



**CITY OF SAN DIEGO
BICYCLE MASTER PLAN**

CHAPTER 1

Introduction

Purpose

The Bicycle Master Plan establishes a vision and strategy to guide the development of the citywide bikeway network consistent with the General Plan and Climate Action Plan. It provides guidance for creating a safe, convenient, and accessible bikeway network that connects people of all ages and abilities to key destinations. It also identifies opportunities to improve bikeway connections and guides future decisions about the types and locations of planned bikeways. Designing a bikeway network for children, older adults, people with disabilities, and people using a variety of mobility devices¹ helps make it welcoming, comfortable, and accessible to all.

Need

San Diegans have access to a growing variety of bikeways that provide greater comfort and separation from car and truck traffic. Strategic improvements, along with coordination across City departments and agencies, can help to close network gaps, improve connections, and create a city where people of all ages and abilities can ride safely and comfortably. The Bicycle Master Plan supports the following:

- Implementation of mobility and climate plans and policies.
- Increased road safety and convenience for both bicyclists and drivers.
- Healthy ways to get to work, school, shopping or other daily activities and destinations.
- An affordable alternative to driving that is also good for the environment.

The Bicycle Master Plan complies with the California Streets and Highways Code Section 891.2, which mandates distinct elements that a bicycle master plan must include to establish eligibility for state funding programs. This helps to ensure the City remains competitive for grant funding to build the bikeways identified in the planned network, which are intended to benefit all San Diegans. A detailed matrix mapping the Bicycle Master Plan's compliance with each statutory requirement is provided in **Appendix A**.

¹ Mobility devices defined in the California Vehicle Code 312.5, 313.5, and 407.5 may operate on City roads and bikeways, unless restricted through other local ordinance.

Outreach and Engagement

San Diegans bring an important understanding of how the transportation system functions in everyday life. San Diegans know where they encounter barriers and where additional bicycle connections could make the greatest difference in their daily travel. Community input on challenges to bicycling in San Diego was gathered from public outreach events and the project website. The Bicycle Master Plan's multi-year engagement process captured lived experiences, validated and refined draft recommendations, and shaped project priorities. This feedback helped ensure the Bicycle Master Plan reflects both existing conditions and future needs. For more detailed summaries on the major phases of public engagement, see **Appendix B** and **Appendix C**.



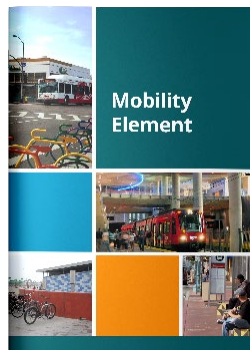
Outreach at the Urban Collaborative Project Transportation Justice Expo.

Relationship with Other Plans and Policies

The Bicycle Master Plan is aligned with other existing plans and policies that help shape a safe, high-quality bicycle environment for San Diego. Together, these plans and policies establish priorities, policy direction, design standards, and strategies for building the citywide planned bikeway network. **Figure 1-1** summarizes the Plan's relationship with the City's plans and policies related to bikeways. Additional information on each document and its relationship to the Plan is provided in **Appendix D**.

The Bicycle Master Plan framework is flexible and can change to respond to future growth, mobility needs, and emerging innovations in bikeway planning and design. Priorities may also be adjusted based on changing needs and community feedback. To ensure seamless integration and responsiveness to more detailed community planning efforts, changes to the future bikeway network in a future community plan update would replace the planned bikeway network for that community shown in the Bicycle Master Plan. The Bicycle Master Plan may be updated periodically to included changes to the bikeway network.

Figure 1-1. Relationship with Other Plans and Policies



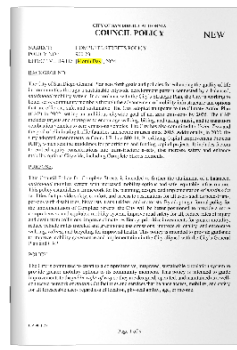
Mobility Element of 2024 General Plan

The Mobility Element establishes policies for a safe, equitable multimodal network, providing a framework for Complete Streets, shared mobility, parking, freight movement, intelligent transportation systems, and emerging transportation technologies.



Strategic Plan

The Strategic Plan establishes a citywide vision around five priorities, including advancing mobility and infrastructure, with an emphasis on high-quality multimodal infrastructure, safer streets, and efficient, sustainable, and equitable transportation options.



Complete Streets Policy

The City's Complete Streets Policy promotes streets for all users by integrating multimodal improvements into public and private projects, supporting Vision Zero, and coordinating bicycle, pedestrian, transit, and other multimodal facilities citywide.



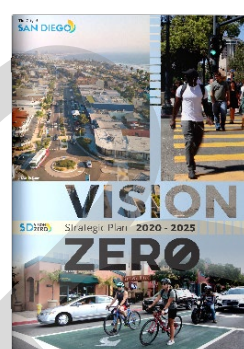
Draft Street Design Manual

The 2024 Draft Street Design Manual updates existing guidance to align with City initiatives, Complete Streets policy, and best practices, emphasizing safer street design, mobility priorities, street zones, innovative solutions, and expanded bicycle infrastructure.



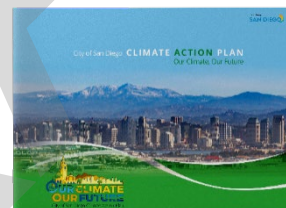
Mobility Master Plan

The Mobility Master Plan is a data-driven framework for prioritizing mobility projects, programs, and investments citywide. It focuses resources on projects that provide the greatest mobility, sustainability, and equity benefits.



Vision Zero Strategic Plan

The 2020 Vision Zero Strategic Plan evaluates progress since the City adopted Vision Zero in 2015. It identifies strategies and actions to advance the goal of eliminating traffic fatalities and serious injuries.



Climate Action Plan

The 2022 Climate Action Plan outlines the City's commitment to achieving net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2035. It identifies strategies and actions to create a more sustainable, healthy, and thriving San Diego.



Community Plans

San Diego's 52 community planning areas are guided by Community Plans that translate citywide General Plan policies into community-specific recommendations addressing land use, mobility, urban design, public facilities, natural resources, and economic development.

Organization

The remainder of the Bicycle Master Plan is organized into the following chapters:

Chapter 2 Visions and Goals – Provides the policy framework for San Diego's Bicycle Program, aligning with citywide mobility goals and policies by emphasizing safe, convenient, and equitable travel through sustainable modes such as bicycling.

Chapter 3 Existing Conditions – Provides an inventory of present-day bikeways in San Diego.

Chapter 4 Needs Analysis – Assesses the current bicycling experience in San Diego and details the needs assessment conducted related to bicycle comfort, connectivity, and areas of opportunity.

Chapter 5 Network Recommendations – Presents bikeway network recommendations and proposed projects that improve connections, expand access to destinations, and make bicycling a safe, convenient, and viable transportation option for people of all ages and abilities.

Chapter 6 Implementation – Provides guidance on implementing the bikeway network recommendations and proposed projects identified in the Plan.

Appendices – Provide additional resources and information to help with the implementation of the proposed projects and recommendations.