

# Implementation Plan

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A comparison between the City of Clearwater's existing conditions and the demand for bicycling and walking reveals that maintaining our current level of activities and programs will not fulfill the vision and goals articulated in this Master Plan. This Implementation Plan provides guidance and strategies to assist the City in meeting the desires of its residents.

This Implementation Plan restates each of the four Goals and their supporting objectives. Specific actions are then recommended to achieve each objective. Actions directed toward achieving objectives (and therefore, the Goals and Vision of the Plan) are grouped into three categories: infrastructure improvements, program development and policy considerations. The following paragraphs describe each of these categories in detail.

## Policy Considerations

The third category of actions recommends policies that when adopted, effectuate the Plan. Recommended policies provide more focused guidance towards achieving a specific objective.

**Let me tell you what I think of bicycling. I think it has done more to emancipate women than anything else in the world. It gives women a feeling of freedom and self-reliance.**

**~Susan B. Anthony**

The following are the restated four Goal categories, their supporting Objectives, and this time with the actions recommended to achieve those Objectives. In addition to the specific action items recommended in this plan, a full-time bicycle and pedestrian coordinator should be employed to implement and monitor the plan's progress.

## Infrastructure Improvements

These physical improvements will enhance the walking and bicycling environment. The infrastructure improvements recommended in the Implementation Plan target bicycle and pedestrian improvements to the roadway network as well as the trail network.

## Program Development

Actions recommended in this category include either the development of new, or continuation



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and refinement of existing programs that will improve the bicycling and walking environment and encourage more walking and bicycling activity.

## 1. Engineering

**Enhance our existing transportation network and accommodate non-motorized users through infrastructure modifications to roadways, trails, sidewalks and crosswalks for bicycling and walking.**

Objective 1-1: Establish minimum bicycle and pedestrian level of service standards for roadways within the City of Clearwater. These minimum standards will ensure accommodation of bicycling and walking in all roadway and facility designs.

### Policy Consideration

1. By the end of 2006, adopt a policy establishing the goal of a minimum Bicycle and Pedestrian Level of Service standard of "B" for all roadways within the City. The Level of Service will be determined by utilizing the methodology designed by the Florida Department of

Transportation in the 2002 Quality/Level of Service Handbook.

Objective 1-2: Integrate bicycle and pedestrian transportation modes in all phases of transportation planning, new roadway design, roadway construction, roadway resurfacing and other capital projects.

### Policy Consideration

1. Adopt a policy and consider appropriate ordinances for establishing routine accommodation of bicycles and pedestrian modes of transportation in all phases of transportation planning, new roadway design, roadway construction, roadway resurfacing and capital projects.

2. Include bicycle and pedestrian facility improvements in conjunction with roadway projects, including resurfacing as a routine cost of project.

### Infrastructure Improvements

1. Implement prioritized bicycle facility and sidewalk construction lists as outlined in this Plan. The bicycle facility improvements should be made



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in conjunction with roadway reconstruction or resurfacing.

## Program Development

1. Coordinate with other governmental jurisdictions to ensure that appropriate bicycle and pedestrian accommodations are planned, constructed and maintained.

2. Continue to actively participate in the Pinellas Metropolitan Planning Organization to ensure consistent countywide planning for bicycle and pedestrian facilities.

**Objective 1-3: Provide a sidewalk system that is complete and accessible throughout the City of Clearwater's roadway network.**

## Policy Consideration

1. Develop guidelines for specific requests for the installation of sidewalks.

## Infrastructure Improvements

1. Implement prioritized sidewalk construction list as outlined in this Plan.

## Program Development

1. Continue and enhance the current sidewalk maintenance program.

2. Enforce bicycle and pedestrian Maintenance of Traffic provisions in construction projects. Maintenance of Traffic provisions require that the contractor keep vehicle traffic free from obstruction including non-motorized traffic.

3. Consider any appropriate revisions to the City's Americans with Disabilities Transition Plan.

**Objective 1-4: Provide safe and convenient crossings for all pedestrians.**

## Policy Considerations

1. Create guidelines for the installation of pedestrian signal heads at locations with significant pedestrian activity such as Public transit points, hospital/medical districts, school and recreation zones, retail and entertainment areas, etc.

2. Develop guidelines to designate pedestrian crossings for use of crosswalk enhancement technologies, such as Accessible Pedestrian Signals, pedestrian countdown timers, and in-pavement flashing lights in mid-block crossings.



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3. Develop guidelines for the installation of accessible pedestrian signals at intersections if requested by a person(s) with a visual impairment.

## Infrastructure Improvements

1. Shorten the distance required to cross roadways with six lanes or greater by providing refuge islands or curb extensions when feasible.
2. Implement ITS Pedestrian Crossing elements at mid-block intersections or areas of high pedestrian activity such as in-pavement flashing lights.
3. Install pedestrian countdown timers in areas of high pedestrian activity where feasible.
4. Consider use of a "no turn on red" variable message boards at major intersections or intersections of high pedestrian activity.
5. Ensure that crosswalks are properly lighted for night use.
6. Provide a slip resistant, vibration free crosswalk area for persons with mobility impairments.

## Program Development

1. Review signal timing program to ensure that it accommodates the



A Trip to School

needs of pedestrians.

**Objective 1-5: Encourage slower traffic to provide a safer environment on the roadways for bicyclists and pedestrians.**

## Program Development

1. Continue the City's traffic calming program.
2. Consider lowering the posted speed limits on roadways.

**Objective 1-6: Provide safe routes for our school children.**

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## Infrastructure Improvements

1. Implement prioritized sidewalk construction list as outlined in this Plan. As children generally utilize sidewalks for both walking and bicycling, the sidewalk list is a priority to school children.

## Program Development

1. Continue participation in the Pinellas County Schools' county-wide School Transportation and Enhanced Pedestrian Safety committee.

**Objective 1-7:** Throughout the City of Clearwater, provide an integrated trail system that connects significant land use destinations.

## Policy Consideration

1. Develop guidelines so that trails are developed consistently throughout Clearwater.

## Infrastructure Improvements

1. Complete trail segments outlined as part of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan.

**Objective 1-8:** Provide trail access with each new adjacent land use development.

## Policy Considerations

1. Revise land development codes to require the provision of trail access with development review for multiple family units, schools and commercial activity.

**Objective 1-9:** Provide a trail system that is appropriately maintained.

## Program Development

1. Continue and enhance the trail maintenance program.

## 2. Education

**Create and implement educational and safety programs that support bicycling and walking.**

**Objective 2-1:** Provide bicycling and walking safety information through multiple avenues.

## Infrastructure Improvements

1. Install "Shared Lane Bicycle Markings" on roadways where bicycle accommodations are not feasible.



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2. Use consistent pedestrian crossing signs at intersections of high pedestrian activity. Reinforce primary sign with the smaller sign indicating amount of fine for non-compliance.

3. Provide "Share the Road" and "Ride with Traffic" signs on Clearwater's primary roadways.



Shared Lane Marking Example

### Program Development

1. Provide system wide bicycle and pedestrian level of service information maps.

2. Provide user maps of Clearwater's trails.

3. Continue the "Share the Road" media campaign targeting motorists, pedestrians and bicyclists.



Signs included in the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices

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4. Continue to provide bicycling and walking safety information on the City's website.



Share the Road Campaign, 2005-2006

5. Provide bicycling and walking information through the City's utility bills twice per year.

6. Provide additional bicycling and walking guides in Spanish.

**Objective 2-2: Provide educational programs targeting both children and adults.**

### Program Development

1. Continue partnering with other entities to provide bicycle rodeos several times a year.

2. Provide information on the City's website regarding bicycling classes such as Road I, supported by the League of American Bicyclists.

3. Show the "Basics of Bicycling" on C-View several times annually, specifically during the summer (June through August) and in November. These are the months with the highest number of bicycle crashes.

4. Distribute Bicycling Guides in Spanish through the City's Hispanic Outreach Center and at special events.

5. Partner with Pinellas County to enhance bicycle education at Clearwater's elementary schools.

6. Continue programs that provide discounted or free bicycle helmets.

**Objective 2-3: Foster community participation throughout the Plan's implementation.**

### Program Development

1. Create a Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee that will coincide with the implementation of this plan over a ten-year period.

2. Create a "Healthy Routes to Schools Task Force" for each participating school, including



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representatives from Pinellas County Schools and the Parent Teacher Association.

### 3. Enforcement

**Ensure the physical safety of our users.**

Objective 3-1: Promote programs that ensure the physical safety of our non-motorized transportation system users.

#### Program Development

1. Enhance the enforcement of leash laws.
2. Continue the enforcement of motor vehicle, pedestrian and bicycle laws.
3. Continue educating and training law enforcement personnel in the enforcement of laws concerning bicyclists and pedestrians.

4. Continue to provide a volunteer trail patrol.

### 4. Encouragement

**Encourage and promote more walking and bicycling in the City of Clearwater.**

Objective 4-1: Support programs that promote commuter alternatives.



Clearwater Cycling Festival -2004

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## Program Development

1. Support the opportunities offered in Clearwater by Bay Area Commuter Services including the “Bikes on Buses” program.
2. Coordinate with Pinellas County Schools to promote bicycling and walking to and from school.
3. Foster relationship with public transit providers and agencies to develop improved public transportation throughout Clearwater.

Objective 4-2: Create a physical environment that provides site amenities for bicyclists and pedestrians.

## Policy Considerations

1. Amend Land Use regulations to provide valuable site amenities such as showers and changing areas.
2. Create a bicycle parking ordinance.

Objective 4-3: Encourage more bicycling and walking activity in Clearwater.

## Program Development

1. Encourage mixed-use development to create trips shorter in length which will entice non-motorized trips.
2. Develop streetscapes that are inviting to pedestrians by using pedestrian-scale design, landscaping and public art.
3. Continue providing bicycling and walking information on the City of Clearwater’s website.
4. Continue coordinating special events that promote bicycling and walking.
5. Continue partnering with local bicycle and pedestrian organizations, such as Suncoast Cycling and Suncoast Sandpipers, to promote bicycling and walking.

