

Transporting Ecologies

Alachua Countywide Bicycle Master Plan Addendum

Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization
North Central Florida Regional Planning Council

Final Report

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Executive Summary

Transporting Ecologies includes case study analysis, reviews and analysis of the 2001 Alachua Countywide Bicycle Master Plan, development of the conceptual organizational strategies and new project prioritization structure and specific recommendations for improving bicycle connectivity and use in Alachua County. Case study research has been critical in establishing organizational structure and identification of infrastructural requirements and amenities to promote routinized bicycle transportation by varied constituents of the local population.

A *Case Studies* supplemental report is included under separate cover presenting bicycle infrastructure in 20 cities in the US and Europe — available on line at www.transportingecologies.com . The 2001 Alachua Countywide Bicycle Master Plan is available on line at www.ncfrpc.org .

Analysis of the 2001 Master Plan report revealed detailed infrastructure assessments and statistical analysis based on Department of Transportation (DOT) road data, field collected data as well as “transportation analysis zone” (TAZ) data. Statistical analysis, conducted in segments ranging from 0.02 to 8 miles ultimately producing 200 “Priority I” segments. Implementation of projects by going down the list of priorities will produce a fragmented system for many years. A strategic process to achieve network connectivity in a more expedient manner was required.

Analysis of this addendum included independent estimates of latent demand through destination matrix mapping; mapping of the existing infrastructure with visualizations and ratings of the quality of service (QOS); maps of existing rural “loops”; analysis of geographical bicycle barriers; analysis of hydrology, riparian corridors and potential green-ways; and an analysis of rail and utility corridors as potential immediate priority paths. Workshops with stakeholders and the public were conducted assess needs, expectations and prioritization including public discussion, small workgroups and formalized survey tools. Information and data collected were used to develop a list of immediate priority “Braids” projects that advance connectivity between major destinations.

From this work, eight immediate priorities have emerged including on-street and off-street potentially high use “Braids” that connect high population areas with high visit destinations tapping into the highest latent demand zones. These Braids subsume existing high priority segments linking them into a larger connected network. Final rank order of **immediate priority** Braids is included in the Prioritization Recommendations section of this report.

The Transporting Ecologies website includes large format detailed versions of the maps that have been reduced in size to fit this format. Please refer to these in conjunction with reading this report — www.transportingecologies.com. PDF files of the large format maps and associated data files are included on a compact disk in the back cover of print versions of this report.

