BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN VISION STATEMENT

The Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee, composed of community members representing trails, conservation, recreation, county & local government, public health, the disabled community, non-motorized commuters, and biking & walking advocates, felt very strongly about the Vision for Walking and Biking in Berks County:

> *"Berks County will be a place where people of all ages and abilities can safely, comfortably and conveniently walk, roll, or bicycle everywhere."*

By incorporating this Vision into our efforts, we hope to better connect people and communities with opportunities for growth and development while retaining the character of Berks County that makes it so desirable to live and conduct business here.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Goal #1: Protect and maintain the current bicycle and pedestrian network with efforts to prevent degradation or loss of infrastructure.

> ***Obj. 1: Encourage municipalities to enforce sidewalk maintenance ordinances, and promote the implementation of sidewalk repair and improvement programs;***
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> ***Obj. 2: Encourage municipalities and non-profit agencies to actively maintain their off-road networks;***
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> ***Obj. 3: Use the PennDOT Connects process to promote and, where possible, improve existing sidewalk and bicycle infrastructure;***
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> ***Obj. 4: Coordinate with PennDOT and municipal roadmasters to encourage timely maintenance of painted roadway markings, including bicycle lanes / sharrows, crosswalks, shoulders, and accompanying signage.***

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Goal #2: Connect communities in ways that support walking and bicycling as viable transportation options.

> ***Obj. 1: Coordinate with and assist municipalities and non-profit organizations to complete gaps in the pedestrian and bicycle networks and expand both to link residential areas with schools, recreation, shopping, and employment;***
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> ***Obj. 2: Promote safe and convenient access to/from transit stops;***
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> ***Obj. 3: Support and promote biking and walking as legitimate travel modes;***
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> ***Obj. 4: Integrate cycling and walking networks with other transportation systems including transit and multi-use trails.***

Goal #3: Expand walking and bicycling opportunities for everyone.

> ***Obj. 1: Promote design standards for bicycle infrastructure that would accommodate different skill levels and abilities;***
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> ***Obj. 2: Coordinate with local governments, where appropriate, to encourage them to update and implement their ADA Transition Plans;***
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> ***Obj. 3: Promote sidewalk and bicycle access in all communities, particularly where it connects with transit;***
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> ***Obj. 4: Coordinate with trail agencies to promote connections that expand access to all;***
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> ***Obj. 5: Promote opportunities for bike-share stations.***

Goal #4: Create and maintain safe bicycling and walking infrastructure.

> ***Obj. 1: Coordinate with PennDOT, municipalities, and other organizations to identify options to reduce pedestrian and bicycle related injuries and fatalities;***
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> ***Obj. 2: Work with municipalities to encourage well-maintained and expanded sidewalk networks;***
>
> ***Obj. 3: Work with trail agencies to encourage safe and secure trails and accessibility;***

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Obj. 4: Identify locations with high incidents of pedestrian and bicycle crashes that could be recommended for safety improvements.

Goal #5: Support and promote education and enforcement efforts that increase safety for all users.

Obj. 1: Promote awareness of bicycle regulations and rules for motorists approaching bicyclists on Pennsylvania roadways.

Obj. 2: Partner with schools and recreation boards to promote safe walking and cycling education;

Obj. 3: Promote the inclusion of local law enforcement in walking and bicycling education campaigns;

Goal #6: Promote non-motorized options as environmentally sustainable and healthy ways to travel.

Obj. 1: Promote increased use of biking and walking for personal and community health and fitness;

Obj. 2: Promote biking and walking for both work commutes and non-commuting trips

Obj. 3: Work with employers to provide accommodations for employees who choose to walk or bike to work

Goal #7: Support walking and bicycling options as ways to grow a vibrant local economy.

Obj. 1: Promote the benefits of bicycle tourism and spending to local businesses;

Obj. 2: Promote and encourage walking and bicycling improvements near economic activity hubs.

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