TULARE COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

Workshop:
Creating Bikeable, Walkable Communities

Wednesday, June 7, 2017

REVIEW OF THE 2016 REGIONAL ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Walk ‘n Bike Tulare County

BACKGROUND

What is Active Transportation?

- Active transportation means getting around on foot or by bike or by other human-powered means such as non-motorized wheel chairs or scooters.
What is Active Transportation?

- Active transportation is associated with reduced costs at both the community and household levels and with healthful living.
- Active transportation is a component of almost all person-trips.

Purpose and Need

- “Put simply, the objective of Walk ‘n Bike Tulare County is to make walking and biking around the county safer and easier.”

Purpose and Need

- Provide the foundation of pedestrian and bicycle data for the 2018 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy Update. Compile and incorporate high-priority active transportation projects among the member agencies.
- Position the high-priority projects to compete better for funding from federal, state and regional sources.

COMPONENTS OF THE PLAN
Walk ‘n Bike Tulare County

• This plan was prepared to meet the requirements of the California Transportation Commission’s 2014 Active Transportation Program Guidelines.
• It provides an overview of the existing conditions as related to the bicycle and pedestrian modes in the region and highlights current and future needs and improvements.

http://www.tularecog.org/activetransportation/#plan

Benefits of Active Transportation

• Health
  • Integrate physical activity into everyday life
  • Lower rates of heart disease, diabetes
  • Lower asthma rates (through less air pollution)

• Mobility
  • Options for those who can’t drive
  • Less congestion and demand for parking

• Neighborhood livability
  • Greater interaction
  • Safety from less traffic and more “eyes on the street”

• Economy
  • Lower transportation costs, lower street maintenance costs

• Environment
  • Lower air pollution, GHG emissions. Less noise, water pollution

Planning Context

• Trip making
• Commute shares of walking and biking
• Traffic collisions involving pedestrian and bicyclist victims
• Pedestrian and bicyclist fatalities
• Survey of the member agencies

Public Health

• Eight indicators of public health
  • Levels of physical activity among adults
  • Levels of adult obesity
  • Levels of physical fitness among youth
  • Levels of healthy body composition among youth
  • Death rates from diabetes
  • Death rates from heart disease
  • Rates of hospitalizations from asthma
  • Death rates from chronic lower respi

• Walking and biking are highly accessible froms for physical activity
• State grant criteria strongly favor projects that can demonstrate benefits to public health
Socioeconomics

- Analysis of disadvantages communities and vulnerable populations.
  - Percent of the population that consists of youth
  - Percent of the population that consists of seniors
  - Median household income
  - Percent of people living below the federal poverty level
  - Student eligible for free or reduced-price school lunches
  - Levels of vehicle availability
  - Exposure and sensitivities to environmental pollution
- State grants favor projects that benefit disadvantaged communities

Needs Assessment

- Public input on barriers, obstacles and challenges; needs and concerns of pedestrians and bicyclists; and ideas and suggestions for improving conditions.
- Online survey and interactive map. Paper survey at County Fair and other events.

Priority Projects

- Walk ‘n Bike Tulare County did not develop or formulate new projects. Rather it incorporates high priority projects previously developed by the member agencies.
- Project list was collected from the first round of local applications to the Active Transportation Program (ATP), a call for projects to the member agencies, and 2010 Regional Bicycle Transportation Plan
- By incorporating these projects the plan can help make state funding available.

Funding

- Active Transportation Program
- Measure R
- Complete Streets
Recent and Next Steps

- Bike & Stride bike safety outreach
- City of Visalia Active Transportation Plan
- Integrate with RTP Goals and Objectives
- Prepare for next round of ATP funding
- Work with Active Transportation Advisory Committee (ATAC) to identify issues leading to major update to Walk ‘n Bike Tulare County in 2020.
- Mapping and information clearinghouse for the region

QUESTIONS?

www.tularecog.org