh Ribakove provided a safety briefing at 10:01 A.M.

AGENDA ITEM 3: Approval of Minutes from October 27, 2015 Meeting (Action).
Billy Hibbs introduced this item at 10:02 A.M.

MOTION   Russ Frank moved to approve the October 27, 2015, meeting minutes.
SECOND   Karla Weaver seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously at 10:03 A.M.
**AGENDA ITEM 4: Report from BAC Chair.**

Billy Hibbs delivered his report beginning at 10:04 A.M. Topics included TxDOT’s website for its Bicycle Program and further development of BikeStripe initiatives.

**AGENDA ITEM 5: Report from TxDOT’s Public Transportation Division Director regarding statewide bicycle and pedestrian matters.**

Eric Gleason delivered his report beginning at 10:07 A.M. Topics included the Texas Transportation Commission’s Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) approvals.

Billy Hibbs requested an itemized list of approved TAP projects. Eric Gleason agreed and offered to also provide a map showing where those projects are.

Eric Gleason then introduced Michael Sledge, section director in TxDOT’s creative services division. Mr. Sledge gave a presentation on TxDOT’s draft bicycle program Web page.

Comments: Billy Hibbs, Eric Gleason, Karla Weaver.

Karla Weaver requested that members be offered a link to the draft web page to provide comments to TxDOT regarding the draft web page.

Comment: Shawn Twing.

**AGENDA ITEM 6: Presentation and discussion on implementing TxDOT’s Bicycle and Pedestrian Strategic Direction Report. (Action)**

Teri Kaplan began this presentation at 10:21 A.M.


No action taken.

**AGENDA ITEM 7: Presentation on emerging guidance from FHWA and implementation on BikeStripe-type initiatives. (Action)**

Eric Gleason began this presentation at 10:47 A.M.

Questions/Comments: Teri Kaplan, Karla Weaver, Billy Hibbs, Russ Frank, Stephanie Lind, Shawn Twing, David Steiner, Joseph Pitchford, Allison Blazosky.

No action taken.

**AGENDA ITEM 8: Presentation on the state of bicycling in Houston, including updates from the City of Houston, METRO Transit, and the MPO (H-GAC).**
Russ Frank led this presentation beginning at 11:30 A.M. Other presenters were Jeff Taebel, Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC MPO) and Anita Hollman, Pedestrian and Bicycle Coordinator, City of Houston, TX.

Comment: Billy Hibbs.

**AGENDA ITEM 9: Presentation from BikeTexas on Quebec’s Route Verte Connectivity Project.**

Billy Hibbs introduced presenter Mark Stine of BikeTexas at 12:18 P.M.

Questions/comments: Billy Hibbs, Karla Weaver.

**AGENDA ITEM 10: Update from committee members on local and statewide issues.**

Billy Hibbs introduced this item at 12:33 P.M.

Contributions from Karla Weaver, Allison Blazosky, Joseph Pitchford, Allison Kaplan.

**AGENDA ITEM 11: Public Comment.**

There were no public comments.

**AGENDA ITEM 12: Discussion of BAC 2016 meeting schedule and agenda items for future BAC meetings; confirm date of next BAC meeting (Action).**

Billy Hibbs introduced this item at 12:40 P.M. A consensus on the next meeting date was not reached. Teri Kaplan volunteered to re-poll members to determine future meeting dates and agenda items.

**AGENDA ITEM 13: Adjourn (Action).**

Billy Hibbs opened this item at 12:41 P.M.

**MOTION** Russ Frank moved to adjourn the meeting.

**SECOND** Shawn Twing seconded the motion.

The motion passed at 12:42 P.M. Meeting adjourned.

Prepared by: ________________________________

Approved by: ________________________________

__________________________  _________________________________

Teri Kaplan     Billy Hibbs

Public Transportation Division   Chair, Bicycle Advisory Committee
Bicycle Jersey

Don’t Mess with Texas Bike Jersey
- A vehicle to share our message with another key stakeholder group
- Effort to promote iconic anti-litter campaign and source of Texas pride
- Plan—Execute a small pilot—determine demand & interest (Like boots)
- Cost $52
- Advisory committee names on back—additional $12
BikeStripe: Designating Bikeways within the Existing Roadway Footprint

Guidance and Recommendations

Public Transportation Division
Introduction
This document is intended to assist individuals and organizations looking to stripe bike lanes within an existing roadway footprint. This document focuses on on-street bikeways and the best use of existing infrastructure. This document is not a stand-alone resource; it provides basic information and guidance to organize concepts and viewpoints into a common planning effort. Additional resources and expertise will be needed.

Background
In 2015, a group of civil engineering students from the University of Texas at Tyler (UT Tyler) led by Dr. Mena Souliman, in coordination with Mr. Billy Hibbs, chair of TxDOT’s Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC), worked to identify roadways in the city of Tyler, Texas to be designated as part of the city’s bicycle network. The initial intent of the project, as stated by Mr. Hibbs, was to “put paint on the ground” to add bike lanes on existing roadways. The project, referred to as “BikeStripe,” used available roadway data, low-cost technical resources and a logical approach to prioritizing roadways to add designated bike lanes. Since the initial BikeStripe effort in Tyler, the city has identified several roadways where bike lanes could be added to provide access to Tyler Junior College, UT Tyler, and downtown Tyler.

The BikeStripe prioritization effort piqued the TxDOT BAC’s interest in recommending resources to local governments to help them identify roadways for striping designated bike routes. This document lists the basic steps, and also identifies potential resources for advocates, planners, engineers and elected officials who are looking to “put paint on the ground” and establish bikeways.

Getting Started
You can get in quite a bit of trouble if you head to the streets with a can of paint looking to paint bike lanes without any planning. It is imperative that you involve the right people at the right time, review current conditions, analyze bicyclists’ needs, and develop a thoughtful plan for designating bikeways. Figure 1 provides a flow chart for what this process might look like, although the actual process you employ may vary greatly based on the needs and resources available in your community.
Designating Bikeways within the Existing Roadway Footprint

Figure 1 – Example flow chart for designating bikeways within an existing roadway footprint

Consider the following as you begin to pull together key people you will need to work with to designate bikeways:

1. **Does the locality have a bike plan? Are bike routes designated in the area?**
   A bicycle plan usually includes goals and objectives that are then used to prioritize bikeway corridors and improvements.
   Additional questions to consider:
   - Has the plan been adopted by the local jurisdiction?
   - When was the plan adopted? Is the plan relevant?
   - Has the plan been updated to show what has been implemented?
   - Who was involved in the development of the plan?
   - Where are bike routes currently designated?
   - Do bike maps exist for current and planned bikeways? Who maintains those maps?
   You will want to incorporate previous planning efforts and the people who are currently responsible for bicycle planning.

2. **Who has jurisdiction over roadway maintenance (state, county, or city)? Who currently manages bicycle designations and facilities in the area (ex: trails, public works, parks and recreation, etc.)? Does the local jurisdiction have a process in place to request having a roadway designated as a bike route?**
   It is likely that this project will include a number of entities. Those that may be impacted by designation should be involved in the planning process.

3. **What local officials should be involved?**
   It is important to have a local champion for the project. Who that local champion is will vary greatly based on the community and the interest of local officials. At minimum, you will need to have support from the local jurisdiction responsible for roadway maintenance.
4. Are there local technical resources or staff that can assist with analyzing data and prioritizing projects?
   Technical assistance may be needed to analyze corridors, data and prioritize projects. In the Tyler “BikeStripe” effort, students from UT Tyler helped gather and analyze data.

5. What roadway and bikeway design standards does your community use?
   You will want to become familiar with roadway design standards for various roadways and with the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD).

Buy-in from local government and other responsible entities (TxDOT) is imperative if you want to see your plan implemented. Work with appropriate transportation personnel.

You will need to discuss the concept of designating bicycle facilities in your area with the appropriate individuals and get buy-in from the transportation officials responsible for roadway maintenance. Meet early with these individuals to present your ideas. This will help lay the groundwork to garner support for your plan.

**Stakeholders**
It is beneficial to use a group of stakeholders to develop your objectives, review data and prioritize projects. You must work with local officials (ex: public works and city council) to develop recommendations. Establish a group of stakeholders and work with existing transportation and citizen committees. This will create buy-in for your planning process. Make sure you can explain how stakeholders were chosen. Be completely transparent in your planning process. If possible, talk to local officials about the importance of getting public feedback on your plan and process as you move forward. It is important that you include appropriate people and avoid uninformed, unilateral decisions.

**Table 1 - Sample Stakeholder Representation**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Local advocates</th>
<th>City engineering/public works</th>
<th>TxDOT district bicycle coordinator</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School district</td>
<td>County roadway maintenance</td>
<td>City council member(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County commissioner(s)</td>
<td>Local transit agency</td>
<td>Downtown business association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local university or college</td>
<td>Bicyclists</td>
<td>Chamber of commerce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic development corp.</td>
<td>Parks and recreation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Creating the Project
Once you have identified and met with the appropriate key people to establish a planning strategy, you should be ready to start creating the plan.

Crafting the Program’s Purpose and Objectives
Your bikeway designation plan should be developed to meet the needs of the community. It is important to work with your stakeholder group to determine your program’s purpose and objectives. Your program purpose should be broad; aim for one or two well-developed sentences. Your objectives help you achieve the program purpose and can be more detailed. Your program purpose and objectives will help determine what analysis may be needed and assist with project prioritization.

| Provide bicycle access across the community | Connect employment centers with residential areas |
| Provide safe routes to schools | Integrate existing trails into roadway system |
| Provide east-west connectivity for bicyclists | Provide “last-mile” connections |

Table 2 - Sample Program Purpose and Objective Statements

Analyzing Data
Once you have established your program purpose and objectives, it is time to begin identifying potential bicycle routes. What should you consider when designating bicycle routes? In many instances you will begin by drawing lines on a map. Next, you will want to identify easily accessible data to make your process more thoughtful. Using existing data will be helpful in measuring how well different alternatives meet your needs. For example, if you have two route options to get from downtown to a university by bicycle, then using crash data, traffic volumes and posted speed will help to prioritize the safer route for bicyclists.

Your stakeholder group will need to determine how to prioritize bicycle routes. For example, you may want to start by identifying nodes in the community that you want to connect; these could include places of employment, transit or shopping centers, institutional buildings, residential areas, schools, recreational facilities, etc. Or perhaps you would like to create a bicycle route grid across the community. Based on available right-of-way and traffic data, you may want to recommend a buffered bike lane along a particular corridor. Your prioritization process will depend on existing conditions and the needs of your community.
The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) in *Case Studies in Delivering Safe, Comfortable, and Connected Pedestrian and Bicycle Networks*, identified the following principles of exemplary pedestrian and bicycle networks:

- **Cohesion** – How connected is the network in terms of its concentration of destinations and routes?
- **Directness** – Does the network provide direct and convenient access to destinations?
- **Accessibility** – How well does the network accommodate travel for all users, regardless of age or ability?
- **Alternatives** – Are there a number of different route choices available within the network?
- **Safety and Security** – Does the network provide routes that minimize risk and injury, danger and crime?
- **Comfort** – Does the network appeal to a broad range of age and ability levels? Has consideration been given to user amenities?

A lot has been written about what to consider when designating bicycle routes. This guide does not provide a literature review, but the following national resources may be helpful and should be considered as part of your roadway suitability analysis.

- **Bicycle Level of Service (BLOS)** is used in a number of resources and publications perhaps most notably in the *Highway Capacity Manual*. It has been refined over the years and is a statistically-derived method of evaluating bicycling conditions in a shared roadway environment. A suitability score or “compatibility” score is applied based on factors such as roadway width, bike lane width, traffic volume, pavement conditions, motor vehicle speed and the presence of on-street parking. The BLOS produces an output that is similar to Level of Service (LOS) evaluations for on-road vehicular traffic.

- The **Bicycle Compatibility Index (BCI)** was developed by FHWA and is a type of BLOS; BCI facilitates the evaluation of potential roadways for accommodating both motorists and bicyclists using geometric and operational characteristics such as lane width, speed and volume. Note: The BCI is heavily critiqued by transportation practitioners. The BCI can be cumbersome to calculate and has limited usefulness, but some of the considerations used in the calculation may be helpful.

Table 3 on the following page compares the ranges from the BLOS and BCI.
Table 3 - Bicycle Level of Service Comparison

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LOS</th>
<th>BLOS Range</th>
<th>BCI Range</th>
<th>Compatibility Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Less than 1.50</td>
<td>Less than 1.50</td>
<td>Extremely High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>1.51 – 2.5</td>
<td>1.51 – 2.30</td>
<td>Very High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>2.51 – 3.5</td>
<td>2.31 – 3.40</td>
<td>Moderately High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>3.51 – 4.5</td>
<td>3.41 – 4.40</td>
<td>Moderately Low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>4.51 – 5.5</td>
<td>4.41 – 5.30</td>
<td>Very Low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Greater than 5.5</td>
<td>Greater than 5.30</td>
<td>Extremely Low</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: US Department of Transportation, 1998, The Bicycle Compatibility Index

- Levels of Traffic Stress (LTS) has been developed as another method of assessing the desirability of a roadway for use by bicyclists. LTS data is used to assign numerical measures to roadway segments and produce stress maps. Roadways with the lowest LTS are the most comfortable for bicycle users. This can also be conveyed as a “comfort level.”

Table 4 - Standards of Levels of Traffic Stress

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level of Traffic Stress</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physically separated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>from traffic or low-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>volume, mixed-flow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>traffic at 25 mph or</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>less</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bike lanes 6 ft. wide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or more</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intersections easy to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>approach and cross</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comfortable for</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bike lanes 5.5 ft wide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or less, next to 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mph auto traffic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsignalized crossings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>of up to 5 lanes at 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comfortable for most</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>adults</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Typical of bicycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>facilities in the</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bicycle lanes next to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35 mph auto traffic,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or mixed-flow traffic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>at 30 mph or less</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comfortable for most</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>current US riders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Typical of bicycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>facilities in the US</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No dedicated bicycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traffic speeds 40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mph or more</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comfortable for</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“strong and fearless”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>riders (vehicular cyclists)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Low Stress Bicycling and Network Connectivity, 2012

See Figure 2. Level of Stress Example: Houston’s Existing Bikeway Network.
• **Road Diet Suitability Analysis** identifies which roadways would experience limited impact to traffic if a vehicular travel lane was converted into a bikeway (or other use). This type of analysis generally looks at Average Daily Traffic (ADT), turn lanes, lane width, traffic dispersion, curb cuts, bus stops and intersection operations.

It is important to incorporate both qualitative and quantitative information when prioritizing routes. For the examples above (BLOS, BCI, LTS), a value is assigned to a segment of roadway which can then be displayed on a map. Talk to your stakeholder group about what data they are interested in and what data is easily available. What information would be useful in making design decisions and garnering support? Table 5 provides a list of information to consider.
Table 5 - Information to Consider and Review

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crash data</th>
<th>Perceived user safety</th>
<th>Traffic counts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lane width</td>
<td>Grade</td>
<td>Traffic counts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Existing bike routes</td>
<td>Number of traffic lanes</td>
<td>Proximity to desired locations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Street lighting</td>
<td>Presence of a shoulder</td>
<td>Parking along the roadway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speed limit</td>
<td>Available bike lane footprint</td>
<td>Adjacent land use</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ease of access</td>
<td>Current bicycle usage</td>
<td>Intersections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bicycle amenities</td>
<td>Type of users</td>
<td>Road surface type and condition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proximity to transit</td>
<td></td>
<td>Number of heavy vehicles</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The stakeholder group should determine which information is most important for consideration. Additional questions to ask include: Who will be using the bikeway? Is there a possibility that this bikeway will become a designed route for children? In some instances, there may be only one viable option. A large amount of data is available through Geographic Information Systems (GIS) or free mapping tools available online. Additional information may be available from city, county and state agencies. In all cases, a visual inspection of the roadway will be necessary. It is recommended to ride the proposed route on a bicycle, if possible. Take photographs of existing conditions, especially where pedestrian and bicycle traffic exists.

[Insert Tyler Example?] – Add a list of the criteria used to select potential roadways for “BikeStripe”

Prioritizing Projects

Once the stakeholder group has reviewed all available data in conjunction with the program purpose and objectives, the group can begin to prioritize corridors and projects. Work with local government to gather input on proposed routes and projects. Use maps and other visual tools to showcase the projected projects. It will be necessary and beneficial to get feedback on proposed projects from potential users, including motorists and bicyclists. Feedback can be acquired a number of ways: through meetings, focus groups, social media and/or comment forms.

Approval

The process of getting routes actually designated and “paint on the ground” will vary greatly, based on community support, local jurisdiction approval, and funding. In some cases, the local jurisdiction may be able to simply add route designation(s) as part of roadway maintenance. In other cases, a more detailed analysis and engineering evaluation may be required. Approval may be ad hoc or it may have to go through an approval process by the city, county, regional planning commission or TxDOT. Involving all the right people early in the planning process will foster greater support and increase your opportunity for success.
**Implementation**

Implementation happens in coordination with the jurisdiction responsible for maintaining the roadway, which could be the state, city, county, etc. Work with your local entities to create an implementation plan. An implementation plan outlines who is responsible for what.

One of the most cost-effective ways to add bike lanes to an existing roadway is during a resurfacing project. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) published *Incorporating On-Road Bicycle Networks into Resurfacing Projects* in March 2016. This workbook provides guidance, justifications and best practices for developing bikeways during resurfacing projects.

**Funding**

Begin by discussing potential funding options locally. Local funds may be available or could be used to match federal or state program funding.

**Design/Construction**

All on-road bikeways in Texas should conform to the MUTCD, and on state-maintained roadways the bikeways should conform to the Texas MUTCD. The local government and/or transportation agency responsible for roadway maintenance may have additional roadway design requirements.

**Information**

Once the bikeways have been put in place, it's time to get the word out! Route signage and maps are will be helpful. Make sure bicycling information is available at employment, transit and shopping centers, residential areas, schools, recreational facilities, etc. Consider involving the media, organizing local bike rides, and having an opening ceremony to attract interest.

**Measuring Success**

There are a number of ways to measure a successful bikeway designation program. Consider using any or all of the following to measure your success:

- **Bicycle counts** – This can be done using electronic counters or by manually counting bicyclists before and after a route designation.
- **Surveys** – Consider surveying users or potential users before and after project implementation.
- **Crash data** – Bicycle crash data is available from TxDOT and in some cases from your city or county.
- **Input from users** – Comments and suggestions from users can be very telling.
**Additional Resources**

There are a number of additional resources available

- **Texas Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (TMUTCD)**
- **AASHTO Guide for the Development of Bicycle Facilities**
- **NACTO Urban Bikeway Design Guide**
  http://nacto.org/publication/urban-bikeway-design-guide/
- **FHWA Bicycle and Pedestrian Design Publications**
  https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bicycle_pedestrian/publications/
- **ADA Best Practices Tool Kit for State and Local Government**
  http://www.ada.gov/pcatoolkit/toolkitmain.htm
- **Safe Routes to Schools**
  http://www.saferoutesinfo.org/
TxDOT Bicycle and Pedestrian Workgroup Charter

1. Purpose
The Bicycle and Pedestrian Workgroup is a multidisciplinary team of TxDOT subject experts who work together to implement initiatives identified in TxDOT’s Strategic Direction Report (SDR) for TxDOT’s Bicycle Program. The workgroup will review current internal/external information and guidance materials, and make recommendations to TxDOT Administration on bicycle and pedestrian related matters.

2. Goals and Objectives
The Bicycle and Pedestrian Workgroup supports TxDOT’s Mission of being “[a] forward-thinking leader delivering mobility, enabling economic opportunity and enhancing the quality of life for all Texans.” The workgroup helps to identify and if needed, develop programs, policies, procedures and specifications that support safer bikeways in Texas.

3. Membership
The Bicycle and Pedestrian Workgroup is comprised of staff from TxDOT Divisions and Districts:

- Bridge
- Construction
- Design
- Environmental Affairs
- Maintenance
- Public Transportation
- Traffic Operations
- Transportation Planning and Programming
- 2-3 District Bicycle Coordinators

The Workgroup will coordinate with additional divisions, as needed. Each member has an approved designated alternate who may participate in their absence. The Bicycle and Pedestrian Workgroup membership will be evaluated bi-annually.

4. Meetings
The Bicycle and Pedestrian Workgroup meets bi-monthly on the second Wednesday of the month from 9 a.m. – 11 a.m. at the TxDOT Public Transportation Division office, located at 3712 Jackson Avenue, Austin, Texas 78731. The meeting location and frequency may vary based on workgroup activities. In person participation is preferred; however, WebEx/teleconference access will be provided as needed. An agenda will be distributed prior to meeting(s) and meeting notes will be made available after each meeting.
5. Issues to be addressed by the Bicycle and Pedestrian Workgroup

The Bicycle and Pedestrian Workgroup was formed to review and make recommendations on relevant bicycle and pedestrian projects and initiatives under development by TxDOT. These include, but are not limited to:

- Design guidelines for bicycle and pedestrian accommodations
  - Standards, specifications, policies, procedures, and research initiatives
- Statewide bicycle map
- Complete Streets policies
- State bicycle route designations

6. Decision Making

The workgroup will seek to reach consensus on proposed action(s) from all members. In discussing agenda items, all workgroup members will be given an opportunity to voice their opinion. The preferred course of action will be proposed. If any member voices a strong objection to the proposed action, an alternate course of action shall be considered. If consensus cannot be reached, the differences in opinion will be noted and the discussion elevated within TxDOT, as needed.
## Implementing the Strategic Direction Report's Recommendations

**DRAFT**

### 1. Statewide Bicycle Route Designations *
- Identify purpose and need of Statewide Bike Route System
- Establish criteria for bikeway inclusion as “state route”
- Identify best practices in signage, wayfinding and promotion
- Draft guidance for TxDOT's Statewide Bikeway Route Program
- Solicit Districts, cities and counties for designation

### 2. Develop design guidelines for TxDOT *
- Establish purpose and need of design guidelines
- Review current design guidelines
- Review TxDOT’s planning and design processes
- Review other design guidelines (FHWA, NACTO, Complete Streets, etc.)
- Review best practices from other states and localities
- Review crash data and other safety materials
- Make recommendations on improvements to current design guidelines
- Develop “typical sections” for roadway types
- Create TxDOT Bikeway Design Guide for agency use and dissemination
- Review Complete Streets best practices nationally
- Draft language for TxDOTs Complete Streets Policy

### 3. Interactive Bikeway Map *
- Establish purpose and need for interactive bikeway map
- Review other state maps for content and programming
- Develop recommendations for interactive statewide bikeway map (symbology, colors, technology, scale, etc.)
- Create map with attributes for bikeway facilities
- Solicit information from TxDOT districts, MPOs, counties and cities
- Publish and publicize map
- Work with state tourism office to publicize maps and materials

### 4. Funding for SRTS
- TAP funding
- Identify potential funding sources

### 5. Develop educational materials
- Identify audiences (law enforcement, bicyclists, drivers)
- Identify material needs
- Produce materials

### 6. BikeStripe
- Develop BikeStripe guidance
- Solicite statewide interest in pilot projects

### 7. Other Activities
- 1. Get SDR on website
- 2. Publish Safety Guide, get it on the website
- 3. Publish Handlebar Tag, get it on the website
- 4. Update TxDOT website
- 5. Update TxDOT TAP Rules, Program Guide, and Nomination Form
- 6. Develop TxDOT newsletter
- 7. Develop research proposals