



Walkable Washington

collaborate, take action, celebrate

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Case Study

Walkable Washington

The Walkable Washington program grew out of the Feet First Cities Program. It showcases exceptional pedestrian-oriented improvements, community groups and outreach programs; maintains a statewide network for key contacts and stakeholders including an annual symposium; and provides assistance with Safe Routes to School, walking audits and other educational activities and programs.



Issaquah Mobility Action Plan Issaquah, WA

Description and purpose

The Issaquah Mobility Action Plan is designed to be an “action guidance document” for the City of Issaquah. The plan shapes suggested projects for the city that will enhance bike and pedestrian activity. Recommended projects and programs are organized by priority, with a “top ten” programs and “top ten” projects section of the document. Some examples of projects on the top ten lists include the Newport Way Bike Lane Ramp, development of the Gilman/Front Intersection, and a Sunset Way Cycle Track, to name a few.

Beyond suggesting projects and programs to be developed, the Action Plan worked to create an effective dialogue between City departments in an effort to capture all perspectives. This combination of expert ideas and points of view has created what has been termed “plan-gineering.”



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Plangineering is essentially a bridge between planning and engineering to help create a common understanding of language and strategies. The goal for working intentionally together is to provide more innovation and establish faster timelines for implementation. The City is excited that this direct communication between departments also helps create clear communication with the community – so the dialog about what can be planned and developed in Issaquah can be shaped together with the needs of the community and articulated so that everyone can understand the pathway to action.

Costs and funding

The Mobility Action Plan was designed to help shape priorities for transportation improvement projects that leverage existing funding sources, and to help better position the City for seeking additional funding opportunities that arise through new development and grant opportunities. Some of the identified priority projects will be included in longer range City's Capital Facilities Plan and Transportation Improvement Programs while some projects and programs - such as the design and installation of bike racks and bike safety videos - happened with current grant and funding sources.

Implementation time-frame

The development of this planning document has been rapid; the initial draft was completed in just nine months. This current draft is slated for additional review in early April, 2014.

Photo courtesy of the City of Issaquah.

Community involvement

Community involvement has been essential to the development of the Issaquah Mobility Action Plan. Innovative outreach was made to engage the community by “going out to them and meeting them at their places”. In addition to using the City website to provide an on-going virtual dialog, City representatives went to community spaces such as grocery stores and coffee shops and existing community events. This effort to interact with community members in their own comfort zone enabled the City to engage a wider than usual range of stakeholders and helped shape a document that reflects the needs and concerns of the community.

Benefits and results

An early benefit of Mobility Action Plan was the increased dialog about “walking and rolling” in Issaquah – with internal City departments, the community and all stakeholders. In the long-term, the Action plan hopes to inspire a healthy, safe and interconnected mobility culture that enables people to choose to get to their destinations efficiently and sustainably car-free.

Project Contacts

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Resources

City of Issaquah Mobility Action Plan

<http://www.ci.issaquah.wa.us/index.aspx?nid=1284>



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