

BMA PROJECT PROFILE

City of Austin Bike Plan Update – Austin 2020 Bicycle Plan

Bowman-Melton Associates (BMA) assisted Halff Associates in the development of the 2009 City of Austin Bicycle Plan Update, which is intended to guide the development of the City's bicycle program through 2020. The Plan evaluates the existing bicycling network and focuses on improving conditions for both commuter and less experienced bicyclists. It also addresses education, encouragement, and enforcement – and establishes program benchmarks in each of these four areas.



Early in the project, BMA worked with key team members to decide appropriate methodologies, establish mapping conventions, and set the project milestones and goals. BMA evaluated and provided feedback to the Team on draft recommendations from the Mayor's Street Smarts Task Force. The Task Force's report and recommendations were utilized by the Team in plan development.

BMA provided recommendations for updating the City's previous plan's methodology for the evaluation and selection of bicycle routes. BMA also conducted extensive research on best practices in U.S. cities with similar populations, evaluating the most recent bicycle plans for Seattle, Portland, San Francisco, Tucson, and Denver. Reviews considered plan scopes and approaches, plan and analysis methodologies, field analysis methodologies, project prioritization lists, cost estimates with or without financial constraint, and whether GIS mapping was used. BMA also conducted research and prepared a report to assist Austin city staff with developing policies for bicycle lanes along corridors with parallel parking.



As the project was winding down, BMA provided review and feedback on proposed bikeway routing through a major regional shopping center development to ensure safe and predictable bicycle traffic passing to and through the center. BMA met regularly with the Team as advisors throughout the planning process, participating in community meetings, and reviewing and commenting on internal draft maps and document sections.

Owner: City of Austin
Client: Halff Associates, Inc.
Contact: Jim Carrillo
Year: 2009
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