

2014 2015 Annual Progress Report

–HUMBOLDT REGIONAL BICYCLE PLAN–

HCAOG adopted the current *Humboldt Regional Bicycle Plan* in August of 2012. This is the second annual progress reports since then. The Progress Report recaps each Regional Priority Program, as described in the Regional Bike Plan. It reports on progress made in fiscal year 2014/15, and lists aBAC recommendations for fiscal year 2015/16.

Each year a new ad-hoc Bicycle Advisory Committee (aBAC) directs and develops the annual progress reports. This year's aBAC members were:

- Mike Foget, City of Blue Lake
- Scott Ellsmore, City of Eureka
- Yoash Tilles, City of Ferndale
- Kevin Tucker/Lisa Hockaday, Caltrans
- Emily Sinkhorn, Natural Resource Services Division, Redwood Community Action Agency
- Melanie Williams, community member; BikesThere.com

HCAOG staff member Oona Smith facilitated the aBAC.

The aBAC approved the draft Annual Progress Report to forward to the Technical Advisory Committee and the HCAOG Board. The Board accepted this report on June 18, 2015.

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

Summary: This year most of the work implementing the Regional Bike Plan concentrated on the Regional Bicycle Parking Program (#2) and the Regional Non-Motorized Education & Outreach Program (#3). For the Bicycle Parking Program, HCAOG developed a “Bike Parking Sourcebook” and, with guidance from the aBAC, created the “Countywide Bicycle Parking Guidelines.”

For the Education & Outreach Program, HCAOG initiated two new projects this year. One created a Bicycle-Friendly Business project as part of Bike Month Humboldt 2015 events. Seventy-seven businesses in Eureka and Arcata participated. The other new project donated 32 bicycle-themed books, countywide, to branches of the Humboldt County Library system. Additionally, HCAOG and other organizations and local jurisdictions continued outreach and education projects that are ongoing and perennial, such as Bike Month Humboldt, bike rodeos, International Bike to School Day, International Walk to School Day, and Safe Routes to School programs, as well as others.

Recommendations: The aBAC recommends prioritizing these three programs in fiscal year 2015/16.

#2. Regional Bicycle Parking Program

With the completion of the “Countywide Bicycle Parking Guidelines,” the aBAC recommends disseminating the guidelines to local jurisdictions and combining those efforts with coordinating an informal survey of localized bicycling parking needs in commercial areas. The survey will help local jurisdictions prioritize where to put bike parking, strategically rather than piecemeal. This task would be accomplished through HCAOG staff planning time. *This work would be part of HCAOG staff time allocated for Work Element 10—Regional Transportation Plan Implementation in the draft “FY 2015/16 Overall Work Program & Budget” (Feb. 2015).*

#3. Regional Non-Motorized Education & Outreach Program

To continue, for a second year of funding, the library books project. The aBAC recommends allocating \$400 of HCAOG funds to purchase books (the same budget as FY 2014/15). *These funds are included in Work Element 10—Regional Transportation Plan Implementation in the draft “FY 2015/16 Overall Work Program & Budget.”*

#8. Priority Bicycle Projects for Each HCAOG Member Jurisdiction

To lend HCAOG staff time to support local jurisdictions to do bike and pedestrian counts for proposed bicycle projects. This support would be a great help to the small cities and large jurisdictions alike. The data would not only help the region prepare more competitive grant proposals, but would also help the region set up established, consistent performance measures, which the federal and state governments are endorsing—if not requiring—more and more. *This work is consistent with Work Element 10—Regional Transportation Plan Implementation; this task has been added to the draft FY 2015/16 OWP, with 30 hours of the associate planner’s time newly allocated.*

For the remaining programs, the aBAC sees HCAOG and jurisdictions “staying the course,” i.e., proceeding incrementally as resources permit, and not foreseeing implementing all programs under the current state of insufficient transportation funds.

A NOTE ON PLAN UPDATES: In the past, the State required agencies to update bicycle plans every five years in order to be eligible for grant funds from the Bicycle Transportation Account. That funding account no longer exists (since MAP-21 was passed). So far, the State has not set new rules for updating bicycle plans. When necessary, HCAOG will update the *Regional Bicycle Plan* to remain eligible for applicable grant funds.

#1 Regional Bikeway and Trails Signing Program

“Develop a signing program using ‘custom’ Caltrans-approved SG45 bike route signs in conjunction with way-finding and bicycle warning signs for the Regional Bikeway System.”

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.

Progress in 2014/15

Caltrans: Installed some new Pacific Coast Bike Route signs within the Eureka City limits.

aBAC Recommendation:

No specific action recommended.



GLOSSARY

ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act
ATP	Active Transportation Program Dept. of Health & Human Services
OTS	Office of Traffic Safety
RPA	Rural Planning Assistance
SRTS/SR2S	Safe Routes to School
STIP	Surface Transportation Improvement Program
TDA	Transportation Development Act
TIGER	Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery

#2 Regional Bicycle Parking Program

“The program consists of 3 basic components:

- o Acquire and install bicycle parking in public places;
- o Encourage local businesses to provide bicycle parking for their customers and employees;
- o Update ordinances or policies to ensure bicycle parking is provided in new developments.”

Responsibility:	HCAOG, member agencies, Caltrans District 1, local businesses, 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. It could recommend upgrades for rack designs, transit stops, etc.

Progress in 2014/15

HCAOG: HCAOG developed a “Bike Parking Sourcebook” and “Regional Bicycle Parking Guidelines” to disseminate to jurisdictions and other parties. Sharing this information will help foster more consistent standards throughout the region.

City of Eureka: The City is working with the Humboldt Bay Bicycle Commuters Assoc. to install bike racks, as available, in the Old Town commercial area. The City is also working with Humboldt Transit Authority and HCAOG on a grant (from the Office of Emergency Services) for ADA improvements at bus stops. Some bus shelters might include bike racks.

aBAC Recommendation:

The aBAC has recommended final versions of the “Regional Bicycle Parking Guidelines” to be disseminated to local jurisdictions.

For the next fiscal year, the aBAC recommends that some HCAOG staff time be dedicated to continuing to implement this program. The aBAC recommends performing an informal survey of localized parking needs, as suggested in the Regional Bicycle Plan. The survey would focus on bike parking supply and demand/need in commercial areas. The objective is to help the local jurisdictions prioritize where to add/upgrade bicycle parking. HCAOG's staff role would be as a resource coordinator, helping compile data and enlisting volunteers (e.g. bicycling advocates), as appropriate.



#3 Regional Non-Motorized Education & Outreach Program

“Coordinate efforts, appropriate for the region, to deliver consistent safety and education programs to children and adults, in order to get even more residents bicycling and walking more often.”

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.

Progress in 2014/15

HCAOG: HCAOG budgeted \$17,000 for “Active Transportation Projects” (2014/15 Overall Work Program), which includes education and outreach.

With help from Melanie Williams (BikesThere.com), HCAOG donated 32 books (3 in Spanish) to the Humboldt County Library system. The books have bike-related themes and are for early, junior, or young adult readers.

As part of the Bike Month Coalition, HCAOG initiated a Bike-Friendly Business program for Bike Month Humboldt (May 2015). Seventy-seven businesses in Eureka and Arcata participated by offering perks to customers who biked to their shops, or by donating towards Bike Month’s movie night.

County of Humboldt: The County was awarded an Active Transportation Program grant (Cycle 1) for the Redwood Mobility Education Program. The County will support SRTS after-school programs and will educate middle-school students in mobility and civic engagement.

The County received funding for the “Lafayette Remote Drop-Off” SRTS project for infrastructure improvements and for creating a remote drop-off program and a SRTS encouragement program. The project also funds educational workshops with Eureka City schools.

City of Fortuna: The City was awarded ATP (Cycle 1) funding for education and encouragement efforts for the Fortuna Elementary School District, and funding for infrastructure at Toddy Thomas Middle School.

Ongoing Bicycle Education & Encouragement:

(see 2013/14 Annual Progress Report for more details)

- Bike Month Humboldt, organized annually by the Bike Month Coalition
- Bike education in public schools & after-school programs (Winship Middle School, Alice Birney Elementary School, Loleta Boys and Girls Club, St. Joseph’s Family Resource Center Bike Club)
- International Bike to School Day
- International Walk to School Day
- Kids’ Bike Rodeos
- Kidical Mass
- Bike Bookmobile
- Community Bike Kitchen at Jefferson Community Center in Eureka
- Greater Eureka SR2S Task Force and Humboldt County SR2S Task Force

aBAC Recommendation:

The aBAC recommends continuing the library-books project, which donates bicycle-themed (or walking-themed) books to the Humboldt County Library. The books circulate among the different branches and the Book Mobile. The aBAC recommends \$400 for FY 2015/16 (the same as FY 2014/15).



#4 Regional Bicycle Guide & Map

“Keeping the *Humboldt Bay Area Bike Map* readily accessible and up-to-date are keys to maximizing its effectiveness. The map should be promoted regularly and continuously, and distributed countywide. Map marketing efforts could also be expanded.”

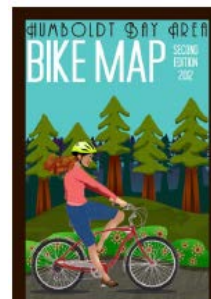
Responsibility:	HCAOG, member agencies, Caltrans District 1
Type:	Education and encouragement
Approximate Cost:	\$5,000 -\$15,000 for map update and reprints as needed.
Potential Funding Sources:	ATP, TDA, OTS, RPA, private sources
Required Actions/Studies:	None identified.

Progress in 2014/15

HCAOG: Most remaining maps were distributed in fiscal year 2013/14. Less than two boxes are left! There are no plans to reprint in the next two years.

aBAC Recommendation:

No specific action recommended.



#5 Bicycle Facility Maintenance Program

“Developing a dedicated maintenance request/response program can help to address low-cost, small-scale maintenance issues... The premise of the program would be to simply identify a staff member who could act as a clearinghouse and report to the TAC so that requests could be routed to the appropriate department.”

Responsibility:	HCAOG member agencies, Caltrans District 1
Type:	Maintenance
Approximate Cost:	To be determined
Potential Funding Sources:	General Funds, TDA
Required Actions/Studies:	None identified.

Progress in 2014/15

City of Eureka: Restriped almost all bike lanes in the city in summer 2014.

aBAC Recommendation:

No specific action recommended. (The program described in the *Regional Bicycle Plan* is basically performed locally by other means.)



#6 Regional Loop Detector Installation & Maintenance Program

“HCAOG and its member agencies should work together to ensure that all traffic signals in the region are equipped with bicycle-sensitive signal loop detectors. Primary responsibility, however, is with Caltrans, because most traffic lights in Humboldt are on State Route 101, in Caltrans jurisdiction.”

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.

Progress in 2014/15

City of Eureka: The City Installed the first “Quadrapull” loops for detecting bikes at the intersection of Myrtle and West. The City adjusts bike detectors at signals based on use and/or complaints. The City of Eureka is seeking funding for a minor contract to replace/upgrade several loop detectors.

aBAC Recommendation:

No specific action recommended.



#7 Humboldt Bay Trail: Arcata to Eureka segment

“Multi-jurisdictional support is critical to develop a long-term management and financing structure for the Bay Trail. To proceed with...phases of the project, a ‘lead agency’ will be required. A multi-jurisdictional management agreement between agencies with jurisdictional relationship to the project corridor could be brokered.”

Responsibility:	HCAOG, City of Arcata, City of Eureka, County of Humboldt, Caltrans District 1
Type:	Class I facility
Approximate Cost:	\$16 million (County estimate in 2014; includes right of way, planning, environmental studies, bridges, and construction)
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. FWS) • Identify “lead agency.” Broker a multi-jurisdictional management agreement.

agency for the South Segment; the City of Arcata is the lead agency for the North Segment. The ad-hoc 101 Corridor-Bay Trail Committee meets regularly to plan and coordinate building the trail. (HCAOG administers the Committee’s meeting notices, agendas, and minutes; regular meetings are held in the HCAOG conference room.)

aBAC Recommendation:

No specific action recommended.



Photo credit: Northcoast Journal

Progress in 2014/15

Caltrans: Added a 10-foot wide, colored shoulder for cyclists (“terra cotta”).

City of Arcata: Was awarded funding from the ATP (Cycle 1).

County of Humboldt: Completed preliminary railroad right-of-way analysis and special-status plant survey/mapping for Bay Trail South. Initiated NEPA review process. Coordinated with City of Arcata and Caltrans on design parameters. Coordinated with key adjacent landowners. Environmental and design phases have been funded through the STIP.

Jurisdictions continue to seek and secure funds. The County of Humboldt is the lead

#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 2014/15
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	Construction work began in April and will be completed October 9, 2015.
F Street 7th Street to 14th 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	
<u>Local Project (Regional Bicycle Plan, Table 4.2.1):</u>					
Humboldt Bay Trail – Arcata Segments			(2014 \$)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Rail-with-Trail Connectivity Project-Phase 1:</i> Class 1 multi-use trail from Samoa Blvd to Shay Park (Foster Avenue and Alliance Road) ▪ <i>Bay Trail North:</i> Bracut Marsh to Samoa Blvd/255. 	I/II	2.5	Bay Trail North needs \$5.07M for permitting, right-of-way, and construction.	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Construction started on Phase I in April, will be completed October 9, 2015. ▪ Bay Trail North funding secured; finalizing studies and design. Construction planned for 2016-2017.

Responsibility: CITY OF BLUE LAKE

5-Year Priority Projects:	Class:	Length (miles):	Cost Estimate (2012 \$):	Required Studies:	PROGRESS 2014/15
Greenwood Road Blue Lake Blvd to Railroad Avenue	III*	0.3	875	N/A	Submitted funding request to CTC to program in 2015/16.
Annie and Mary Rail Trail Pathway from Chartin to Hatchery Road	I	1.2	410,000	CEQA Clearance, design, trail crossing design, engineering	Conducted preliminary planning, initial assessment of trail alignments.

Responsibility: CITY OF EUREKA

5-Year Priority Projects:	Class:	Length (miles):	Cost Estimate (2012 \$):	Required Studies:	PROGRESS 2014/15
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 2014/15
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 2014/15
Main Street from US 101 to Rohnerville Road	II	1.2	\$61,553	N/A	
Rohnerville Road from Main Street to South City Limits <i>*2013/14 progress: Projects added to draft RTP Update 2014—Reconstruct with bike lanes and sidewalk: (i) Newell Street to Redwood Way—not funded; (ii) Redwood Way to Jordan Street. \$1.04M from STIP 2014/15 funds for Redwood Way to Jordan St.</i>	II	3.3	\$165,720		Extending work on Rohnerville Road one block (HSIP project): extending southern end from Jordan to School Street. Now \$1.69M from STIP.

Responsibility: CITY OF RIO DELL

5-Year Priority Projects:	Class:	Length (miles):	Required Studies:
Center Street Wildwood Ave. to Ireland Ave.	II	0.3	Completed in 2009 as part of 2008 SR2S
School Access Trail Pathway from back of school to Davis Street	I	0.2	Completed in 2009 as part of 2008 SR2S
<u>Local Project (Regional Bicycle Plan, Table 4.7.1):</u> Wildwood Avenue Davis Street to South City Limit (Eagle Prairie Bridge)	II	0.55	Completed in 2013 as part of Wildwood Avenue TE Project

Responsibility: TRINIDAD

5-Year Priority Projects:	Class:	Length (miles):	Cost Estimate (2012 \$):	Required Studies:	PROGRESS 2014/15
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 2014/15
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	
Eureka-Arcata Corridor Humboldt Bay Trail South X Street to Bracut Marsh	I	6.4	\$3,520,000 construction 2014 estimate: \$16,000,000 (\$12M based on average estimate from Project Study Report, 2015)	Feasibility analysis, ROW, design, engineering, CEQA review	
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	
Garberville-Redway Multi-Use Path Study	I	5.4	\$20,000		

Responsibility: KARUK TRIBE

5-Year Priority Projects:	Class:	Length (miles):	Cost Estimate (2011 \$):	Required Studies:	PROGRESS 2014/15
Red Cap Bikeway Red Cap Road to school/business districts	I &/or II	1.57	\$573,000	(tbd)	
Tishawnik Hill Bike Route & Trail SR 96 at Camp Creek Road to business districts	I	2.40	\$983,000	(tbd)	

Responsibility: CALTRANS-District 1

These projects are not listed in the Regional Bicycle Plan, but they included infrastructure improvements for bicyclists:

- Stafford Bridge Project** - HUM-101-R48.68/R48.87 Install tubular rail to existing bridge rail to increase safety for bicyclists
- Eel River Bridge Project, Fernbridge** - HUM-211-R77.3/78.8 Install flashing beacon to warn motorists when a bicyclist is on the bridge
- Fleisher Bridge Project** - HUM-101-R48.7/R48.9 Install bike railing
- Mad River Bridge Replacement** 10-foot shoulder both directions for bicyclists plus a northbound multi-purpose path