



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

ANNUAL BICYCLE MEETING

Dallas District



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



TXDOT BICYCLE PROGRAM

June 23, 2016

2015 – 2016 TxDOT Bicycle Program Activities

- 2015 Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)
- Texas Guide to Safe Bicycling
- Bicycle Handlebar Hanger
- Strategic Direction Report: Opportunities for TxDOT's Bicycle Program
 - TxDOT Bicycle Advisory Committee
- TxDOT Bicycle Program Website Update

TAP Consolidates FHWA Programs

The Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (**MAP-21**) established the Transportation Alternatives Program (**TAP**) to provide for a variety of alternative transportation projects, including many eligible activities that were previously funded under separate programs, Including:

- Transportation Enhancements Program
- Safe Routes to School Program
- Recreational Trails Program (**RTP**)

...and wrapping them into a single funding source, the TAP.

TAP funding is allocated from FHWA to State DOTs and MPOs in Transportation Management Areas (pop. areas greater than 200,000)

Note: In Texas, **RTP TAP** funding is managed through the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

TxDOT's 2015 TAP Call for Projects Funding & Timeline

An Estimated \$52 Million Available
(FY 2013-2016)

- January 16, 2015
 - Call for TAP Projects Announced
- May 4, 2015
 - TAP Application Deadline
- May - August 2015
 - Project Evaluation
- September 2015
 - Project Selection Small Urban
- December 2015
 - Project Selection Nonurban



TRANSPORTATION
ALTERNATIVES
PROGRAM GUIDE
2015

Texas Guide to Safe Bicycling – 1st Edition

- Safety guide for bicyclists
- Includes:
 - Rules of the road
 - Explanation of equipment and accessories
 - Tips for bicycling with children
 - Guidelines if a bicyclist is involved in a crash
 - Detail on Texas laws that pertain to bicyclists
 - List of bicycle resources
- Developed by TxDOT staff with consultant support
- Will be available online
- Reviewed by TxDOT staff, Bicycle Advisory Committee, and Commissioners



Bicycle maintenance is relatively inexpensive compared to auto repairs. Don't put yourself at risk, always ride a well-maintained bicycle.

Water Bottle and Cage

In Texas's hot climate, it is important to stay hydrated. Attach a water bottle and cage to sip water you are not

NIGHT RIDING EQUIPMENT

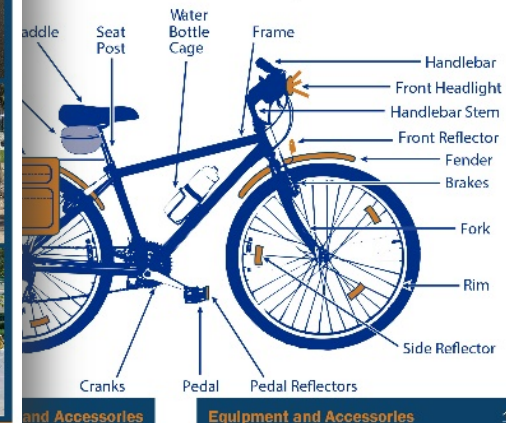
Lights and reflectors will help you see and be seen during night time riding and times of poor visibility. Texas law states that if you are operating a bicycle at night you must have a lamp on the front of the bicycle that emits a white light that is visible at least 500 feet in front of you. You must also have either a rear red reflector or red light visible from at least 500 feet behind the bicycle.

Bells and Horns

A good way to announce you are passing is with a bell or pleasant sounding horn that will not startle or anger anyone. Sound your horn or bell or say, "Hello up there, passing on your left," before you pass.

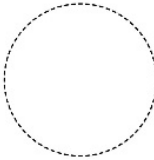
Reflective Materials

You cannot have too much reflective material, especially at night. Wear it on your helmet, shoes, arms, legs and torso. Reflectors and reflective materials are important even with good lighting because bicyclists are hard to see and motor vehicle drivers may not be thinking to look-out for you. Be safe. Be seen.



Texas Handlebar Hanger


- Handlebar hanger
- Includes:
 - Bicycle safety tips
 - Diagram showing how to best wear a bicycle helmet
 - Explanation of lights & reflector requirements for Texas
 - Review of hand signals
 - TxDOT bicycle program website information
- Developed by TxDOT staff with consultant support
- Will be available online
- Reviewed by TxDOT staff, TxDOT's Bicycle Advisory Committee, and Commissioners



**Bike FRIENDLY.
Bike SAFE.**

In Texas, a bicyclist has the same rights and responsibilities as the driver of a motorized vehicle. Bicyclists, like motorists, can be ticketed or penalized for not obeying traffic laws.

- Wear a helmet
- Obey traffic signs and signals
- Ride with traffic, never against traffic
- Ride as far to the right as practicable
- Use paved shoulders and bike lanes when available and always be on the lookout for road hazards or debris
- On narrow roads without bike lanes or shoulders, play it safe and ride single-file
- Ride no more than two abreast when traveling in a shared roadway lane; return to riding single-file if riding two abreast impedes the flow of traffic
- Use hand signals to indicate what you intend to do
- Wear bright clothing; when riding early in the morning or at night, use a headlight, taillight and reflectors
- Use caution when riding at sunrise and sunset; the bright sunlight can make bicyclists difficult to see
- Make eye contact with drivers whenever possible; never assume motorists see you or that you have the right-of-way
- Never catch a ride by holding on to or attaching your bicycle to another vehicle
- Keep at least one hand on the handlebars at all times
- Do not wear headphones - they block other sounds you need to hear
- Always expect the unexpected; stay aware and remain focused on your surroundings - your safety and the safety of those around you is your first responsibility



Make Sure Your Helmet Fits



Correct Fit Wrong Wrong

Remember a crash can happen at any time. Wear your helmet every time you ride.

Night Riding Equipment

Lights and reflectors will help you see and be seen during night-time riding and times of poor visibility. Texas law states that if you are operating a bicycle at night you must have a lamp on the front of the bicycle that emits a white light that is visible at least 500 feet in front of you. The bicycle must also have either a rear red reflector or red light visible from at least 500 feet.

Use Hand Signals

Use the proper hand signals for left or right turns and for slowing or stopping. When turning, you must signal continuously at least 100 feet before the turn and while you are stopped waiting to turn, unless use of your hand is needed to control your bicycle.



Left Slow/Stop Right

For more information on statewide bicycle resources, visit TxDOT's website: www.txdot.gov | keyword search: bicycle safety



Bicycle Program

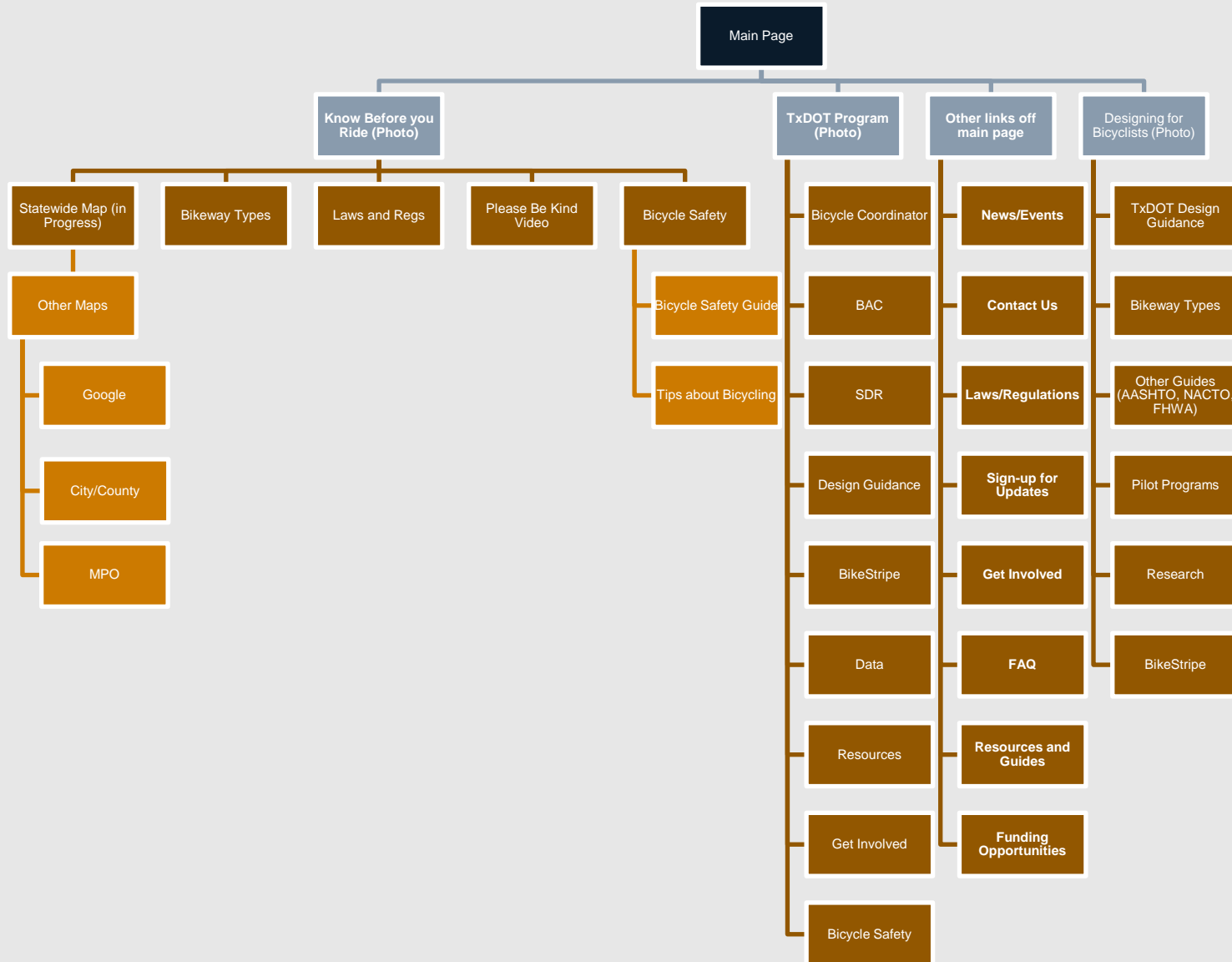
TxDOT Strategic Direction Report (SDR): Opportunities for TxDOT's Bicycle Program

- The SDR provides short-term guidance in developing TxDOT's Bicycle and Pedestrian Program
- Serves as a reference document for staff, policy makers and stakeholders
- Includes:
 - Existing conditions and trends
 - Identification of focus areas for TxDOT with specific strategies
 - Implementation recommendations and next steps



- The SDR is a policy-level document and it does not identify specific projects
- SDR Workshops were conducted internally with TxDOT staff and with TxDOT's Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC) (The BAC is a cross section of people with various backgrounds who's objective is to advance the consideration of bicycling as part of transportation planning and construction)

Bicycle Webpage Proposed Architecture



Statewide Bicycle Coordinator

Teri Kaplan

Teri.Kaplan@txdot.gov

TxDOT - PTN

125 E. 11th Street

Austin, Texas 78701

(512) 374-5235