

The goals, objectives and policies presented in this chapter will help guide the future development of the El Dorado County bicycle transportation system. The goals, objectives and policies were developed to reflect the unique needs of El Dorado County and the latest efforts of neighboring jurisdictions around the region.

OVERALL GOAL AND VISION STATEMENT

Provide a safe, efficient and convenient network of bicycle facilities that establish alternative transportation as a viable option in El Dorado County and neighboring regions.

1. Bicycle Commuting

Goal: 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.

Objective: *Increase bicycling and walking as a transportation mode to reduce congestion, improve air quality and improve public health.*

Policy 1A: Develop and adopt a Bicycle Transportation Plan that identifies existing conditions, deficiencies and future needs. The plan should provide specific recommendations for facilities to be developed in existing, new and redeveloping areas.

Policy 1B: Develop the proposed bicycle transportation system and update the Bicycle Transportation Plan regularly (every two to five years, as needed).

Policy 1C: Install directional signage to indicate connections to key activity center destinations and regional routes.

Policy 1D: Conform new bikeways to meet or exceed the most recent design standards adopted by Caltrans unless unique, unavoidable circumstances such as topography, historic nature of the county, physical, environmental or other circumstances create the need for a design exception or other creative solutions.

Policy 1E: Encourage retrofit projects on substandard bikeways in order to conform to the most recent design standards.

2. Safety & Education

Goal: Maximize bicycle safety.

Objective: *Improve bicycle education and enforcement and promote bicycle safety and awareness programs.*

Policy 2A: Work with local law enforcement, EDCTC, schools, and other agencies to encourage the development of a bicycle education program that is available to all school children in El Dorado County.

Policy 2B: Enhance the visibility and safety of all bicycle crossings in El Dorado County, through proper striping of bike lanes at intersections and enhanced visibility of Class I Bike Path Crossings.

Policy 2C: Develop a countywide bike map and bicycling safety publications and campaigns to encourage safe cycling, prevent wrong way riding and educate police departments about enforcing proper cycling.

Policy 2D: Install appropriate signage such as share the road, school crossings, and directional bicycle route signage.

3. Implementation and Maintenance

Goal: Identify detailed and prioritized improvements in the El Dorado County Bicycle Transportation Plan.

Objective: *Implement the priority projects and maintain the system identified in the Bicycle Transportation Plan.*

Policy 3A: Maintain a current list of priority bicycle improvements to be constructed in the short to mid-term.

Policy 3B: Encourage the use of existing natural or manmade corridors such as creeks, powerline corridors, railroad corridors, abandoned ditches and other corridors for future bikeway alignments.

Policy 3C: Review new developments and road projects for consideration of bicycle needs and linkages consistent with this plan.

Policy 3D: Work with Caltrans to provide safe and effective bicycle facilities at all Caltrans maintained facilities including state routes, highways, interchanges, freeways and park and ride lots.

Policy 3E: Ensure that the County's bikeways are maintained and in good working order.

4. Land Use Development

Goal: Integrate bicycle and pedestrian planning with other regional and community planning, including land use and transportation.

Objective: *Consider the needs of the bicycle and pedestrian system identified in the El Dorado County Bicycle Transportation Plan when reviewing new development, redeveloping, and construction projects and incorporate those needs into such projects whenever feasible.*

Policy 4A: Examine the adopted Specific Plan and General Plan land use elements to determine areas of potential growth and development in the County. Consider possible impacts any new or re-developing projects may have on the bicycle transportation system, including the analysis of a need for through routes in subdivisions.

Policy 4B: Ensure that bicyclists' needs are incorporated into new developments and subdivisions or commercial areas, including providing access points to existing and proposed Class I bicycle facilities, on-street facilities for bicycles and, whenever feasible, grade separations at roadway crossings where streets cross existing and proposed bikeways.

Policy 4C: Incorporate grassroots planning efforts where appropriate.

5. Multi-Modal Integration

Goal: Maximize multi-modal connections to the bicycle transportation system.

Objective: *Develop a transportation system that encourages the use of multiple transportation modes.*

Policy 5A: Work with the El Dorado County Transit Authority to install bike lockers where appropriate and to maintain and install bike racks on buses.

Policy 5B: Ensure that the countywide bicycle transportation system serves all multi-modal facilities in El Dorado County.

Policy 5C: Encourage the installation of appropriately located bicycle parking and related facilities.

6. Funding

Goal: Obtain all possible funding for plan implementation.

Objective: *Maximize the amount of public and private funding sources for implementation of the projects within the Bicycle Transportation Plan.*

- Policy 6A:** Identify current regional, state, and federal funding programs (government and non-government), and associated funding requirements and deadlines.
- Policy 6B:** Develop and maintain a current prioritized list of bicycle improvements, including detailed cost estimates, and identify appropriate funding sources for each proposal.
- Policy 6C:** Include bicycle transportation improvements in the County's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) and Regional Transportation Plan (RTP).
- Policy 6D:** Encourage multi-jurisdictional funding applications and applications developed through partnerships with community groups.

7. Connectivity

Goal: Develop a well-connected bikeway system.

Objective: *Maximize connectivity to promote a comprehensive bikeway network.*

- Policy 7A:** Include bicycle lanes on collectors and arterials where width of street, traffic volumes, and service to major activity centers are appropriate.
- Policy 7B:** Develop standards for bike lane consistency at intersections and interchanges.
- Policy 7C:** Explore opportunities to make consistent bikeway connections between El Dorado County and neighboring jurisdictions.
- Policy 7D:** Encourage the development of short distance connections within the communities of El Dorado County as well as long distance connections between communities throughout the County and region.
- Policy 7E:** Protect opportunities for bikeway connections.
- Policy 7F:** Accommodate the needs of different bicycle user groups.

8. El Dorado Trail (Sacramento-Placerville Transportation Corridor, or “SPTC”)

Goal: In usable segments, develop Class I Bike Paths on the El Dorado Trail.

Objective: *Utilize the El Dorado Trail as a bicycle transportation corridor where opportunities improve connectivity to the overall bikeway system.*

Policy 8A: Develop the sections of the El Dorado Trail Corridor proposed in the El Dorado County Bicycle Transportation Plan.

Policy 8B: Develop bicycle transportation connections between town centers, activity centers and the El Dorado Trail.