Improving Conditions for Bicycling and Walking

A Best Practices Report

January 1998

Prepared for the Federal Highway Administration

by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy
and the Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals
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However, ISTEA did not guarantee Federal funding. Instead, pedestrian and bicycle projects have had to compete with all other transportation projects for limited amounts of available funding. Decisions on which projects are funded are made at State and metropolitan levels of government. In addition, State and local funding sources are also used to provide projects for walking and bicycling. Therefore, providing funding for these projects is a concrete illustration of the value of walking and bicycling to these communities.

This "best practices" report provides information on some outstanding pedestrian and bicycle projects that have been recognized for increasing walking and bicycling and improving user safety in communities across the United States. We have certainly overlooked other "best practices" in other places. Our intent was to highlight exemplary projects and to show what has been done that can be replicated in other places. We hope that by seeing what others have done, you will be inspired to create your own programs to encourage more and safer walking and bicycling in your own community.

**JOHN C. FEGAN**

Bicycle and Pedestrian Program Manager

United States Department of Transportation
additional resources

(Not including references included in Best Practices reports themselves)

General
National Bicycling and Walking Study Final Report, FHWA, 1993
National Bicycling and Walking Study Case Studies (24), FHWA, 1993
Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety and Accommodations, a three-day training course available through the National Highway Institute, FHWA, 1996
A Synthesis of Bicycle Safety-related Research, FHWA, 1994
Planning
Selecting Roadway Design Treatments to Accommodate Bicyclists, FHWA, 1992
Making the Connection: Integrating Land-use and Transportation Planning for Livable Communities, 1000 Friends of Oregon, 1997
A Bicycle-friendly City (video), Bicycle Federation of America, 1995. ($20)

Off-road Facilities
Trails for the 21st Century: A Planning, Design and Management Manual for Multi-use Trails, Rails to Trails Conservancy, 1993
Greenways, Flink and Searns, Conservation Foundation, 1993
Trail Intersection Design Guidelines (Draft) prepared for Florida DOT by the University of North Carolina Highway Safety Research Center in 1996.

On-road Facilities
A Policy on Geometric Design of Streets and Highways, AASHTO, 1995
Making Streets that Work, City of Seattle, 1996 (video and workbook)
Design of Pedestrian Facilities, Report of Recommended Practice. Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE).
Residential Street Design and Traffic Control, ITE
Education, Encouragement and Enforcement
Mean Streets: Pedestrian Safety and Reform of the Nation’s Transportation Law. Environmental Working Group, 1997
The Complete Guide to Police Cycling ($20), IPMB.

Where to Obtain these Resources

FHWA PUBLICATIONS
National Bicycle and Pedestrian Clearinghouse
1506 21st Street NW, Suite 210
Washington, DC 20036
(800) 760-6272

RAILS-TO-TRAILS CONSERVANCY
1100 17th Street, NW; 10th Floor
Washington, DC 20036
(202) 331-9696

BIKE FEDERATION OF AMERICA
1506 21st Street, NW; Suite 200
Washington, DC 20036
(202) 463-6622

LEAGUE OF AMERICAN BICYCLISTS
1612 K Street, NW; Suite 401
Washington, DC 20006
(202) 822-1333

ENVIRONMENTAL WORKING GROUP
1718 Connecticut Ave., NW; Suite 600
Washington, DC 20009
(202) 667-6982

INSTITUTE OF TRANSPORTATION ENGINEERS
525 School Street, SW; Suite 410
Washington, DC 20024

AMERICAN PLANNING ASSOCIATION
122 S. Michigan Avenue, Suite 1600
Chicago, IL 60603

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF STATE HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION OFFICIALS
444 North Capitol Street, NW; Suite 225
Washington, DC 20001
(202) 624-5800

1000 FRIENDS OF OREGON
534 SW 3rd Avenue, Suite 300
Portland, OR 97204
(503) 497-1000

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Arlington, VA 22209
(703) 525-6300

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Bicycle and Pedestrian Program
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Seattle, WA 98104
Acronyms

AASHTO...American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials
APBP ..........Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals
CIP ..........Capital Improvement Program
CMAQ ..........Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program
DNR ..........Department of Natural Resources
DOT ..........Department of Transportation
FHWA ..........Federal Highway Administration
FRA ..........Federal Railroad Administration
FTA ..........Federal Transit Administration
ISTEA .........Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991
MUTCD .....Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices
MPO .........Metropolitan Planning Organization
NHTSA ......National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
NRTF ..........National Recreational Trail Fund
RTC ..........Rails-to-Trails Conservancy
TE(P) ..........Transportation Enhancement (Program)
TIP ..........Transportation Improvement Program

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Founded in 1995, the APBP promotes excellence in the emerging professional discipline of pedestrian and bicycle transportation.

RTC’s mission is to enrich America’s communities and countrysides by creating a nationwide network of public trails from former rail lines and connecting corridors.