Goals to Advance Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation January 2022

Keith Lovan State Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator Kentucky Transportation Cabinet

Adopt a statewide Complete Streets policy. With the current policy 20 years old, it is time to update the policy — with an emphasis on Complete Streets. With the Infrastructure and Investment Jobs Act, this is more critical than ever. The National Complete Streets Coalition provides a model state policy and a variety of resources to ensure states can successfully adopt and implement the policy.

Develop a statewide bike and pedestrian plan. This plan will facilitate coordination among the state, our cities and counties for a strong network of connections.

Create a Bicycle and Pedestrian Facility Guide and Design Manual. This manual will guide KYTC staff, the general public, planning partners, and communities on when and where to use certain facilities and designs. It will provide best practices on roadway characteristics, including land use context (such as urban vs. rural), posted speed limits, motor vehicle traffic volume, and other considerations. The goal is to help users select and design the most appropriate and safe bicycle-pedestrian facilities.

Invest more in active transportation. Target communities with health issues associated with high rates of physical inactivity. Encourage investment to develop and promote infrastructure and programs to combat obesity, diabetes, and other health issues related to inactive lifestyles.

Complete construction of a high profile project(s). 1) Keep US South 41 Bridge open to bike ped traffic over the Ohio River as part of the I-69 Phase 2 project. 2) Complete construction of the Dawkins Rail Trail Tip Top Tunnel. This project will complete the 34-mile rail trail. 3) Extend the Legacy Trail from Fayette County into Scott County. 4) Complete the last mile of the nine-mile Calvert City Greenway Trail. 5) Start construction of the Bowling Green-Mammoth Cave Shared-Use Trail, which is a conceptual 23-mile path from downtown Bowling Green to the existing Mammoth Cave National Park Rail Trail in Park City.

Start an education campaign for bike and pedestrian safety. This includes incorporating bike and pedestrian laws in the Kentucky vehicles driver's manual and test.

Increase publicity for bike tourism within the state. As an example, the 2021 Kentucky Visitor's Guide had just one picture of a group on bikes. The guide lists no other information on biking in Kentucky. At the same time, with 900 miles, Kentucky boasts the fifth most miles of US Bike Routes of any state in the country. And many years in the making, Kentucky is a significant part of the new US Bike Route 21 — signed and marked in Fall 2021, with the dedication in Berea.

Ensure adequate staffing. The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet should evaluate the rising demand for biking and walking against the limited human resources currently devoted to this growing transportation need.

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