



CITY OF DUNWOODY

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MEMORANDUM

To: Honorable Mayor and City Council

From: Richard Meehan, Director of Public Works

Date: November 23, 2009

Subject: **Discussion on Resolution of Action Plan for Bicycle Friendly Community**

Attached is the Draft Action Plan for Bicycle Friendly Community along with a Resolution adopting the Action Plan for your consideration. The Action Plan has been developed from the Draft Resolution that was presented at the November 16 work session. All of the items that were in the resolution have been included in the plan; however, some of the language has been edited to clarify what the city is legally and realistically able to do.

**A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT AN ACTION PLAN FOR BICYCLE FRIENDLY
COMMUNITY**

WHEREAS, The City of Dunwoody is charged with safeguarding the health, safety and welfare of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, The City of Dunwoody recognizes that cities across the globe are managing diverse issues such as pollution, congestion, traffic safety, accessibility, social inclusion, and economic growth. Increasing urbanization and sprawl is generating extra demand for quality public spaces and recreation opportunities. A renewed emphasis on security and the costs of dealing with the emerging epidemics of obesity and physical inactivity are stretching limited resources even further. Solutions to these many challenges are equally diverse and complex; and

WHEREAS, The City of Dunwoody recognizes that increasing bicycle use can Improve the environment, Reduce congestion, Save lives, Increase opportunities for residents of all ages to participate socially and economically in the community, regardless of income or ability, Boost the economy, Enhance recreational opportunities, especially for children, Contribute to the quality of life in the community, Save city funds, Enhance public safety and security, and Improve the health and well being of the population; and

WHEREAS, The City of Dunwoody is committed to improving the conditions for bicycling and to realize the significant potential benefits of bicycling in our community.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Dunwoody, to adopt the attached **Action Plan for Bicycle Friendly Community**.

SO RESOLVED AND EFFECTIVE this ____ day of _____, 2009.

City of Dunwoody Mayor

Ken Wright

Attest:

Sharon Lowery, City Clerk



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ACTION PLAN FOR BICYCLE FRINDLY COMMUNITY

Version: Draft

November 23, 2009



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I. Introduction

The City of Dunwoody recognizes that cities across the globe are managing diverse issues such as pollution, congestion, traffic safety, accessibility, social inclusion, and economic growth. Increasing urbanization and sprawl is generating extra demand for quality public spaces and recreation opportunities. A renewed emphasis on security and the costs of dealing with the emerging epidemics of obesity and physical inactivity are stretching limited resources even further. Solutions to these many challenges are equally diverse and complex.

The City of Dunwoody recognizes that increasing bicycle use can:

- **Improve the environment** by reducing the impact on residents of pollution and noise, limiting greenhouse gases, and improving the quality of public spaces.
- **Reduce congestion** by shifting short trips (the majority of trips in cities) out of cars. This will also make cities more accessible for public transport, walking, essential car travel, emergency services, and deliveries.
- **Save lives** by creating safer conditions for bicyclists and as a direct consequence improve the safety of all other road users. Research shows that increasing the number of bicyclists on the street improves bicycle safety.
- **Increase opportunities** for residents of all ages to participate socially and economically in the community, regardless of income or ability. Greater choice of travel modes also increases independence, especially among seniors and children.
- **Boost the economy** by creating a community that is an attractive destination for new residents, tourists and businesses.
- **Enhance recreational opportunities**, especially for children, and further contribute to the quality of life in the community.
- **Save city funds** by increasing the efficient use of public space, reducing the need for costly new road infrastructure, preventing crashes, improving the health of the community, and increasing the use of public transport.
- **Enhance public safety** and security by increasing the number of “eyes on the street” and providing more options for movement in the event of emergencies, natural disasters, and major public events.
- **Improve the health** and well being of the population by promoting routine physical activity.



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II. Action Plan

The City of Dunwoody has developed the following Action Plan for making Dunwoody a Bicycle Friendly Community

1. The City of Dunwoody will, in the Comprehensive Transportation Plan, adopt a target level of bicycle use (e.g. percent of trips) and safety to be achieved, and develop the data collection necessary to monitor progress.
2. The City of Dunwoody will work with local cyclists to provide for safe and convenient bicycle access within the community through a signed network of on and off-street facilities, low-speed streets, and secure parking.
3. The City of Dunwoody will establish information programs to promote bicycling for all purposes, and to communicate the many benefits of bicycling to residents and businesses (e.g. with bicycle maps, public relations campaigns, neighborhood rides, a ride with the Mayor).
4. The City of Dunwoody will establish information programs to educate road users to share the road and interact safely with bicycles.
5. The City of Dunwoody will encourage bicycle use among its employees by improving City facilities to make it more convenient for employees to bike to work and by developing incentives for bicycle use.
6. The City of Dunwoody will encourage the development of programs for bicycle use in communities where significant segments of the population do not drive (e.g. through Safe Routes to Schools programs) and where short trips are most common.
7. The City of Dunwoody will encourage staff in all departments to obtain training to better understand the concepts and design criteria of a bicycle-friendly community and roads.
8. The City of Dunwoody will review and update city policies, plans, codes, and programs to take advantage of opportunity to create a more bicycle-friendly community.
9. The City of Dunwoody will enforce traffic laws to improve the safety and comfort of all road users, with a particular focus on behaviors and attitudes that cause motor vehicle/bicycle crashes.



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10. The City of Dunwoody will promote intermodal travel between public transport and bicycles by working with Public Transportation Agencies to encourage the addition of bike racks on buses, the improvement of bicycle parking at transit facilities, and the improvement of access to rail and public transport vehicles.

11. The City of Dunwoody staff will establish a committee for nonmotorized mobility consisting of staff and representatives of the bicycle and pedestrian communities to report on a regular basis on the evaluation of items implemented and the progress for completing the items in this Action Plan.