Bikeway Design Effort Update & Discussion on Next BAC Effort

January 15, 2021
1. Phase 2 Schedule and Next Steps
2. Phase 2 Working Group Content Overview
3. Revisiting SDR and next BAC effort
Bikeway Design Topic Categories:

- **Bikeway Selection**
  - Interim Guiding Principles APPROVED

- **Linear Bikeway Design**
  - Interim Guiding Principles APPROVED

- **Intersections & conflict points**
  - Interim Guiding Principles APPROVED

- **Maintenance**
  - Interim Guiding Principles APPROVED

Each of these Interim Guiding Principles will be compiled into a final Bikeway Design Guiding Principles final product.
Bikeway Design Effort remaining topics and schedule

BAC Meeting, **January 15**
- No action. Overview of conflict point content and status update.

Working Group, **January (date TBD)**
- Discuss **green and other pavement markings**

Working Group, **February (date TBD)**
- Develop guiding principles for conflict points AND discuss reducing lane widths to add bike lanes

Working Group, **March (date TBD)**
- Develop guiding principles for conflict points AND discuss **maintenance of barrier separated bikeways**

BAC Meeting, **April 9**
- BAC approval of guiding principles for conflict points

Working Group, **April (date TBD)**
- Discuss **surface treatment materials AND overlay materials (aggregate size)**

Working Group, **May (date TBD)**
- Develop guiding principles for maintenance

Working Group, **June (date TBD)**
- Review ALL guiding principles.

BAC Meeting, **July 16 - Final BAC approval**
Intersection and conflict points content overview

- Protected intersections
- Bike signals and signage
- Transit connectivity
- Driveways and RRD crossings
- Green and other pavement markings
Define modal spaces:
- Pavement markings:
  - Striping and marking through intersections
  - Green lanes
  - Green conflict areas
- Physical barriers (discussed previously)
- Grade separation (Under or overcrossings)
- Bike & Ped actuators for crossing

Make bicyclists conspicuous:
- Signage:
  - “Watch for Turning Traffic”
  - “Bike lane”
  - “Turning vehicles Yield to Pedestrians and Bicyclists”
- Signals:
  - Bike signals
  - Mid-block crossing/ beacons (HAWK and RRFB)
- Pavement markings:
  - Bike boxes (1 stage and 2 stage)

Slow traffic
- Curb extensions and reduced curb radii
- Traffic islands and neighborhood traffic circles
Next BAC Activity
Strategic Direction Report for TxDOT’s Bicycle Program (SDR)

SDR Development process included:
- Review of best practices in bicycle accommodations
- Benchmark other State Departments of Transportation Programs
- BAC input through workshops and document review
- PTN and Division input through focus groups and document review

SDR Focus Areas

- Expand the bikeway network
- Build safer and better bicycle and pedestrian accommodations
- Provide training for engineers, planners, and construction staff
- Educate the public on safe driving, bicycling and walking
- Encourage people to walk and bicycle
- Develop statewide management systems for bicycle and pedestrian information
- Fund more bicycle and pedestrian projects

Past BAC activities

**Strategic Direction Report (2015)**
- Documented current state of the practice
- Provided statewide vision for bicycle & pedestrian advancement
- Established seven Focus Areas to guide work of TxDOT Bike/Ped Program and BAC

**Bicycle Tourism Trails Study (2018)**
- Created Example Network for long-distance bicycle routes
- Documented benefits of bicycle infrastructure networks
- Recommended safer bikeway designs

**Bikeway Design Effort (2021)**
- Recommended enhancements to TxDOT project development process
- Recommended improvements to TxDOT bikeway design

*TxDOT’s Bike and Ped Group continues to progress other efforts simultaneously*
Previously completed and current projects with status

1) Bicycle and pedestrian count program, On-going improvements/ expansion

2) Economic Impact of Bicycles in Texas study, Completed 2019

3) Transportation Alternatives Program funding, Biennial Program Call

4) TxDOT's Bicycle and Pedestrian Program website, On-going updates

5) BikeStripe, Pilot implementation in Tyler

6) TxDOT’s Safe Guide to Cycling, Updates as needed

7) TxDOT’s Handlebar hanger, Updates as needed

8) TxDOT Bike to Work Day, Annual effort

9) Research projects (currently 3 active projects), PTN role in Project Advisory Committee
What’s next? How do we get there?

Objective

- Begin brainstorming BAC project ideas

Agenda

- Guided discussion (5 minutes)
- Interactive polling (5 minutes)

Reminder:

- Bikeway Design Effort continues until at least July 2021

Discussion Questions

- How well are we (TxDOT and BAC) accomplishing what we set out to do?
- Should we update the SDR to better address pedestrian and/or micromobility issues?
- What areas need attention?
What are the most important activities for the BAC and TxDOT’s bicycle program over the next 2 years?

Multiple responses encouraged!

Go to www.menti.com and use the code 81 87 91 5
Brainstorm ideas over email

- What are your ideas for new activities that PTN and BAC should tackle next?
- What are some ways to leverage existing efforts?

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TxDOT 2021 Transportation Alternatives (TA) Program:

*Call for Projects Overview & Evaluation Criteria Discussion*

January 15, 2021
Presentation agenda

1. Program Call Overview
2. Evaluation Criteria
3. Discussion

TxDOT’s 2021 Transportation Alternatives Call for Projects opens today!
**Nonurban TA**
- Population size: <5,001
- Local Match Required: 20%
- Eligible Activities: Preliminary Engineering & Construction
- Funding Available: $10.5M of Existing Funding

**Small Urban TA**
- Population size: 5,001 to 50,000
- Local Match Required: 20%
- Eligible Activities: Preliminary Engineering & Construction
- Funding Available: Conditional Project List

**What is a Conditional Project List?**
A prioritized, fiscally constrained list of the highest scoring projects that will be recommended to the Commission for TA funding once funding becomes available.
Who?
- Local governments
- School districts
- Transit agencies
- Others (see Program Guide)

What?
- Bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure
- Principally for transportation rather than recreation
- Have a direct relationship to the surface transportation system
- Benefit the general public

Where?
- Outside Transportation Management Areas (TMAs)
- Nonurban – population areas less than 5,000
- Small urban – population areas between 5,001 and 200,000
1) Project sponsors are limited to three applications per sponsoring entity.

2) In-kind contributions are no longer allowed as a local match option.

3) Projects in communities of 50,000 or less in population can request reimbursement of preliminary engineering activities, including costs for design and environmental documentation.
4) Projects in a community of 50,000 or less in population may be eligible to use state Transportation Development Credits (TDCs) that allow for 100% federal TA funds to be applied to the project in lieu of a local match.*

5) TA Program evaluation criteria were updated to align with TxDOT’s mission, Connecting You With Texas.

* Economically Disadvantaged Counties Program remains available for communities greater than 50,000 in population.
Step 1:

- January 15, 2021 - 2021 TA Call for Projects Opens
- January 21-27 - Virtual Workshops
- February 2 - Frequently Asked Questions document posted on TA Funding Webpage
- March 1, 2021 - Preliminary Application (PA) Deadline
- before April 9, 2021 - District Coordination Meetings
- April 12, 2021 - TxDOT notifies sponsors of eligibility

Step 2:

- June 14, 2021 - Detailed Application Deadline
- August 16, 2021 - TxDOT DA Review Complete
- Final Project Awards - October 2021 [target date]
- Conditional Project List - October 2021 [target date]
Project Sponsor submits Preliminary Application (PA)
- TxDOT reviews eligibility
- TxDOT hosts District meetings with eligible project sponsors

Project Sponsor submits Detailed Application (DA)
- TxDOT Division and District staff evaluate projects by the evaluation criteria and complete a constructability/feasibility review.

Evaluation Results:
- Projects are not selected for funding
- Nonurban TA projects are selected by the Texas Transportation Commission in late 2021
- Nonurban and Small TA projects are placed on a Conditional Projects List, a fiscally constrained list of the highest scoring projects that will be recommended to the Commission for TA funding once funding becomes available.
Virtual Meeting Dates/Times

- **January 21, 2021** (1:00PM – 4:00PM)
  - REGISTRATION: https://2021_ta_projspn_workshop1.eventbrite.com

- **January 25, 2021** (1:00PM – 4:00PM)
  - REGISTRATION: https://2021_ta_projspn_workshop2.eventbrite.com

- **January 27, 2021** (9:00AM – 12:00PM)
  - REGISTRATION: https://2021_ta_projspn_workshop3.eventbrite.com

Registration is required.
**TxDOT Bicycle and Pedestrian Funding Webpage**

- **Available now:**
  - TxDOT 2021 TA Program Guide
  - Preliminary Application
  - Preliminary Application Instructions
  - Interactive map showing TMAs/MPOs

- **Available later:**
  - Workshop presentations
  - Detailed Application
  - Detailed Application Instructions
  - FAQs

TxDOT 2021 TA Program
Evaluation Criteria
Stakeholder workshop held May 2, 2019
  - Mid-sized MPOs
  - TxDOT PTN and District TA Coordinators

Evaluation criteria and measures were identified based on:
  - TxDOT mission, goals, strategic plan
  - Past TxDOT TA Program Calls
  - Review of MPO and State DOT TA program materials

Criteria weights will be based on:
  - BAC input
  - Workshop survey results
  - TxDOT TA Program needs
## Evaluation Criteria Categories

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Criteria Description*</th>
<th>Population Size</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Safety</td>
<td>Demonstrated need for safety improvements; Project improves safety for nonmotorized users</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Connectivity &amp; Accessibility</td>
<td>Connects to destinations of interest; Supports multimodal connections; Eliminates barriers; and Supports long-distance bicycle infrastructure</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Community Support &amp; Planning</td>
<td>Demonstrated community support; Link to transportation plans; consideration for small communities with limited planning resources</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Project Readiness</td>
<td>Detailed construction cost estimate; Past project performance; Meets established design criteria</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Geographic Equity</td>
<td>Improves mode choice in under-served communities</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Demand</td>
<td>Improves access to higher density residential and/or employment centers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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*For additional details, please refer to the 2021 TA Call for Projects Program Guide*
Evaluation Criteria Categories

Criteria that apply to Nonurban and Small Urban projects

1) Safety
   • Demonstrated need for safety improvements, and
   • Project improves safety for nonmotorized users

2) Connectivity & Accessibility
   • Connects to destinations of interest,
   • Supports multimodal connections,
   • Eliminates barriers, and
   • Supports long-distance bicycle infrastructure

3) Community Support & Planning
   • Demonstrated community support,
   • Link to transportation plans, and
   • Consideration for small communities with limited planning resources

4) Project Readiness
   • Detailed construction cost estimate,
   • Past project performance, and
   • Meets established design criteria

5) Geographic Equity
   • Improves mode choice in under-served communities

Criterion that applies only to Small Urban projects

6) Demand
   • Improves access to higher density residential and/or employment centers
BAC members will receive a survey link to help prioritize TxDOT’s 2021 TA evaluation criteria. Please reply no later than January 22, 2021.
Please send additional questions and comments to:

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Projects located within a TMA are only eligible for TA funding from an MPO (Project A)

Projects located outside the TMA but inside MPO boundaries are eligible for TA funding from either TxDOT or the MPO (Project B)

Projects located outside an MPO are only eligible for TA funding from TxDOT (Project C)

TxDOT’s funds are further divided:

- **Nonurban.** Population areas of 5,000 or less located outside TMAs
- **Small Urban.** Population areas of 5,001 to 200,000 located outside TMAs