

CARRBORO BICYCLE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

IMPROVING BICYCLING IN CARRBORO

In January of 2008, Town staff, local residents, and the project consultants met to begin work on the Town of Carrboro Bicycle Transportation Plan.

The Bicycle Transportation Plan is part of a statewide matching grants program from NCDOT that is designed to support local communities in their efforts to plan for bicycle improvements. The project consultant, Greenways Inc. (GWI), has successfully completed several such plans with other communities in North Carolina, and has worked in over 150 towns, cities and regions in 35 states to create more liveable communities.

The Bicycle Transportation Plan Steering Committee was selected for their useful expertise and interest in related fields. At the project kick-off meeting in January 2008, participants voiced that connectivity and education were the biggest priorities. Improving and creating connections from residential areas and new development into Downtown as well as local community hubs through a series of loops were one of several ideas. Existing corridors such as Main Street and Greensboro, among others will be examined as future opportunities for bicycling facilities. The Town staff identified major roads and intersections which posed a concern for cyclist safety and require improvements.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

More specific goals will be established as public input is gathered, and as the steering committee contributes further to the development of this plan.

There are several ways for you to help shape the future of Carrboro in terms of bicycling and connectivity. High levels of public participation will make this plan more effective for implementation and more relevant for the particular needs of local residents:

1. Public Input Workshop.

April 10, 2008, 4:30-7:30 PM at Carrboro Elementary (400 Shelton Street, Carrboro, NC). Stop by to learn more about the Bicycle Plan and talk directly with Steering Committee members and project consultants. Maps will be provided for writing comments, identifying places you would like to get to by bike, and ideas for future opportunities. Please come share your ideas!

A bicycle commuter in Carrboro's downtown



Bike parking along Open Eye Cafe



PROJECT NEWSLETTER



The Libba Cotton Bikenway

2. **Project Website:** Project status, important dates, and feedback opportunities are available online at:

<http://www.greenways.com/pages/CarrboroBicycle.html>

The project website provides links to important feedback opportunities such as the on-line survey. The survey questions are designed to get a better understanding of how often residents currently bicycle; the barriers to riding in your community; desired future bicycling corridors; and priorities for future improvements.

3. **2nd Public Input Workshop in Summer 2008.**

Date, time and place TBD. This will be an opportunity to learn about the main components of the Draft Bicycle Transportation Plan and to comment on initial recommendations.

4. **Support the Adoption of the Final Plan.**

In Winter of 2008, the Final Plan will be ready for adoption by the Town of Carrboro. It is critical that the Final Plan be adopted in order for its recommendations to be carried out. Also, the adoption of the plan will send a clear message to outside funding sources that the Town of Carrboro has a well thought-out and planned set of bicycle transportation improvements, making them more likely to fund projects. Be sure to write a letter of support to the Board of Aldermen, or show up to support the Plan when it goes before the Board of Aldermen this summer.

5. **Contact a Steering Committee Member.**

If you are not able to provide input through the opportunities listed above, please contact *Adena Messinger, Transportation Planner* for the Town of Carrboro. She can either answer your questions or direct you to a Steering Committee Member or project consultant who can.

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A bicyclist heads down Libba Cotten Bikeway



Steering committee members discuss bicycling routes in Carrboro

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