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**MEMORANDUM**

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**Date:** May 28, 2013  
**To:** Multi-modal Study Planning Committee for the Countywide Bikeway Plan  
**From:** Tom Huber  
**Re:** Countywide Bikeway System Evaluation Criteria

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Lawrence and Douglas County have established goals and objectives for bicycling that are currently a part of the [2004 Bicycle Plan](#) and are embodied in [Transportation 2040](#), the Metropolitan Transportation Plan. The following builds on the several “measures of progress” provided for bicycling and included in Transportation 2040 with commonly used evaluation criteria used in other bicycle plans. Certainly there are other important thresholds that can be met on an annual basis, but they are single events, such as the creation of a Bicycle Advisory Committee. The criteria offered below tended to focus on factors that could continue to be improved upon and are not single time events. Objectives from the 2004 Lawrence Bicycle Plan were listed before the criteria where appropriate.

These criteria should be considered for its relevancy for the 2013 countywide bikeway plan. The committee is invited to assess, add to or modify these criteria.

### **Engineering**

*Provide logical bikeway connectivity within Lawrence and Douglas County to schools, parks, the downtown, and other major activity areas.*

- \* Mileage of marked bicycle lanes, paths, paved shoulders, wide and marked shared lanes, and signed routes.
- \* Mileage of streets/roads that are rated at a certain level using a bicycle level of service model (Bicycle Level of Service, Bicycle Compatibility Index, etc.).
- \* Bike rack installations
- \* Number of bicycle overpasses or underpasses
- \* Bike share – existence of a bike share program and/or number of bicycles in program
- \* Average number of days to respond to bikeway hazards with appropriate maintenance measures

### **Education and Enforcement**

*Educate all road users to share the road and interact safely. Maintain on-going Bicycle Education Program that conveys safety messages and vehicular regulations to all segments of the population.*

- \* Percentage of schools that participate in Safe Routes to School programs (or similar programs) that include bicycle education. Number of students participating and total number of school trips
- \* Outside of schools, the number of children taught safe cycling skills
- \* Number of League Cycling Instructor led workshop held in the past year. Number of participants
- \* Number of training days (workshops, conferences, webinars, etc.) professional staff participated in that related directly to bicycle planning and engineering
- \* Number of bicycle-related training days police officers participated in which increased bicycle safety
- \* Number of enforcement or safety programs that improve safety of bicyclists

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## **Encouragement**

*Actively promote bicycling or walking as a viable alternative to motorized transportation in Lawrence and Douglas County, while maintaining safety of all users on the roadway.*

\* How many promotions did Lawrence and Douglas County participate in? Consider the following offered by League of American Bicyclists in their Bicycle Friendly Communities application: National bike day/month, dedicated bike community rides, public service announcements, videos promoting bicycling on community website/tv channel, publish a guide to bike month events, bike month website, commuter challenge, car-free days, community rides/summer streets/Ciclovia/Sunday parkways, mentoring program for new riders, bike valet parking at events, bike to school day, bicycle-themed festival/parade/show, public education campaign relating to cycling (e.g. with a focus on public health or environmental benefits), etc.

\* Number of businesses or Universities that are Bicycle Friendly Businesses or Universities as recognized by the League of American Bicyclists

## **Evaluation and Planning**

*Incorporate bicycle and pedestrian facilities into public works project.*

\* Percent of roadway projects with a bicycle component and % of the project budgets spent on bicycle infrastructure and/or amenities

\* Percent of budgets spent on bicycle infrastructure

\* Percent of bicycle parking infrastructure that meets APBP standards

\* Number of full-time equivalent employees working on bicycle planning, design, education, enforcement, etc.

\* Number of active bicycle or bicycle advocacy groups and number of members in those groups

## **Usage, Safety, Other**

*Minimize crashes and/or injuries of bicyclists and motorists caused from existing hazards or barriers. Increase bicycle travel opportunities.*

\* Number and percentage of trips being taken by bicycle

\* Number and percentage of commute trips being taken by bicycle

\* Number of reported bicycle crashes

\* Number of buses with bike racks

\* Number of transit stops and shelters with bicycle racks