

WITH THE SPRING SEASON UPON US, we are only a few weeks away from May which is National Bike Month. This year, in addition to the various events that raise awareness of the importance of bicycling, the draft Regional Bike Plan will be out for public review and comment. Over the past several months, work has been underway to prepare the Draft Plan and here are the latest updates:



PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

IN OCTOBER, a series of public open houses were held and provided valuable information from the community on the critical needs for bicyclists and connections to key destinations that should be in the network. The ideas and responses to the on-line and paper surveys have helped shape the plan, and provided useful information.

The next round of public Open Houses have been established for the following dates and locations:

MAY 10, 2011, 4:30 PM to 7:00 PM, Webster Groves Community Center

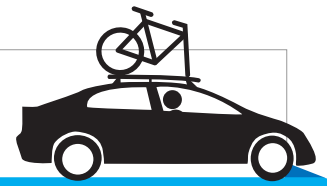
MAY 11, 2011, 4:30 PM to 7:00 PM, Forest Park Visitor's Center (Trolley Room)

MAY 17, 2011, 4:30 PM to 7:00 PM, UMSL Millennium Student Center (Century Room)

MAY 19, 2011, 4:30 PM to 7:00 PM, St. Peters City Hall

Further information on the Open Houses will be available soon.





TECHNICAL AND CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEES

JOINT MEETINGS with the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) have been held over the past few months. Discussion items included:



Refining the Plan's goals and objectives based on public comment from the Public Open Houses last October

Developing actions that will achieve the Plan's goals and objectives

Discussing performance measures to track the progress of the actions

Developing priorities based on key destinations throughout the region. These include proximity to large employment centers, transit stations, colleges and universities, town centers and business districts and regional parks.

One key element of the draft plan is implementation and tracking progress and the multiple activities that are needed. Over the next month, work will continue to finalize the route network and the performance measures for discussion with the advisory committees in order to include the information in the draft plan.



FIELDWORK AND INITIAL ROUTE NETWORK

THE DATA COLLECTION FOR THE DRAFT ROADWAY NETWORK, which was reviewed and commented on by the advisory committees led to data collection last Fall. This effort was completed in October, following the open house meetings. Information from the meetings led to the draft network and data collection in critical areas. Roads were measured and recommendations for bike facilities developed. These recommendations will be reviewed with the advisory committees in January of 2011.



REDEFINING THE ROUTE NETWORK

A CRITICAL STEP IN THE PLAN DEVELOPMENT is to both refine the draft bicycle network and develop a prioritization process for establishing short medium and long term priorities for building out the bicycle network. Revisions to the network based on discussions with the advisory committees will continue into the development of the draft master plan document.