San Antonio Bike Plan 2011
+ Implementation Strategy

September 2011

DRAFT
SAN ANTONIO BIKE PLAN 2011 + IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

September 2011

Developed in association with:

HALFF

Toole Design Group
Halff Associates Inc. is pleased to submit the draft master plan report, San Antonio Bike Plan 2011 + Implementation Strategy. This report strives to capture the many observations and findings developed as part of the planning process, and to match those to the desires and expectations of the citizens of San Antonio. The plan’s recommendations seek to improve the condition of bicycling in San Antonio to make it a truly bicycle friendly city and region. Seeking first and foremost to create a regional system of interconnected on- and off-street bicycle facilities that link all parts of the San Antonio and Bexar County region.

Recognizing the economic, health, sustainable, and environmental benefits of bicycling as a form of recreation and transportation, the plan also identifies existing and potential opportunities to expand the education and promotion of bicycling to all people of all backgrounds and all abilities so that bicycling isn’t just an alternative, it’s a standard.

As in any comprehensive analysis, this document contains many recommendations that are prioritized over time. Many of the actions in this plan are immediate in nature and can be developed as funding becomes available. Others can be developed in conjunction with ongoing development in the greater San Antonio region. It encourages the collaboration among departments and agencies across the region to leverage funding and implementation opportunities. Finally, some are long term actions that may not be funded for some time, but that are shown to ensure that they remain present in the City’s planning for the future and as new funding sources become available.

Ultimately, this plan stresses what citizens of San Antonio desire to create a sustainable city by planning for sustainable transportation and healthy, active living. As an important component of a community’s infrastructure, bicycle facilities can transform San Antonio and continue to make it one of the best places to live in Texas.

We greatly appreciate the opportunity to have worked with you, your staff, and the citizens of San Antonio.

Sincerely,

Jim Carrillo, ASLA, AICP
Vice President, Director of Planning
Bike Plan 2011 would not have been possible without the feedback, input, and support provided by San Antonio’s citizens. We’d like to thank all participants in the planning process, other interested individuals who gave their feedback on this planning effort, and members of City staff who made themselves available to answer technical questions and provide information on specific topics related to this master plan.
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

## Chapter 1: Introduction
- Why Now, San Antonio? The Case for Bicycling in Our City ........................................ 2
- What Needs to Be Done: The Reason for this Bicycle Master Plan .................................. 3
- Who is the Plan For? ........................................................................................................ 3
- How this Plan is Organized ............................................................................................. 3
- The Vision for Bicycling in San Antonio ......................................................................... 4
- A Long History of Bicycling in San Antonio .................................................................... 5
- Bicycle Planning in San Antonio .................................................................................... 6
- Area Covered by Bike Plan 2011 .................................................................................... 7
- Who Will Implement This Plan? ..................................................................................... 8
- Relationship to Other Plans & Studies .......................................................................... 8
- The Case for Bicycling .................................................................................................... 10
- Elements of the Plan ....................................................................................................... 13
- Planning Process ........................................................................................................... 15

## Chapter 2: Existing Conditions
- The Current State of Bicycling in San Antonio ................................................................ 18
- The Big Picture - How Does San Antonio Compare to Other Cities in Texas and Across the U.S.? ................................................................. 18
- The State of Bicycle Advocacy & Implementation in San Antonio ................................ 20
- Existing Bicycle Infrastructure in San Antonio .............................................................. 21
- Existing Challenges and Barriers to Bicycling in San Antonio ....................................... 22
- Bicycle Safety in San Antonio ..................................................................................... 24
- Who Bicycles in San Antonio? .................................................................................... 26
- Trends Among San Antonio Bicyclists .......................................................................... 28
- Bike Plan 2011 Public Input ........................................................................................... 32
- Potential for Increased Bicycling .................................................................................... 34

## Chapter 3: Bicycle Network
- Bicycle Network Methodology .................................................................................... 36
  - I. Bicycle Network Barriers ....................................................................................... 38
  - II. Resolving On-Street Parking and Bicycle Lane Conflict ....................................... 40
  - Descriptions of Bicycle Facilities ............................................................................ 42
  - Network Prioritization Methodology ......................................................................... 44
  - Tier 1 and 2 Priorities ............................................................................................... 46
  - III. Recommended Bicycle Network Facility Recommendations .......................... 48
  - Methods for Bicycle Network Implementation ....................................................... 78
  - IV. Methods for Network Maintenance ................................................................... 80
  - V. Linking On- and Off-Street Bicycle Networks ................................................... 81

## Chapter 4: Network Support Facilities
- Improving Network Usability ..................................................................................... 84
  - I. Wayfinding ........................................................................................................... 85
  - II. End-Trip Facilities ............................................................................................... 86
  - III. Accommodating Bicycles at Intersections ......................................................... 89
  - IV. Integrating Bicycling and Transit ....................................................................... 90

## Chapter 5: Bicycle Programs
- I. Education Programs ............................................................................................... 95
- II. Encouragement Programs ...................................................................................... 98
- III. Safety and Enforcement Programs ......................................................................... 101

## Chapter 6: Implementation Strategy
- Implementation Strategy .............................................................................................. 106
  - I. Staffing & Funding ............................................................................................... 107
  - II. Institutionalizing Bicycles .................................................................................... 109
  - III. Partnerships with other Departments, Agencies, & Organizations ..................... 110
  - IV. Monitoring Bike Plan 2011 Implementation ....................................................... 114

## Appendix
- A. Definitions ............................................................................................................... 118
- B. Study & Report References .................................................................................... 120
- C. Facility Design Guidance ........................................................................................ 122
- D. Recommended Bicycle Network Table - Organized by Street Name .................. 123
- E. Recommended Bicycle Network Table - Organized by Council District .............. 125
- F. Recommended Bicycle Network Table - Organized by Sector Planning Area .... 127
- G. South Texas Medical Center Bicycle Master Plan .................................................. 129

---

**SAN ANTONIO BIKE PLAN 2011 + IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY**

**table of contents**