Making your City Better for Bicycling and Walking: How and Why

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Executive Director

Missouri Bicycle and Pedestrian Federation
- Statewide Bicycle & Pedestrian Advocacy
- Over 4500 members across the state
- 50+ member Advisory Commission representing groups across the state
- Celebrating our 20th Anniversary
We work to support ALL types of bicycling, walking, trails

- Walking, hiking, running
- Road, mountain, trail bicycling
- ALL reasons: Transportation, recreation, health, competition, fitness, fun
Our Vision for Missouri

- World class bike/ped network
- Encourage more bicycling & walking
- Improve safety
- Build a movement in support of bicycling & walking

MoBikeFed.org/Vision
WHY?

- **Attracts** people/businesses to your city:
  “People want to live and work in places where they can safely and conveniently walk and/or bicycle” (Federal Highway Admin)

- **Health & Environment**

- **Economics:**
  “Bicycle and pedestrian facilities increase home values, drive spending at local businesses, and spur economic development in communities” (USDOT)

- One of the most **cost effective** investments government can make
OUR COMPETITION – NATL & INTRNATL . . .

Percentage of Trips by Bicycling & Walking

Amsterdam
Groningen
Copenhagen
Berlin
Portland, OR
Salt Lake City
Minneapolis
50 largest cities
KC
STL
Springfield
Columbia

0% 5% 10% 15% 20% 25% 30% 35% 40%
U.S. Vehicle Miles Traveled (Millions) Since the Dawn of the Age of the Automobile

Chart: Missouri Bicycle and Pedestrian Federation, mobikefed.org
Times are changing . . .
U.S. Vehicle Miles Traveled (Millions) Since the Dawn of the Age of the Automobile

Don’t plan for this

When reality is this

Chart: Missouri Bicycle and Pedestrian Federation, mobikefed.org
U.S. Vehicle Miles Traveled (Millions)
Since the Dawn of the Age of the Automobile

Don’t plan for this

2000-2010, the amount of bicycling in Missouri DOUBLED

When reality is this
12 Ideas to Supercharge your City’s Biking & Walking

Many ideas – choose one or two!

Think in four main categories:

- **Network** (barriers)
- **Encouragement** (getting more people to bike and walk more often)
- **Safety**
- **People** (supporters, “a movement”)

How
1. Create citywide plans:
   - Bicycling
   - Walking/sidewalks
   - Trails
   - Low-hanging fruit
   - Long-term vision
   - Most important factor in receiving federal grant funding

MoBikeFed.org/Bike-Ped-Trails-Plans
2. Easiest starting place: Citywide bicycle route system

- Find out where cyclists/groups are already riding
- Which streets are already both
  - Bike friendly AND
  - Actually used
- Use EXISTING streets & facilities
  - Can be in town AND/OR commonly used routes in surrounding countryside
- Make a plan (map)
- End result:
  - Map (online/print)
  - Bicycle routes marked with signs and/or pavement markings
- Cost: Few thousand to few hundred thousand $$
3. Create a city bike/ped/trails advisory committee

- Citizens
- Staff
- Elected officials
How

4. Apply for Bicycle Friendly Community and Walk Friendly Community status.

- MoBikeFed.org/BicycleFriendlyMissouri
- MoBikeFed.org/WalkFriendlyMissouri
- Take stock – what do you have already?
- Structured, tested recommendations
- Nationally recognized programs
4. Bicycle Friendly Community/ Walk Friendly Community – Join the statewide movement!

MO population living in a Bicycle Friendly Community:
- 2008: 0
- 2009: 428,000
- 2010: 652,000
- 2011: 1,133,000
- 2012: 1,225,000
- 2013: 1,262,000
- 2014: 1,305,755

Bicycle friendly communities, universities & businesses in MO:
- 2008: 0
- 2009: 3
- 2010: 17
- 2011: 26
- 2012: 27
- 2013: 30
- 2014: 36
5. Adopt a Complete Streets Policy

Complete Streets meet the needs of:

+ Drivers
+ Walkers
+ Bicyclists
+ Transit users
+ All ages (youngest to oldest)
+ All levels of ability & disability
+ Everyone!
5. Complete Streets – Join the Movement!

Missouri is now a national Complete Streets leader:

2001 - 0 policies
2002 - 1 policy
2007 - 3 policies
2008 - 5 policies
2009 - 5 policies
2010 - 13 policies
2011 - 20 policies
2012 - 22 policies
2014 - 25 policies

MoBikeFed.org/CompleteStreets
6. Ban Harassment of Cyclists and Pedestrians

+ Top concern of our members
+ Shouting/scaring/throwing objects is common, dangerous, and discouraging
+ Create an environment supportive of biking/walking
+ 6 MO cities with ordinances now

MoBikeFed.org/anti-harassment
7. National Celebrations

- Bike Month (May)
- Bike to Work Week (May)
- Walk to School Month (Oct)

Mayors ride/walk/breakfast
8. Create & Encourage Events

- Bike Rides - On road & trail
- Walks
- Runs
- Weekly, monthly, annually
- Clubs/groups/meet-ups
- Encourage, don’t discourage (i.e., permits)
9. Safe Routes to School Program

- Walking School Bus
- Bike Train
- Info about biking & walking and encouragement for students/parents
- Growing intntl movement;
  many resources

http://www.saferoutesinfo.org/
How

10. Bike Ed Classes

+ Like Drivers Ed, but for bikes
+ In-class and on-bike
+ Dramatically increases comfort, safety, ability of people to bicycle for transportation & recreation

http://mobikefed.org/content/bicycle-education
11. Law Enforcement

+ Huge role in bicycle, pedestrian, road safety
+ Usually don’t know what is most important to enforce
12. Create/Find Regular Ongoing Funding

- Bike/ped projects in Capital Improvement Tax
  - Bike/ped groups can help PASS or RENEW your tax
- Dedicated bike/ped/trails/greenways taxes
- Regular budget item
- Needed at local, state, national levels.
  - We’re currently working on inclusion of bike/ped in any new state transportation funding
FOR MORE INFORMATION:

HTTP://MOBIKEFED.ORG

MOBIKEFED.ORG/BIKING-WALKING-VISION-CITIES-COUNTIES

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