



OTO BIKE/PED PLAN REPORT



6/28/2013

Implementation in FY2013

This report outlines the bike/ped accomplishments related to the OTO Bike/Ped Plan. Activities occurring during the 2013 Fiscal Year, July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013, are included.

OTO Bike/Ped Plan Report

IMPLEMENTATION IN FY2013

BIKE/PED PLAN GOALS AS APPROVED IN JOURNEY 2035

1. Develop a comprehensive regional bicycle and pedestrian network by identifying both on-street and off-street facilities within the OTO
Implementation Status – Ongoing. This network can be found on the OTO Bike/Ped Plan Map on the OTO website. OTO staff works with area jurisdictions to Evaluate any new infrastructure for inclusion.
2. Integrate the bicycle and pedestrian network with the existing transportation system
Implementation Status – Ongoing. Through Engineering, additional connections have been made between the trail and street network. The Link and improvements made at CU Transit stops also tie the networks together.
3. Enhance and promote bicycling and pedestrian safety
Implementation Status – Ongoing. Safety is being enhanced through Engineering and Education efforts.
4. Identify and target sources to fund pedestrian and bicycle facilities and programs
Implementation Status – Ongoing. OTO continues to make funding available to the region for bicycle and pedestrian improvements, as well as assist in seeking new funding through programs like TIGER.
5. Promote bicycling and walking as a means of transportation integral to daily activities
Implementation Status – Ongoing. While Engineering efforts make this easier, Education and Encouragement promotes this to the OTO region.
6. Support bicycling and walking for the promotion of tourism in the OTO region
Implementation Status – Ongoing. Through the continued Engineering efforts to create a comprehensive and connected system, tourists to the region can enjoy the bicycle and pedestrian network while such a connected system can serve to attract tourists, as well.

BIKE/PED PRIORITIES AS APPROVED IN JOURNEY 2035

TOP 5 POLICY PRIORITIES

- ❑ Sidewalks on School Walking Routes
- ❑ Sidewalks on Streets with Commercial Land Use, especially High Volume Bus Routes
- ❑ Emphasize Projects that Extend from Communities and Enhance the Regional System
- ❑ Complete Bike/Ped Projects with appropriate Roadway Projects
- ❑ Develop Implementation Plan for Bike/Ped Plan, including details such as easements

ADDITIONAL POLICY PRIORITIES

- ❑ North-South Connections between Trails, including The Link in Springfield
- ❑ Streetscapes in Urban Centers
- ❑ Trail Connections between Communities
- ❑ Development of a Trail Loop around Springfield
- ❑ Reclamation of Rail Bed – including following the status of active rail
- ❑ Educational Campaign
- ❑ Focus on bringing Trails toward Wilson's Creek National Battlefield at a Designated Access Point
- ❑ Support the Goals and Objectives of the OTO Bike/Ped Element of the Long Range Transportation Plan

TOP PROJECT PRIORITIES

- ❑ Wilson Creek/Jordan Valley Creek from South Creek to Smith Park
- ❑ Trail of Tears – from Close Memorial Park to City of Battlefield
- ❑ Republic Shuyler Creek and North Fork Shuyler Creek Trails
- ❑ Strafford Route 66 Trail from Springfield to Farm Road 249 (the ball fields)
- ❑ Ozark Finley River Trail and other Future Linear Trails as shown on the OTO Bike/Ped Map in Christian County
- ❑ Greene County Destination Plan with the addition of a Christian County/Regional addendum
- ❑ James River Trail – from Crighton Landing east of Springfield to Delaware landing west of Nixa

STRATEGIES RECOMMENDED IN JOURNEY 2035

- ❑ OTO should maintain a comprehensive list of bicycle and pedestrian needs that is reviewed annually.
- ❑ OTO should work with member jurisdictions to expand data availability for bicycling and pedestrian activities. This includes, but is not limited to, bicycle and pedestrian crashes, current and projected use of facilities, system condition, and level of service calculations.
- ❑ Bicycle and Pedestrian project selection and funding priorities should support the priorities included in this plan.
- ❑ OTO, in partnership with member jurisdictions and Ozark Greenways, should develop an implementation plan which identifies strengths, challenges, necessary easements, and cost for future trail development.
- ❑ Promote adherence to the bicycle and pedestrian design standards as set forth in this plan and encourage the continued implementation of additional best practices.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN FY2013

Bicycle and pedestrian accommodations continue to be a priority in the OTO region. These efforts toward livability and accessibility improve the overall transportation network and the quality of life throughout the region.

Funding

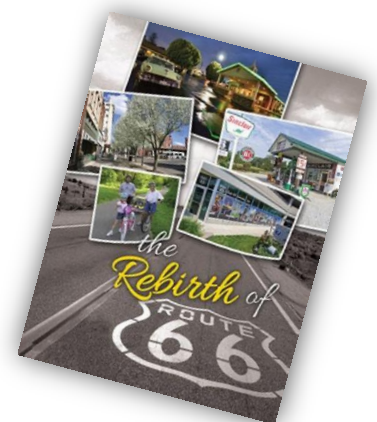
FEDERALLY SUBALLOCATED TRANSPORTATION ENHANCEMENT AND TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM FUNDING

The Transportation Enhancement Program, now known as the Transportation Alternatives Program, provided funding for several projects in the OTO area with FY 2012 and FY 2013 allocations.

- Sidewalks along Pine, Madison, and Bumgarner in Strafford
- Jordan Creek Trail at West Meadows in Springfield, near Grant/Main and College
- Sidewalks in Willard along Farmer Road
- ADA curb ramp improvements along the Route 14 corridor in Nixa and Ozark
- Streetscapes on Commercial, Jefferson, and Phelps in Springfield

TIGER V

City Utilities, the City of Springfield, the Urban Districts Alliance, and OTO applied for a TIGER V grant to help fund the new CU Transit Transfer Facility and



streetscape improvements along College, also known as Route 66. The total project costs were over \$17 million with over \$10 million in federal funding requested.

Engineering

TRAILS

While many pieces of the Ozark Greenways Trail system are in the planning stages, several have been designed and constructed as part of the effort to make a continuous trail system.

- Construction of South Dry Sac Trailhead at David Murray Park in Springfield
- Construction of 0.41 miles of trail between David Murray Park and Ritter Springs in Springfield
- Design of Fassnight Creek Trail between Campbell and Jefferson in Springfield
- Design of Ward Branch Trail from Republic to Bradford in Springfield
- Design of Talmage Trail from Robberson to Summit Avenue in Springfield

STREETSCAPES

The City of Springfield has completed the following streetscape projects

- Commercial Street from Campbell to Lyon
- Walnut Street from Market to Campbell
- Campbell from Olive to Mill
- Boonville from Court to Division

The City of Springfield has started work on the following streetscapes:

- Campbell Ave South (Mt. Vernon to McDaniel)
- Olive Street from Main to Market

The following streetscapes are under design or are ready for construction by the City of Springfield:

- Boonville Avenue from Tampa to Chestnut Expressway
- McDaniel Street from South to Jefferson
- Mill Street from Campbell to Boonville
- College Station

SIDEWALKS

Sidewalk improvements are a continual activity in the OTO area.

- MoDOT has focused on adding or improving sidewalks along Glenstone and Kearney
- The City of Springfield has built new sidewalks to create a continual connection between Battlefield and Cherokee on Campbell
- New sidewalk was also constructed on the southside of Chestnut Expressway from Eldon to West Bypass
- Springfield Public Works has continued to implement its school sidewalk program through construction near elementary schools.



- Springfield's 1/4-cent sidewalk projects resulted in 4.2 miles of new sidewalk and 9.6 miles of reconstructed sidewalk
- Ozark received a Safe Routes to School grant to construct sidewalks connecting to East Elementary

THE LINK

The Link is a project developed by the City of Springfield to link greenway trails and activity centers using low-traffic, low-speed streets with continuous accessible sidewalk.

Along the Link:

- Sidewalks have been constructed or repaired to provide a continuous, accessible walking path from Missouri State University to Kearney Street.

Between Kearney Street and Doling Park:

- The trail along Talmage is ready to begin construction

BICYCLE FACILITIES

The City of Springfield has been busy with new bicycle lanes as paving is done throughout the city:

- 7.8 miles of street were marked with bicycle shared-lane decals
- 3 bike racks, including one at Drury and two at the southeast corner of Walnut and Jefferson

The City of Springfield has tripled marked bicycle facilities as part of an aggressive program to provide bicycle accommodations along bicycle routes.

The Greene County Highway Department, City Utilities, and Ozark Greenways partnered to keep the McDaniel Lake Bridge open to cyclists while it is closed to vehicular traffic.



Evaluation

OTO BIKE-PED IMPLEMENTATION REPORT

OTO continues to produce this implementation report on an annual basis to monitor activities from within the OTO area.

OTO BIKE-PED PRIORITIES

OTO, through its Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee, is reviewing the status of the entire trail system throughout the OTO area. This analysis is documenting the opportunities and constraints of each trail segment. In addition to this analysis, OTO is reviewing all needs within the OTO area to develop a comprehensive list of needs with priority projects identified.



SPRINGFIELD BIKE-PED PLAN UPDATE

The City of Springfield is updating its bicycle plan and developing a pedestrian plan to form a Person-Powered Mobility Plan that incorporates off-street paths and on-street pedestrian and bicycle facilities into one mobility network. The plan update is in response to goals for a complete street policy and improved facilities for walking and bicycling in the Springfield Strategic Plan which is nearly complete. In

In addition, recent comments from the community of Springfield have shown a desire for more emphasis on pedestrian and bicycle transportation as a part of community planning and transportation projects. The Bicycle-Pedestrian Committee of the Springfield Traffic Advisory Board is taking the lead on this plan update.

BICYCLE FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES APPLICATION

The Springfield area is applying to renew its Bicycle Friendly Status through the League of American Bicyclists. Currently, Springfield is Bronze level, but hopes to achieve silver. The application is due in July of 2013 and requires a comprehensive assessment of the area since the prior application, which was in 2010.

Enforcement

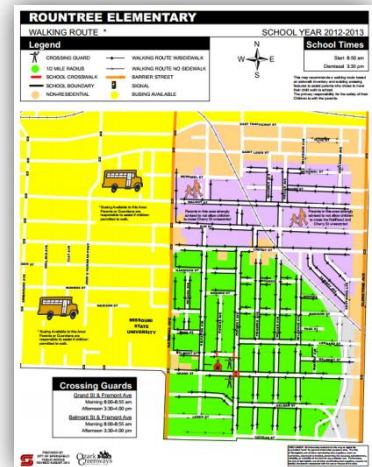
Partnerships with area police departments continues to be a goal for the OTO region. The Greene County citizens mounted patrol help watch the Ozark Greenway trails and the Park Rangers continue to monitor the trails and trailheads throughout the Springfield-Greene County area.

Education and Encouragement

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL

The City of Springfield Public Works has continued its school walking route map program, which highlights walking routes based on sidewalk placement and busing boundaries for Springfield elementary schools.

The MoDOT Southwest District received a Safe Routes to School Grant for a mobile classroom, bike helmets, school guard training and equipment, and promotional items to support bicycle and pedestrian safety education.



LET'S GO SMART SPRINGFIELD

This is a new community partnership, led by Ozark Greenways. Let's Go Smart encourages better choices when using any form of travel, whether biking, walking, driving, or using the bus. The program encourages better health, financial savings, and environmental benefits. There are many components related to the campaign, which commenced this past spring.

Ozark Greenways, through the Healthy Living Alliance, received \$91,000 from a CDC grant to implement a Let's Go Smart Marketing campaign and other associated activities.

STAR TEAM

The Ozark Greenways Sustainable Transportation Advocacy Resource (STAR) Team continued to meet monthly throughout the year. STAR Team activities include contributing to the City of Springfield Person Powered Mobility Plan, a Complete Streets Ordinance, the Let's Go Smart Springfield campaign, and other general bicycling and pedestrian activities throughout the region. The STAR Team also has members writing articles on bicycling for Greene Magazine, which is published 6 times per year. The STAR Team is the main support group for the Bicycle Friendly Communities application.

EVENTS

Many fitness events are held throughout the region during the year. Though many of these may not appear to have a transportation focus, they do encourage people to get out and move. The ability to help bicyclists and runners feel more comfortable on the street only helps move them to these modes for daily transportation.

Also, being able to introduce children of a young age to these activities can keep them active as adults. Below is a list of just some events held throughout the region.

EDUCATION CLASSES

- At least one Cycling Savvy class, a new type of bicycle education course
- League of American Bicyclists Traffic Skills (June 22, 2013)

5Ks:

- Sunshine Run (October 13, 2012)
- Republic Reindeer Run 5K (December 7, 2012) – Nighttime run and walk
- March Mad Dash for Life
- Happy Feet in Republic (April 30, 2013)
- First year for the Color Me Rad 5K (April 27, 2013) – with thousands of participants
- Republic May Day 5k (May 4, 2013) – 10th annual with almost 500 participants



The Standard, Missouri State University

BICYCLING:

- Tour de Cox (August 4, 2012)
- Bike for the Future (April 6, 2013)
- Ozarks 100 (May 4, 2013)
- Wildflower Ride (June 1, 2013)
- Nixa Bike Ride (June 29, 2013)

BIKE TO WORK WEEK:

Ozark Greenways sponsored Bike to Work week May 13 through May 17 and are still compiling the results for this ever-growing program.



AWARDS

■ Missouri has been named the “Best Trails State” by American Trails, a national, non-profit organization working on behalf of the nation’s hiking, biking, and riding trails. The national award is presented every two years to the state that has made tremendous contributions to promote and improve their trails system.

■ The Missouri Bicycle and Pedestrian Federation honored Springfield Public Works Director, Phil Broyles, with a statewide award for all he does to support biking, including the recent tripling of Springfield’s on-street bike route system.



OZARKS TRANSPORTATION ORGANIZATION
A METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

This report was prepared in cooperation with the USDOT,
including FHWA and FTA, as well as the Missouri
Department of Transportation.

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