

# Nonmotorized Transportation Pilot Program

## What is the Nonmotorized Transportation Pilot Program?

Marin County is one of four communities nationally that has been selected by Congress to participate in a Nonmotorized Transportation Pilot Program under Section 1807 of the 2005 federal transportation bill, SAFETEA-LU. Section 1807 provides for \$25 million to each of the four communities for fiscal years 2006 through 2009.

The legislation states that “The Secretary shall establish and carry out nonmotorized transportation pilot program to construct, in the following four communities selected by the Secretary, a network of nonmotorized transportation infrastructure facilities, including sidewalks, bicycle lanes, and pedestrian and bicycle trails, that connect directly with transit stations, schools, residences, businesses, recreation areas, and other community activity centers:

- (1) Columbia, Missouri
- (2) Marin County, California
- (3) Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minnesota
- (4) Sheboygan County, Wisconsin

The purpose of the program shall be to demonstrate the extent to which bicycling and walking can carry a significant part of the transportation load, and represent a major portion of the transportation solution, within selected communities.”

## What Does it Mean for Marin?

Since the focus of the program is ‘mode shift’ or the ability to encourage use of bicycles or walking instead of driving, and thus potentially reduce congestion, projects are targeted for the eastern, urbanized corridor of the county and cannot be of a solely recreational nature. Projects for consideration can include primary network and feeder projects, demonstration projects, access to transit, planning, educational programs, promotional programs, and other infrastructure improvements.

## How Can I Participate?

Updates on the Pilot Program and status reports on projects and programs are available on the Pilot website: [www.walkbikemarin.org](http://www.walkbikemarin.org)

## What's the Process?

Alta Planning + Design was selected as the lead firm for the initial implementation of the Pilot Program. Alta and its team of supporting consultants will carry the program through the following key phases:

- public outreach
- website development
- public workshops
- preliminary cost and feasibility analysis
- priority and ranking methodology for projects and programs
- development of recommended list of capital projects and educational/outreach programs

Subsequent contracts will be awarded for design, environmental, and engineering services for selected capital projects. To the extent that the selected education and outreach programs require specialized assistance, contracts will be let for those as well.

A nineteen-member advisory committee was appointed by the Director of Public Works to assist in work program implementation. The Committee's key roles were to participate in the community workshops, assist in the development of the project and program scoring and ranking methodology, reach out to their respective constituencies to check-in and solicit feedback, and present a recommended schedule of projects and programs to be funded for consideration. The Advisory Committee's membership included:

Scott Anderson (Town of Tiburon), Rocky Birdsey (Marin Center for Independent Living), Ron Bolds (Business Owner), Allan Bortel (Marin Council on Aging), Suzanne Bourguignon (Marin County Transit District), Sean Co (Metropolitan Transportation Commission), Joy Dahlgren (Marin Conservation League), Becky Frank (Caltrans), Celia Graterol (Canal Alliance), Ken Kochevar (Federal Highway Administration), Millie Makarewicz (San Rafael City Schools), John Nemeth (SMART), Ken Nordhoff (City of San Rafael), Patrick Seidler (Transportation Alternatives for Marin), Hamid Shamsapour (City of Larkspur), Diane Steinhauser (Transportation Authority of Marin), Todd Teachout (City of Sausalito), Laura Thompson (San Francisco Bay Trail), and Nancy Weninger (Marin County Bicycle Advisory Group).

The Board of Supervisors adopted a schedule of projects and programs to be funded through the Pilot Program on April 17, 2007. Project and program logistics are being worked out with project design and program implementation beginning over summer of 2007.

The planned timetable for the work program is as follows:

October, 2006 – Consultant collects background information and prepares initial working documents and maps; Advisory Committee kickoff meeting

November – Informational meetings with local agencies; Public Workshop

December-February, 2007 – Project and program ranking and prioritization; identification of supplemental funding sources; development of preliminary cost estimates; discussion with local jurisdictions on project feasibility

March – Presentation of recommended project and programs; community workshops

April – Selection of projects and programs to be funded by Board of Supervisors

May – Design and environmental review for selected capital projects begins; program development initiated

Summer, 2007-Summer, 2008 – Selected educational and outreach programs initiated; design, environmental review, and regulatory permitting for selected capital projects

Summer, 2008-Fall, 2009 – Construction of capital projects

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