

PROGRESS REPORT 2013/14 *for the* **HUMBOLDT REGIONAL BICYCLE PLAN**

HCAOG adopted the current *Humboldt Regional Bicycle Plan* in August of 2012. HCAOG updates the plan every five years in order to be eligible for the State's Bicycle Transportation Account grant funds.

This is the first of annual progress reports that will be prepared between updates. An ad-hoc Bicycle Advisory Committee (aBAC) is assembled to direct the progress report and recommend actions to the HCAOG Board. This year's aBAC members were:

- Doby Class (City of Arcata)
- Lisa Hockaday (Caltrans)
- Sheila Parrott (City of Eureka)
- Emily Sinkhorn (Natural Resource Services-Redwood Community Action Agency)
- Chris Whitworth (County Public Works)
- Melanie Williams (community member; BikesThere.com)

(Bob Ornelas, community member, left the committee in early March)

HCAOG staff member Oona Smith facilitated the aBAC.

The Bike Plan's Regional Priority Programs are (numbers do not denote priority):

- #1. Regional Bikeway and Trails Signing Program
- #2. Regional Bicycle Parking Program
- #3. Regional Non-Motorized Education & Outreach Program
- #4. Regional Bicycle Guide & Map
- #5. Bicycle Facility Maintenance Program
- #6. Regional Loop Detector Installation & Maintenance Program
- #7. Humboldt Bay Trail: Arcata to Eureka Segment
- #8. Priority Bicycle Projects for Each HCAOG Member Jurisdiction

Each program is listed, below, with its summary information from the Bike Plan. That is followed by 1) what the aBAC discussed or recommended; and 2) progress made in fiscal year 2013/14.

Glossary

ATP	Active Transportation Program	STIP	Surface Transportation Improvement Program
DHHS	Dept of Health & Human Services	TDA	Transportation Development Act
OTS	Office of Traffic Safety	TIGER	Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery
RPA	Rural Planning Assistance		

#1: Regional Bikeway and Trails Signing Program



Responsibility:	HCAOG, Member Agencies, Caltrans District 1
Type:	Signage
Approximate Cost:	\$250-\$1,000 per installation
Potential Funding Sources:	ATP, OTS, TDA
Required Actions/Studies:	None identified.

aBAC Discussion/Recommendation:

Many touring cyclists rely more on GIS/mobile devices than physical signs. The Pacific Coast Bicycle Route already has standards and designated locations for signs; locals can still give feedback to State agencies (and have). A future steps could be to initiate getting matrix barcodes (e.g., Quick Response Codes) imprinted on signage. The code would link cyclists to the Humboldt Bay Area Bike Map and other local bike information.

The aBAC did not recommend any actions for next steps.

#2: Regional Bicycle Parking Program



Responsibility:	HCAOG, Member Agencies, Caltrans District 1, local business, school districts, developers
Type:	Parking
Approximate Cost:	\$250-\$1,000 per installation
Potential Funding Source:	ATP, OTS, RPA
Required Actions/Studies:	A formal or informal survey could be performed to better understand localized parking needs. This could include recommendations for upgrading rack designs, transit stops, etc.

aBAC Discussion/Recommendation:

The SSTAC (particularly Charlie Bean) and HTA have worked together to compile an inventory of transit stops to document existing amenities and sub-par ADA access. HTA has installed bike racks at some bus stops.

Progress in 2013/14

HCAOG: The aBAC recommended including this program in next year's Overall Work Program (OWP, FY 2014/15). The draft OWP allocates \$6,100 for staff time and printing costs. Tasks include researching "best practices" and local examples of bike rack design standards, maintenance, and building codes. HCAOG will produce a guidebook/brochure to disseminate to jurisdictions and other stakeholders. Sharing this information could help foster more consistent standards throughout the region.

#3: Regional Non-Motorized Education & Outreach Program



Responsibility:	HCAOG, Member Agencies, Caltrans District 1, school districts, local bicycle organizations, community members
Type:	Education and encouragement
Approximate Cost:	\$1,000 - \$5,000 per year
Potential Funding Sources:	ATP, OTS, RPA, TDA, private sources
Required Actions/Studies:	None identified.

aBAC Discussion/Recommendation:

Many local jurisdictions have ongoing education and outreach programs, or are starting them. The aBAC recommended that HCAOG continue funding a work element (such as Work Element 18 in the 2013/14 OWP) to carry out public education and outreach for bicycling and walking.

Progress in 2013/14

HCAOG: The draft 2014/15 OWP includes \$17,000 for staff time and materials for "Active Transportation Projects" (Work Element 17), which includes education and outreach.

HCAOG regularly posts bicycle-related stories on HCAOG's facebook page. Local posts include announcing bike rodeos, city/county awards, and safety PSAs. HCAOG is updating its website and will build a webpage for highlighting active transportation information, events, etc.

RCAA, Jefferson Community Center: The Community Bike Kitchen, in Eureka's Westside community, opened June 1, 2013. It is a hub of learning and activity for all ages. The Bike Kitchen has assisted hundreds of youth and adults in finding affordable recycled bicycles and learning new skills in bicycle maintenance, repair and safety.

Caltrans, District 1: "Share the Road: Arrive Alive" is a transportation safety campaign being broadcast throughout District 1 via radio and video spots, educational materials, and free graphics. (<http://arrivealivenow.org>)

Humboldt County Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS):

CA4Health-Community Transformation Grant – Humboldt County DHHS has played a big role in establishing Safe Routes to School programs in the county. With CA4Health grant funding (from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention), DHHS and its partners continue SR2S encouragement activities to increase the number of students walking and biking to school. DHHS's grant also helped fund walkability audits at Dows Prairie Elementary (McKinleyville) and Cutten Elementary and Winship Middle School (Eureka); helped research policy for reducing speed limits in School Zones, and collaborated with three school districts to add transportation safety information to school-parent handbooks.

Redwood Crossing Guard Program – This is a grant-funded program that includes teaching bicycle and pedestrian safety education in elementary and middle schools. Last year, 27 classes of 2nd graders in Eureka, Loleta, and Fortuna learned pedestrian safety. Plus, 5th and 6th graders in two Eureka schools learned in-class bike safety and helmet education. This three-year program began in the 2013/14 school year and continues through 2015.

Humboldt Trails Council, County of Humboldt, City of Arcata, City of Eureka, Friends of the Dunes: The Volunteer Trail Stewards (VTS), a project of the Humboldt Trails Council, have partnered with

local jurisdictions to reduce trail maintenance and construction costs through community volunteerism. Trail Stewards help develop and maintain trails on volunteer work-days, and serve as “eyes and ears” on local trails. Trail Stewards are currently working on the Hammond Trail (County of Humboldt), Arcata Community Forest (City of Arcata), Hikshari’ Trail (City of Eureka), and the Humboldt Coastal Nature Center (Friends of the Dunes).

Ongoing Bicycle Education & Encouragement:

- **Humboldt Bike Month** – Observed, officially, for over a decade, Humboldt Bike Month gears up events throughout the Humboldt Bay Area to celebrate the joys of bicycling for commuting and recreation. This annual May extravaganza is coordinated by the Humboldt Bike Month Coalition, which includes the County DHHS, City of Arcata, City of Eureka, Caltrans, HCAOG, Redwood Community Action Agency, Humboldt Bay Bicycle Commuters’ Association, Melanie Williams (BikesThere.com), and Big Foot Bicycling. Local shops that have participated annually and generously include local bike shops, the North Coast Co-op, as well as other businesses and bicycle enthusiasts.
- **International Bike to School Day** – May 2013 and planned for 2014 Bike Month. In Eureka, students from Alice Birney, Grant, and Lafayette Elementary Schools ride to school with faculty and local celebrities. Eureka High School students have been involved and EPD has provided support. In Arcata, many students stop by the morning Bike-to-Work-Day energizer station at the North Coast Co-op, then ride off to their elementary school or college class.
- **Kids’ Bike Rodeos** – Annual or almost-annual rodeos happen in Arcata (sponsored by the City’s Recreation Department & Public Works Department), Blue Lake, Loleta, Rio Dell, and Willow Creek (by St. Joseph Health-Humboldt County Community Resources Centers). All had bike rodeos in 2013 and have 2014 rodeos planned. Free helmets are distributed and fitted, bikes get checked for safety, and kids practice riding and safety skills.
- **Bike Education in Public Schools & After-School Programs** –
Winship Middle School: All 6th graders take a nine-week on-bike cycling course.
Alice Birney Elementary School: After-school bike program for 4th and 5th grade students (third year in a row).
Loleta Boys and Girls Club & St. Joseph’s Family Resource Center Bike Club: The Bicycle Safety Program began in 2013 and is in its third semester this spring.
- **Kidical Mass**: Monthly, family-oriented, themed rides on low-traffic-volume streets. Rides include Family Farm Tour at the Tour of the Unknown Coast, Annie & Mary Day Parade in Blue Lake, Pumpkin Patch ride in Arcata Bottoms, and a Nighttime Holiday Lights Tour.
- **Bike Bookmobile** – Melanie Williams, BikesThere.com, offers bicycle-themed book reading events to Parks and Recreation Departments, local library story hours, and local schools. Winship Middle School in 2014 used the Bike Bookmobile for an official school field trip. Winship students rode to Washington Elementary School to read to 2nd graders and to reinforce both bike safety and pedestrian education.
- **Greater Eureka Safe Routes to Schools (SR2S) Task Force and Humboldt County SR2S Task Force** – Several local jurisdictions, school districts, and supporting organizations and individuals are partnering to work on creating safe and inviting walking and bicycling environments for children to walk to and from school. Projects involve infrastructure, encouragement & education programs, and coordinating efforts to be more competitive for State and federal funding for SR2S.

#4: Regional Bicycle Guide & Map



Responsibility:	HCAOG, Member Agencies, Caltrans District 1
Type:	Education and encouragement
Approximate Cost:	\$5,000 - \$15,000 for map update and reprints as needed.
Potential Funding Sources:	ATP, TDA, OTS, RPA, private sources
Required Actions/Studies:	None identified.

PROGRESS IN 2013/14

HCAOG: This program is being carried out this year (Work Element 18, OWP FY 2013/14). HCAOG, collaborating with RCAA-NRS, is giving maps to school campuses, non-profits, and bike shops that will help distribute them. We are also giving away bike maps at bike events and health fairs.

#5: Bicycle Facility Maintenance Program



Responsibility:	HCAOG Member Agencies, Caltrans,
Type:	Maintenance
Approximate Cost:	To be determined
Potential Funding Sources:	General Funds, TDA
Required Actions/Studies:	None identified.

aBAC Discussion:/Recommendation:

Maintenance is a top need; jurisdictions need maintenance/construction funds for this rather than planning funds (that HCAOG can more-readily allocate in the OWP).

#6: Regional Loop Detector Installation & Maintenance Program



Responsibility:	Caltrans, Humboldt County, Eureka
Type:	Bicycle facilities at intersections
Approximate Cost:	\$2,500-3,000 per detector
Potential Funding Sources:	ATP, OTS, TDA
Required Actions/Studies:	None identified.

aBAC Discussion:/Recommendation:

The Signal Users Group is meeting much of this need.

City of Eureka, City of Fortuna, Humboldt County, Caltrans:

Staff members of respective jurisdiction continue to have monthly signal training/meetings to review and discuss traffic signal operations, including loop detection.

#7: Humboldt Bay Trail: Arcata to Eureka segment

Northcoast Journal

Responsibility:	HCAOG, City of Arcata, City of Eureka, County of Humboldt, Caltrans District 1
Type:	Class I facility
Approximate Cost:	\$3+ 16 million (County estimate in 2014)
Potential Funding Sources:	ATP, OTS, STIP, TDA, TIGER Grant, Coastal Conservancy, General Funds
Required Actions/Studies:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development plans, regulatory permits (Public Utilities Commission, Coastal Commission, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service) • Identify "lead agency." Broker a multi-jurisdictional management agreement.

aBAC Discussion:

This is the top priority regional bicycle project. HCAOG and affected jurisdictions are making progress and treating this as a priority.

PROGRESS IN 2013/14

Caltrans District 1: The Coastal Commission's "coastal consistency" for the Caltrans 101 Corridor project includes a condition that Caltrans (and HCAOG) secure funding for the Bay Trail before constructing the 101 Corridor project.

HCAOG, County of Humboldt, City of Eureka, City of Arcata, and Caltrans District 1: HCAOG initiated forming and facilitating an ad-hoc "101 Corridor & Bay Trail Ad Hoc Committee." Members are representatives from the County of Humboldt, City of Eureka, City of Arcata, and Caltrans. The group is working to collaboratively and cooperatively fulfill the Humboldt Bay Trail, north and south sections.

The "Bay Trail North" segment extends 3.0 miles from Bracut north to Samoa Blvd (Hwy 255) in Arcata; "Bay Trail South" is 3.8 miles long and extends from Bracut south to X Street in Eureka.

"Bay Trail North" – Extends from Bracut north to Samoa Blvd. (Hwy 255) in Arcata (3.0 miles). The City of Arcata has completed design and environmental review for the Bay Trail North, and is applying for construction funds from the ATP and TIGER programs. (The City will begin constructing the Rail-with-Trail Connectivity Project–Phase 1, which extends from Samoa Blvd. north to Foster and Alliance. See Project #8, below.)

"Bay Trail South" – Extends from Bracut south to X Street in Eureka (3.8 miles). The County of Humboldt has completed the Project Study Report (PSR) and the Initial Engineering Study is in the final stages.

On March 20, 2014, the California Transportation Commission allocated \$2 million to Humboldt County to perform engineering design and environmental permitting for the "Bay Trail South." Funds for engineering and environmental permitting will be available starting in July 2014. The engineering and permitting phase is expected to require at least two years due to the complexity of the project, proximity to sensitive resources, and constrained right-of-way. Funding for construction has not been secured.

#8: Priority Bicycle Projects for Each HCAOG Member Jurisdiction

The primary projects identified for implementing in the short-term (next five years) are outlined below.

Responsibility: CITY OF ARCATA

5-Year Priority Projects:	Class:	Length (miles):	Cost Estimate (2012 \$):	Required Studies:	PROGRESS 2013/14
11th Street Corridor from Janes Road to Bayview Street	II/III	1.5	22,500	Public input	
Foster Avenue Extension Sunset Avenue to Alliance Avenue	I and II	0.5	290,000 (not including acquisition cost)	ROW acquisition, Final engineering design	
F Street 7 th Street to 14 th Street	I / II	0.4	7,000	Feasibility/impact analysis	
Sunset Avenue (east) from LK Wood Boulevard to Jay Street	I	0.25	137,500	Feasibility analysis	
Samoa Boulevard from Union Street to Crescent Way	II	0.25	7,500	N/A	
Local Project (Regional Bicycle Plan, Table 4.2.1):					
Humboldt Bay Trail – Arcata Segments <u>Rail-with-Trail Connectivity Project-Phase 1: Samoa Blvd to intersection of Foster Avenue and Alliance Road</u> <u>Bay Trail North: Bracut Marsh to Samoa Blvd/255.</u>	I/II	2.5	700,000	N/A	In March, 2014, CTC approved \$842,000 STIP funds for Arcata to begin constructing the Rail-with-Trail Connectivity Project – Phase 1. Bay Trail North needs \$5.07 million for permitting, right-of-way, and construction.

Responsibility: CITY OF BLUE LAKE

5-Year Priority Projects:	Class:	Length (miles):	Cost Estimate (2012 \$):	Required Studies:	PROGRESS 2013/14
Greenwood Road from Blue Lake Blvd to Railroad Avenue	III*	0.3	625	N/A	
Annie and Mary Rail Trail Pathway from Chartin to Hatchery Road	I	1.2	337,500	CEQA Clearance, design, trail crossing design, engineering	

Responsibility: CITY OF EUREKA

5-Year Priority Projects:	Class:	Length (miles):	Cost Estimate (2012 \$):	Required Studies:	PROGRESS 2013/14
H Street/Campton Road from Harris Street to City Limits	II	0.6	46,425	N/A	
C Street from Henderson Street to Waterfront Dr.	III*	1.5	120,000	N/A	

Responsibility: CITY OF FERNDALE

5-Year Priority Projects:	Class:	Length (miles):	Cost Estimate (2012 \$):	Required Studies:	PROGRESS 2013/14
5th Street from Arlington Avenue to Ocean	III*	0.6	8,300	N/A	
Arlington Avenue from Main Street to 5 th Street	III*	0.3	4,970	N/A	

Responsibility: CITY OF FORTUNA

5-Year Priority Projects:	Class:	Length (miles):	Cost Estimate (2012 \$):	Required Studies:	PROGRESS 2013/14
Main Street from US 101 to Rohnerville Road	II	1.2	\$61,553	N/A	
Rohnerville Road from Main Street to South City Limits	II	3.3	\$165,720		Projects added to draft RTP Update 2014 — Reconstruct with bike lanes and sidewalk: (i) Newell St to Redwood Way—not funded; (ii) Redwood Way to Jordan St—\$1.04M from STIP 2014/15 funds. City of Fortuna requested and HCAOG approved asking the CTC to program \$4.55M of the STIP for FY 2014/15.

Responsibility: CITY OF RIO DELL

5-Year Priority Projects:	Class:	Length (miles):	Cost Estimate (2012 \$):	Required Studies:	PROGRESS 2013/14
Center Street Wildwood Ave. to Ireland Ave.	II	0.3	\$5,840	Feasibility analysis	Completed in 2009 as part of 2008 SR2S
School Access Trail Pathway from back of school to Davis Street	I	0.2		Feasibility analysis, ROW, design, engineering, CEQA review	Completed in 2009 as part of 2008 SR2S

City of Rio Dell cont'd

Local Project (Regional Bicycle Plan, Table 4.7.1):

Wildwood Avenue Davis Street to South City Limit (Eagle Prairie Bridge)	II	0.55	Feasibility analysis, ROW, design, engineering, CEQA review	Completed in 2013 as part of Wildwood Avenue TE Project
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Responsibility: TRINIDAD

5-Year Priority Projects:	Class:	Length (miles):	Cost Estimate (2012 \$):	Required Studies:	PROGRESS 2013/14
Main Street/Westhaven Drive East city limit to Trinity Street	III*	0.2	\$1,100	N/A	
Trinity Street From Main Street to Edwards	III*	0.2	\$1,100 (construction)	Feasibility analysis, ROW, design, engineering, CEQA review	

Responsibility: COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

5-Year Priority Projects:	Class:	Length (miles):	Cost Estimate (2012 \$):	Required Studies:	PROGRESS 2013/14
Annie and Mary Rail Trail Arcata City Limits to Blue Lake City Limits	I	3.4	\$1.2 million (based on 2004 Bike Plan's estimated cost, \$903,000)	CEQA clearance, design, engineering	Inventory and mapping of railroad deeds completed (2013/14). Next steps include legal consultation on deeds and re-visiting the 2003 Feasibility Study to identify logical segments. Estimates of construction costs need to be updated.
Eureka-Arcata Corridor (Humboldt Bay Trail East) South Waterfront Drive (Eureka) to Arcata Marsh X Street to Bracut Marsh	I	6.4	\$3,520,000 (construction)	Feasibility analysis, ROW, design, engineering, CEQA review	The California Transportation Commission approved (programmed) \$2 million STIP funds for FY 2014/15.
Hoopa Path (SR 96)	I	5.4	\$75,000	Design Study	
Central Avenue (McKinleyville) US 101 to Railroad Avenue	II	4.1	\$310,125	Feasibility analysis	DPW is currently designing (new) plans to improve ped-bike mobility, using \$800,000 in HSIP funds (federal Highway Safety Improvement Program).
Garberville-Redway Multi-Use Path Study	I	5.4	\$20,000		