

CT Statewide Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation Plan Update

1999 Plan Vision

To enhance the bicycling and walking environment throughout Connecticut by providing for the safe, convenient and enjoyable use of these modes of transportation in an effort to meet the publics' demand for improved mobility and a better quality of life.

Any Connecticut resident will be able to walk, bicycle, or use other type of nonmotorized transportation mode safely and conveniently from his or her home to any destination in the State. From any town, residents will be able to follow multiuse trails that are connected to other towns in the region, to other regions, and to neighboring States. Employment centers, shopping areas, bus and train centers, recreation and cultural attractions, and schools will accommodate the walking and bicycling needs of employees, customers, residents, both within the development and to nearby destinations.

Revised Vision 1

To encourage and promote bicycling and walking throughout Connecticut by providing for the safe, convenient, and enjoyable use of these modes of transportation..

Any person will be able to walk, bicycle, or use other types of nonmotorized transportation modes safely and conveniently throughout the State. A network of on-road facilities and multiuse trails will connect towns, regions, and Connecticut to neighboring states. Specifically, residential areas, employment centers, shopping areas, transit centers, recreation and cultural attractions, and schools will accommodate the walking and bicycling needs of users, both within the development and to nearby destinations.

1999 Plan Goals

GOAL 1

Provide a statewide multi-use trail system which is integrated with other transportation systems.

A. Objective: Develop multi-use facilities that provide for the desired mobility of bicyclists and walkers, while being responsive to social, economic, and environmental concerns.

ConnDOT is actively pursuing opportunities to adequately fund and construct multi-use facilities throughout the state.

B. Objective: Evaluate the suitability of accommodating walkers and bicyclists on those State routes included in the Planning Region's bicycle / pedestrian plans and the Connecticut Bicycle Map.

ConnDOT planners and designers currently investigate bicycle and pedestrian usage levels on DOT projects along these routes.

C. Objective: Develop a system that measures the level of success of facilities by monitoring and documenting usage.

ConnDOT currently monitors usage on various facilities throughout the state.

D. Objective: Integrate the consideration of sidewalks and multi-use paths into all planning, design, construction and maintenance activities of the Connecticut Department of Transportation.

ConnDOT routinely considers the inclusion of these types of facilities where feasible for all projects.

E. Objective: Evaluate and provide bicycle facilities for intermodal connections, ie, racks, lockers, etc.

ConnDOT is continually exploring options for expanding and enhancing existing facilities.

F. Objective: Evaluate and inventory selected State roads to determine their suitability for bicyclists and walkers, using criteria developed by FHWA.

ConnDOT currently conducts an ongoing inventory of these selected roadways.

GOAL 2

Provide and maintain a safe, convenient and pleasing bicycle and pedestrian environment.

A. Objective: Maintain funding priorities for the construction, maintenance, and operation of multi-use facilities.

ConnDOT is committed to fully utilizing all funding sources designated for these purposes.

B. Objective: Provide multi-use facilities, which consider the needs of commuting, recreational, touring, and utility bicyclists and walkers of all ages.

ConnDOT is evaluating facilities and planning for future connections continually.

C. Objective: Provide walkways at mass transit facilities, which will enable the public to safely access the facility.

ConnDOT complies with all ADA requirements pertaining to its projects.

D. Objective: Adopt design standards and policies, which promote safe, convenient and pleasing multi-use facilities that encourage bicycle and pedestrian transportation.

ConnDOT has been using the FHWA's Guide for the Development of Bicycle Facilities since 1991 and will continue to support multi-use facility establishment.

E. Objective: Provide uniform signing and marking of all multi-use facilities, where warranted and as recommended by the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.
ConnDOT considers signing as an integral part of any project.

F. Objective: Develop a policy that encourages the maintenance of multi-use trails by the town or by an "Adopt a Trail" program.
ConnDOT encourages local communities and groups to enter into maintenance agreements with the state as part of the normal project development process.

G. Objective: To improve maintenance practices, which maintain multi-use trails in a generally smooth, clean and safe condition.
ConnDOT is continuing to maintain as many multi-use facilities as priorities will allow.

GOAL 3

Encourage and support bicycle / pedestrian safety, education and enforcement programs.

A. Objective: Advocate the development of bicycle and pedestrian safety and education programs for cyclists and walkers of all ages, to improve bicycling skills, observance of traffic laws, and overall safety.
ConnDOT works in conjunction with the Department of Education to instruct children in the skills needed to enjoy bicycling and walking in a safe manner.

B. Objective: Monitor and analyze bicycle and pedestrian accident data in order to devise ways to improve bicycle and pedestrian safety.
ConnDOT is exploring options for data collection with local police departments.

C. Objective: Provide educational materials for motorists, through the Department of Motor Vehicles, for driver awareness of cyclists and pedestrians using the roadways.
The Department of Motor Vehicles will be including information in its' Drivers' Manual.

D. Objective: Provide educational materials to schools and libraries for bicyclists and pedestrians of all ages.
ConnDOT provides Bicycle maps to any interested party.

GOAL 4

To make full use of state resources in providing technical assistance to towns and municipalities relative to the development of bicycle and pedestrian trail facilities throughout our state.

A. Objective: Encourage local towns and communities to put forward projects and proposals that they may have for review by ConnDOT.
ConnDOT will respond positively to any request for assistance pertaining to bicycle and pedestrian facility development.

B. Objective: Enlist the aid of Regional Planning Organizations (RPO) in bringing forward local plans and strategies for bicycle and pedestrian development.
ConnDOT will maintain a close working relationship with RPO's to facilitate this plan.

Revised Goals 1

GOAL 1

Provide and maintain a safe, accessible, and convenient pedestrian and bicycle travel network.

Objective: Support the development of on-road and multi-use facilities that consider the needs of commuting, recreational, touring, and utility walkers and bicyclists of all ages.

Objective: Consider pedestrian and bicycle needs in all planning, design, construction and maintenance activities of the Connecticut Department of Transportation.

Objective: Maintain on-road facilities and multi-use trails in a generally smooth, clean, and safe condition.

Objective: Provide uniform signing and marking of all multi-use facilities, where warranted and as recommended by the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

GOAL 2

Support a statewide pedestrian and bicycle system that is integrated with other transportation systems (auto, rail, bus, etc.) and provides connections between neighborhoods, commercial areas, employment centers, schools, parks, and other community-serving destinations

Objective: Support accommodating walkers and bicyclists on those State routes included in the regions' bicycle / pedestrian plans and the Connecticut Bicycle Map.

Objective: Provide walkways and bikeways to enable the public to safely access mass transit facilities.

Objective: Support the installation of bicycle storage facilities at transit stations, commercial areas, schools, employment areas, and other destinations.

Objective: Support the ability to travel with one's bike on buses and trains.

Objective: Encourage future development to consider existing and possible future pedestrian and bicycle connections to employment areas, schools, parks, transit areas, and commercial areas.

GOAL 3

Encourage and support pedestrian and bicycle safety and educational programs so that all roadway users will share the road safely.

Objective: Monitor and analyze bicycle and pedestrian accident data. Devise ways to improve bicycle and pedestrian safety.

Objective: Encourage the development of safety and education programs, for drivers, cyclists, and walkers of all ages, to improve bicycling skills and better understand traffic laws and overall safety.

Objective: Provide educational materials for motorists, through the Department of Motor Vehicles, for driver awareness of cyclists and pedestrians using the roadways.

Objective: Provide educational materials to schools and libraries for bicyclists and pedestrians of all ages.

GOAL 4

Provide support and available funding for the development and maintenance of bicycle and pedestrian facilities throughout Connecticut.

Objective: Invest in bicycle and pedestrian facilities.

Objective: Encourage local towns and communities to put forward projects and proposals that they may have for review by ConnDOT.

Objective: Enlist the aid of Regional Planning Organizations (RPO) in bringing forward local plans and strategies for bicycle and pedestrian development.

GOAL 5

Contribute to public health by providing safe and attractive opportunities for non-motorized transportation.

Objective: Support programs and policies that allow residents and visitors to make walking and bicycling viable means of travel.

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