

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The El Dorado County Bicycle Transportation Plan provides a blueprint for the development of a bicycle transportation system on the western slope of El Dorado County. The plan updates the currently adopted El Dorado County Bicycle Master Plan, which was adopted in May 1979. Several updates were written between 1979 and the present, but none were formally adopted. The 2004 plan is in compliance with Caltrans Streets and Highways Code (sections 890-894.2, *appendix b*), enabling the county to be eligible for State Bicycle Transportation Account (BTA) funds.

The Bicycle Transportation Plan represents the efforts of the EDCTC staff, the Bicycle Transportation Plan Advisory Committee, El Dorado County, El Dorado Hills Community Services District and numerous dedicated citizens in the area. The plan was developed with the overall goal of *providing a safe, efficient and convenient network of bicycle facilities that establish alternative transportation as a viable option in El Dorado County and neighboring regions*. The plan addresses the following specific issues pertaining to non-motorized transportation:

1. Bicycle Commuting - Develop a bicycle transportation system that enhances the safety and convenience of bicycling to neighboring jurisdictions, employment centers, residential neighborhoods, campgrounds, parks, education, commercial and other activity centers in El Dorado County.
2. Safety and Education - Maximize bicycle safety.
3. Implementation and Maintenance – Identify detailed and prioritized improvements in the El Dorado County Bicycle Transportation Plan.
4. Land Use Development - Integrate bicycle and pedestrian planning with other regional and community planning, including land use and transportation.
5. Multi-Modal Integration - Maximize multi-modal connections to the bicycle transportation system.
6. Funding - Obtain all possible funding for plan implementation.
7. Connectivity - Develop a well-connected bikeway system.
8. The El Dorado Trail – In usable segments, develop Class I Bike Paths on the El Dorado Trail.

The proposed bikeway system is slightly over 200 miles in length, and includes a strategy for development of Class I Bike Path along the entire Sacramento-Placerville Transportation Corridor (SPTC), also known as “The El Dorado Trail.” The development of the proposed system will provide better access to the County’s transit network and activity centers as well as encourage increased use of the bicycle as a transportation mode. An increase in bicycle transportation benefits the entire region in terms of improving air quality, reducing congestion and improving the health and overall quality of life for the residents of El Dorado County.