



Request for City Council Committee Action From the Department of Public Works

Date: August 17, 2010

To: Honorable Sandra Colvin Roy, Chair Transportation & Public Works Committee

Subject: **DRAFT Bicycle Master Plan Receive and File**

Recommendation:

Receive and File; DRAFT Minneapolis Bicycle Master Plan

Previous Directives:

- July 17th, 2009 Council Action: Approving The Access Minneapolis 10-Year Transportation Action Plan and directing Public Works to complete a Bicycle Master Plan.
- May 28, 2010, Receive and File; Minneapolis Bicycle Design Guidelines.

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Approved by:

Steven A. Kotke, P.E., City Engineer, Director of Public Works

Presenters: Donald Pflaum, Transportation Planner 673-2129

Reviews:

Permanent Review Committee (PRC):	Not Applicable
Civil Rights Affirmative Action Plan:	Not Applicable
Policy Review Group (PRG):	Not Applicable

Financial Impact

No budget impact

Community Impact

Neighborhood Notification: Yes

City Goals: Integrated, multi-modal transportation choices border to border

Comprehensive Plan: Meets comprehensive plan goals and is consistent with Bike Master Plan

Zoning Code: NA

Background Information/Project Coordination

In July of 2009, the Access Minneapolis 10-Year Transportation Action Plan was approved by the Minneapolis City Council/Mayor. Within the document was a directive to complete a Bicycle Master Plan for the City of Minneapolis. In addition to this directive, many of the projects defined in the 2001 5-Year Bikeways Plan and the 2001 Bikeways Master Plan have been completed within the last 9 years and therefore an update is warranted.

The purpose of the Bicycle Master Plan is to establish goals, objectives, and benchmarks that improve safety and mobility for bicyclists and increase the number of trips taken by bicycle. The Bicycle Master Plan discusses bicycle policy, evaluates existing conditions, conducts a needs analysis, creates a list of prioritized projects and initiatives, and suggests funding strategies to be implemented to complete the plan.

The Bicycle Master Plan is divided into 8 chapters:

Chapter 1—Introduction: This section states the purpose of the plan, establishes a vision, discusses guiding principals, explains the community input process, and presents how the plan is organized.

Chapter 2—History of Bicycling in Minneapolis: This chapter looks at bicycling in Minneapolis through the past century.

Chapter 3—Policy Framework: The policy framework evaluates the various plans currently in place including the 2001 Bicycle Master Plan, the Hennepin County Bicycle Transportation Plan, the Metropolitan Council Regional Trails Plan, and the Minneapolis Comprehensive Plan.

Chapter 4—Goals, Objectives, and Benchmarks: Setting goals, objectives, and benchmarks are important steps in creating a bicycle friendly city. This section looks at goals, objectives, and benchmarks and how to achieve them.

Chapter 5—Existing Conditions: This section is an exhaustive look at the existing state of bicycling throughout the city for each of the E's; education, encouragement, engineering, enforcement, evaluation, and equity. The section looks at bicycle program strengths and weaknesses with emphasis placed on what has been working well for the city.

Chapter 6—Needs Analysis: The needs analysis is an assessment on what is needed to make the city more bicycle friendly. Although the city has demonstrated success with the bicycle program, improvement is still needed.

Chapter 7—Project/Initiative Identification and Prioritization: This section identifies projects based on existing system gaps and discontinuities. A process has also been identified to prioritize future bicycle projects.

Chapter 8—Funding and Implementation Strategies: The final chapter looks at what it will take in terms of funding to complete the plan with limited available resources.

Public Process

An open house for the Bicycle Master plan was held in June 2008 with over 150 people in attendance. The feedback from this meeting was used to draft the document. An additional five public meetings will be held in August/September 2010 to solicit additional public input. Public Works will also work with partner agencies between August and November to resolve project leads, maintenance responsibilities, and funding strategies for the suggested projects.

Public Comments will be taken until October 1, 2010, allowing for a 45-day comment period. Public Comments will be forwarded to the Minneapolis Bicycle Advisory and to Public Works for review. After changes are made to the plan based on public comment, the plan will be brought before the Transportation and Public Works Committee for approval on November 30, 2010. The 5 public meetings will be held in the four planning quadrants (North, Northeast, South, and Southwest) in addition to a meeting held for Downtown Minneapolis.

Attachments

Attachment #1 – Draft Bicycle Master Plan