

# MEMORANDUM

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**TO:** Mayor Leirion Gaylor Baird  
Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Committee  
StarTran Advisory Board

**CC:** Elizabeth Elliott, Director of Lincoln Transportation and Utilities  
David Cary, Director of Planning  
Chad Blahak, Director of Building and Safety  
Patricia Lopez, Interim Director of Health  
Lynn Johnson, Director of Parks and Recreation  
Dan Marvin, Director of Urban Development  
City of Lincoln, City Council  
Lincoln-Lancaster County Planning Commission

**FROM:** Kellee Van Bruggen, Transportation Planner

**SUBJECT:** Final Complete Streets – 2019 Annual Report

**DATE:** June 3, 2020

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## Purpose and Background

On September 12, 2013, Mayor Beutler signed Executive Order (EO) No. 086476 and Administrative Regulation (AR) No. 35 establishing a policy for the development of Complete Streets. This EO/AR was also endorsed by the Urban Development Department, Lincoln Transportation and Utilities Department, Planning Department, Parks and Recreation Department, Health Department and the Building and Safety Department.

According to the EO/AR, the Planning Department, in conjunction with other departments, is responsible to provide Mayor Gaylor Baird, the Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Committee (PBAC) and the StarTran Advisory Board with an annual report. Specifically, the EO/AR states:

*The Planning Department, in conjunction with all City departments, shall provide an Annual Report to the Mayor, Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Committee and StarTran Advisory Board which outlines the progress made toward implementing this policy. The Annual Report may include the review of all current street standard plans, guides, regulations and standard drawings, and the identification of barriers to the development of Complete Streets.*

The purpose of the annual report is to update the Mayor, PBAC and the StarTran Advisory Board as to the work Staff is doing to implement the EO/AR. This annual report covers the efforts undertaken by the Implementation Team during 2019.

Complete Streets are public and private streets that include some combination of appropriate infrastructure as determined by the surrounding context, that accommodate all modes of transportation, including private vehicles, public transportation, walking, ADA accessibility, and bicycling.

## **Implementation Team**

<i>Coordinator:</i>	<i>Kellee Van Bruggen (Planning Dept.)</i>
Lincoln Transportation and Utilities:	Thomas Shafer, Lonnie Burklund/Mark Lutjeharms
Parks and Recreation:	Sara Hartzell
StarTran:	Brian Praeuner
Planning:	David Cary/Paul Barnes, Steve Henrichsen
Urban Development:	Wynn Hjermsstad
Health:	Mike Heyl, Chris Schroeder
Building and Safety:	Terry Kathe
Lincoln Police Department:	Captain Donald Scheinost

## **Work Tasks / Accomplishments**

### Complete Streets Implementation Team Meetings

During 2019, the Complete Streets Committee held a total of six meetings to discuss current and ongoing projects which have been outlined in this annual report. An agenda is determined based on upcoming projects from various city departments and other issues that have a complete streets component that warrant a discussion. Meetings were held on the following days during 2019:

- Thursday, January 24<sup>th</sup>
- Thursday, March 7<sup>th</sup>
- Thursday, April 4<sup>th</sup>
- Thursday, May 16<sup>th</sup>
- Tuesday, June 25<sup>th</sup>
- Tuesday, August 27<sup>th</sup>

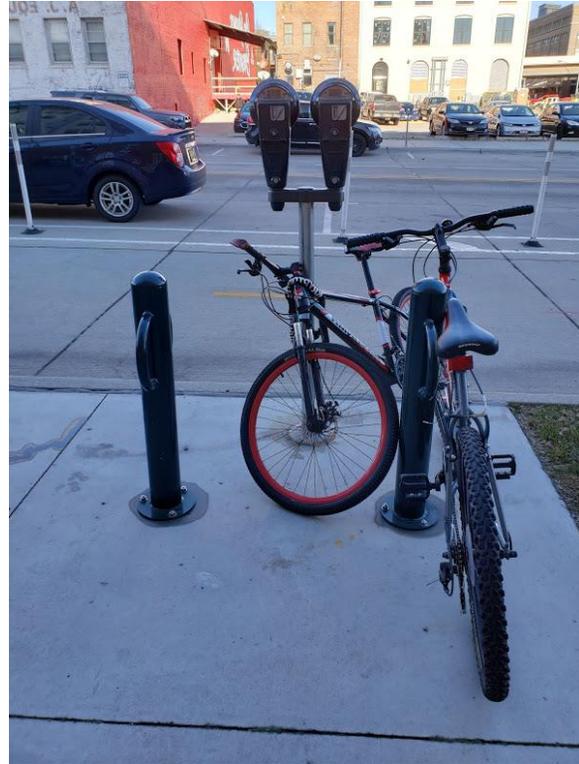
### West A Sidewalk/Sidepath

A portion of the West A reconstruction project intended to tear out and replace the existing sidewalk from SW 23<sup>rd</sup> to Folsom. Since the Lincoln Bike Plan suggests adding a sidepath along this corridor, the Committee discussed the possibility of increasing the width from 5' (sidewalk width) to 8' (sidepath width) while work was already occurring with LTU's project. The suggestion from the committee was to move forward with installing a sidepath facility.

### On-Street Bicycle Parking

Urban Development bid a Haymarket Amenities package that included funds for bike racks for both on-street and off-street bicycle parking. The Committee discussed the need for additional bike parking in the area and suggested the need to work with

Downtown Lincoln Association on determining the need. Some of the members of the Committee, along with representatives from departments and outside organizations participated in a site visit to choose the best locations based on space and demand. The bike racks were installed in summer 2019.



### Strava Data

Strava provided a demonstration of how their data works for other communities, the benefits of obtaining the data, how it is collected, and the costs associated with utilizing the data. The Committee discussed if this was a need since we already have a counting program or if it would enhance the counting program. Ultimately, the Committee decided to wait and revisit at a later time.

### Blue Zones Made to Move Grant

The Blue Zones Made to Move grant program was created to assist communities in advancing active transportation through local project development, implementation and supporting policies. The ultimate goal is to promote more walkable, bikeable, transit-friendly environments for all ages, incomes, and abilities. The Complete Streets Committee explored the possibility of implementing a Bicycle Boulevard Pilot Project on B Street which was consistent with the Lincoln Bike Plan. Due to inopportune timing, the grant was not submitted last year. The Complete Streets Committee may pursue this funding or other similar funding opportunities in the future as they are available.

## Bike Share Reporting

In September 2014, the Lincoln/Lancaster County Planning Department hosted a Bike Share workshop for local stakeholders. Since the workshop, efforts to fund a bike share program, including submitting a Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funding request through the Nebraska Department of Roads and meetings with possible stakeholders have taken place. The Planning Department was awarded the CMAQ funds of \$600,000 in March 2015 to purchase equipment. The bike share program was officially launched in April 2018. Ongoing oversight of the project has been administered by Planning and Lincoln Transportation & Utilities. Regular updates from Jamie Granquist, BikeLNK Manager, on the status of the bike share project have been held and will continue to be held at Complete Streets Committee meetings. During 2019, bike share had 44,045 rides while travelling a distance of over 80,000 miles, and has expanded to 21 stations.

## DeziqnLine Demo

Kurt Blauer with DeziqnLine came to the Committee to discuss their products for temporary or permanent installation of protected bike lanes. The product is modular and cost effective solutions for rapidly deploying a bike lane. The Committee discussed possibly using this product in the future with the implementation of the Lincoln Bike Plan.

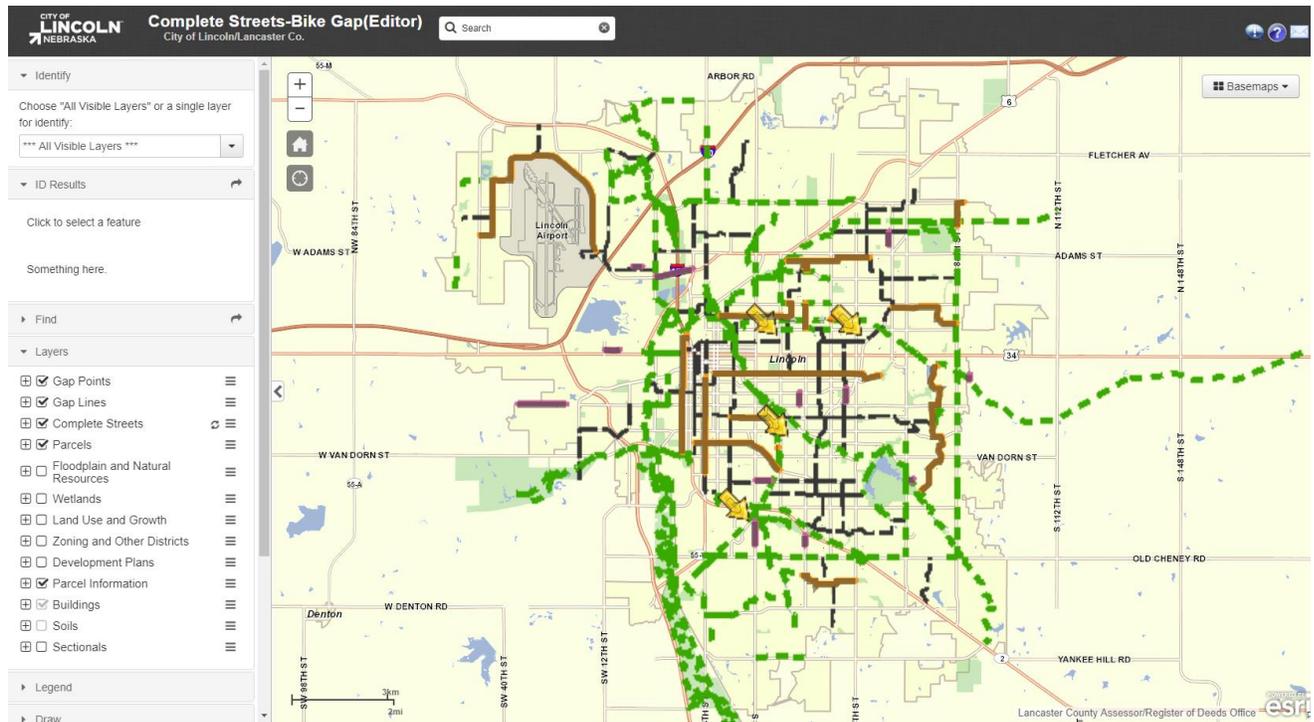
## Bicycle Parking

The Complete Streets Committee has set aside funds to fund a bike rack request program. A test website was developed to discuss the details and determine if a website would be the appropriate way to move forward. The Committee made the decision to put together a request form to send out to Business Improvement Districts. Work on this item is still ongoing.

## Gap Analysis

A Gap Analysis Study was completed in January 2015 in order to understand available information affecting the implementation of Complete Streets. A copy of this Gap Analysis Study can be found on the City of Lincoln's website at: <http://lincoln.ne.gov/city/plan/reports/GapAnalysis.pdf>. The gap analysis is a snapshot of the current transportation network and outlines where gaps (i.e. gaps in sidewalks, trails, transit, etc.) in the system are currently located. In conjunction with developing the written study, an online and interactive map was launched. The map is a tool for the committee as it can be updated as projects are completed, new data becomes available, or new gaps are identified. In 2019, the tool was updated to include the proposed on-street bicycle network as defined in the Lincoln Bike Plan. The map will continue to be updated with various projects and needs that come through the committee and used in future project discussions.

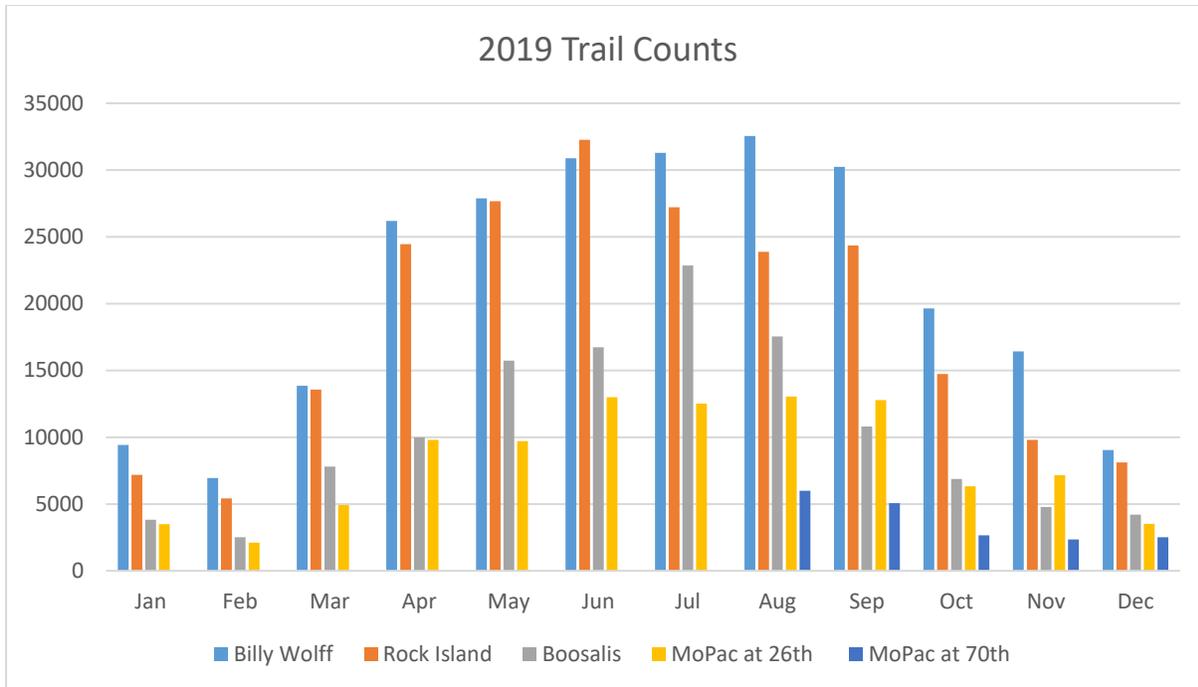
## Online Gap Analysis Tool



## Trail Counters

Partnership for a Healthy Lincoln (PHL) approached the City about additional funding that could be used for equipment purchase. The City partnered with PHL and Great Plains Trails Network (GPTN) to purchase one mobile counter and four permanent counters. The mobile counter was purchased in the fall of 2015. The mobile trail counter is intended to be used for special events (i.e. Streets Alive, etc.) and weeklong counts along the trails network that are not currently served by permanent counters. The four permanent counters were added to the system in 2017, bringing the total number of permanent counters on the trail system to five.

- The Rock Island Trail Counter was installed and has been recording users since July 2014. In 2019, the Rock Island Trail Counter recorded 218,634 users.
- The Billy Wolff Trail Counter was installed and has been recording users since August 2017. In 2019, the Billy Wolff Trail Counter recorded 254,370 users.
- The Helen Boosalis Trail Counter was installed and has been recording users since October 2017. In 2019, the Helen Boosalis Trail Counter recorded 123,628 users.
- The MoPac West Trail Counter was installed in August 2017. In 2019, the counter recorded 98,351 users.
- The MoPac East Trail Counter was installed in August 2017. In 2018, the MoPac East Trail Counter was under maintenance from January through July, The rest of the year, the counter recorded 18,565 users.



In addition to the trail counters, the City also monitors usage of the N Street Cycle Track. The counter along N Street at the midblock of 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> recorded 56,634 cyclists from January through September, averaging out to 207 users per day.

#### On-Street Bicycle Facilities Plan (Lincoln Bike Plan)

The Planning Department along with members of the Complete Streets Committee prepared a Request for Proposals (RFP) in 2017 to develop an On-Street Bicycle Facilities Plan. Some committee members participated in the scoring and interview process to hire a consultant to develop the plan. The Complete Streets Committee served as the Technical Advisory Committee for the plan development. Several Complete Streets Committee members attended and assisted with the two public open house events throughout the process and reviewed all materials. The [Lincoln Bike Plan](#) was completed and approved in February 2019.

#### Project Selection

The Fiscal Year 2018/19 – 2023/24 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) included a budget item for Pedestrian and Bicycle Capital Program. In each programmed year, \$50,000 has been appropriated for “Complete Streets” type projects bringing the six year total to \$300,000 for projects that fit within the Complete Streets scope. The projects considered by the committee included:

- Trail/Neighborhood Sidewalk Connections to Neighborhoods
- On-Street Bicycle Facilities Plan Implementation
- Bicycle Boulevard Pilot Project (funds available if awarded grant)
- Bike Rack Request Program
- Trail Counters and digital signage

- Bike Route Signage
- Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) at Moore Middle School – on 84<sup>th</sup> Street between Yankee Hill Rd. and Yankee Woods Dr.
- Transit enhancements including ADA pads and links to sidewalks

The Complete Streets Committed provided funding for the RRFB at Moore Middle School. Lincoln Transportation and Utilities provided funds for the sidewalk installation to the RRFB and the Complete Streets Committee committed funds to the RRFB portion of the project to make the crossing safer for students.



The remainder of funds is still under discussion toward future on-street bike projects.

### E-Scooter Sharing Program

The Complete Streets Committee held discussions throughout the year to determine how scooter sharing companies are working/operating in other communities. A separate group worked toward developing a Pilot Project including putting together a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) and interviewing vendors.

## Project Review

Each representative on the Implementation Team is responsible for identifying projects within their department and in the development stages that should be reviewed by the Complete Streets team. This review identifies Complete Streets applications which had been applied to Lincoln Transportation and Utilities, StarTran, and Parks and Recreation 2019 projects. To note, outside of the Complete Streets Committee, Lincoln Transportation and Utilities invites departmental review of projects through their monthly coordination meetings and site plans are made available electronically for comment and review. Many of these projects, while not formally reviewed by the Complete Streets Implementation Team, did receive review by staff that included Complete Streets considerations and applications in the final design.

### **2019 Formal Project Review Summary**

Project	Location	Complete Streets Application
Bike Racks	Bike Rack Request Program	Complete Streets funded project.
Trail Counters	City-wide	Discuss enhancing the trail counting system with additional counters and possible digital signage.
Lincoln Bike Plan (On-Street Bicycle Facilities Plan)	City-wide plan	Discuss the development of the On-Street Bicycle Facilities Plan with assistance from a consultant.
84 <sup>th</sup> Street RRFB	84 <sup>th</sup> Street between Yankee Hill Rd. and Yankee Woods Dr.	Complete Streets funded project.
West A Project	Phase A: SW 23 <sup>rd</sup> Street east of Folsom; Phase B: end of Phase A west to city limits	Discuss design of West A project and pedestrian, transit, and bicycle amenities.
Bicycle Boulevards Pilot Project	B Street from S 11 <sup>th</sup> St. to S 26 <sup>th</sup> St.	Discuss project ideas that could be incorporated into a Blue Zones grant.
E-Scooters Sharing Program	Undefined	Discuss how motorized scooter sharing programs work in other cities and how Lincoln should handle. Coordination was discussed with University of Nebraska.
North 33 <sup>rd</sup> & Cornhusker Subarea Plan and Cornhusker Highway Corridor Enhancement Plan	33 <sup>rd</sup> and Cornhusker	Discuss subarea plan and corridor enhancement plan and how pedestrian and bicycle traffic will be able to access the area.

## 2020 Priority Work Items

The following items are expected to be addressed by the Complete Streets Committee in 2020:

- Review applicable 2020 design year infrastructure projects for Complete Streets opportunities as well as review what was built in the past construction year. Continue to identify projects under design and at an appropriate stage to review as well as to create a record of review. Such identification will include the Complete Streets concepts applied to the specific project, those which are not applied and why.
- Project selection, implementation, and evaluation of the Complete Streets funded projects.
- Continue to refine the project identification and review process based on experience. The goal is further refinement of the Gap Analysis to increase efficiency and effectiveness of the process as well as to promote Complete Streets projects and concepts. All updates should be reflected in the maintenance of the Gap Analysis tool.
- Continue to examine plans, City policies and other guidance for Complete Streets conformance, including the Lincoln Standard Plans.
- Track implementation of projects using Complete Streets funding in CIP process.
- Discuss need for additional funds for Complete Streets projects and research how additional funding may allow for additional or larger scale projects in advance of next Capital Improvement Program budget cycle.
- Track state level legislative efforts applicable to Complete Streets.
- Review the existing Complete Streets Policy and update if necessary.
- Finalize the bike rack request program including determining how to apply for assistance and how the general administration of the program would be carried out.
- Discuss and review E-scooter Pilot Project (dependent on finalizing a start date).
- Develop and implement bicycle parking standards including requirements for bike racks with multi-family projects.
- Review bus stop phasing plan, bus stop improvements, and potential reduction of low ridership stops.
- Educate newly elected officials about Complete Streets and the committee's work.
- Review and discuss the Downtown Traffic Study.
- Discuss implementation of the Lincoln Bike Plan.
- Discuss Long Range Transportation Plan and provide input throughout the process.