

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE May 24, 2024

TO Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

SUBJECT **Dallas Bike Plan Update and Upcoming Engagement Meetings**

This memorandum provides an update on the work that has occurred since the draft Dallas Bike Plan update was briefed to City Council in November 2023, and an overview of the upcoming engagement opportunities.

In the weeks leading up to and during the November 2023 briefing to City Council, it was determined that additional study and public outreach regarding the proposed bike network should take place for certain areas of the City, in addition to the citywide public outreach opportunities. Specifically, this included:

- Identifying opportunities for a parallel route to the Katy Trail in Council District 14
- Refining the on-street bicycle network at a few locations and future implementation plan in Council District 12
- Determining the best alignment to connect the Central Business District to the Santa Fe Trail through Deep Ellum in Council District 2
- Finalizing the bicycle network in and around the International District in Council District 11
- Identifying connections around University Hills Road and the University of North Texas at Dallas (UNT Dallas) campus in Council District 8

Regarding the plan document itself, it was determined that further work was needed to better define the goals, or “north star”, for bicycling in Dallas, the implementation and phasing strategies, collaboration with other City departments, and the process for amending the bike network after the plan is adopted. Additionally, it was requested that the plan identify clear milestones and department roles.

In response to this feedback, staff worked on an amendment to the contract with the consultant supporting the development of the Dallas Bike Plan update. The amendment to the contract was approved by the City Council on March 27, 2024 (Resolution No. 24-0432) and executed on April 5, 2024.

The additional scope of work includes the following tasks:

- Host additional Bicycle and Technical Advisory Committee Meetings to seek guidance on the plan goals and north star, and roles for other departments
- Conduct additional public involvement through a series of public meetings held both in-person and online in the identified council districts
- Conduct citywide engagement to finalize the overall bike network, the recommended list of the Top 15 projects, and the revised draft plan through interactive surveys and videos

Upcoming Input Opportunities for the Bike Plan Update:

From late May to mid-June, public meetings will be held to facilitate focused discussions about the bike network in several specific areas of the City:

1. Katy Trail Opportunities for an Alternate Bike Route (Council District 14)–Public Meeting: May 30, 2024, 6:00 - 7:30 PM at Electric Avenue
 - The purpose of this meeting is to identify a potential preferred alignment and bicycle facility type for a connection between the American Airlines Center and the Victory area parallel to the popular Katy Trail. This route is intended to provide a comfortable alternative for cyclists who wish to make this connection but want to avoid the crowded and slower conditions of the Katy Trail.
2. Council District 12 Bike Network Public Meeting: June 3, 2024, 7:00 - 8:30 PM, being held virtually
 - The purpose of this meeting is to present a revised strategy for the bike network in Council District 12, given uncertainties about the future operation of the roadway network due to the ongoing construction of the DART Silver Line.
3. Santa Fe Trail to Downtown Bike Connection (Council District 2) Public Meeting: June 4, 2024, 6:00 – 8:00 PM at Life in Deep Ellum
 - The purpose of this meeting is to identify the preferred alignment and bicycle facility type to connect the Santa Fe Trail, which extends into East Dallas to White Rock Lake, through Deep Ellum, to the existing on-street bicycle facilities in Downtown.
4. International District Area Bike Network (District 11) Public Meeting: June 5, 2024, 6:00 - 7:30 PM at Churchill Recreation Center
 - The purpose of this meeting is to identify the preferred alignment and bicycle facility type for connections in and around the International District.
5. Council District 8 / UNT Dallas, University Hills, and Red Bird Area Bike Network: June 6, 2024, 6:00 - 7:30 PM at Polk-Wisdom Branch Library
 - The purpose of this meeting is to identify the preferred location of bicycle facilities and bicycle facility types between the UNT Dallas campus, the UNT Dallas DART Station, and the University Hills Neighborhood.

The project team requests City Council Members’ and the community’s help with getting the word out to residents and businesses about these input opportunities. Image files of the social media graphics and flyers promoting the meetings will be provided to the City Council offices via email.

The input gathered during these meetings will be used to refine the draft bike network. In addition to the public meetings listed above, the plan’s steering committees will reconvene. Feedback from the public meetings and from the steering committees will be incorporated into the draft Dallas Bike Plan before the plan is brought back to the public for final review and public comment in Summer 2024. It is expected that the revised draft plan will address the questions around the “north star” for bicycling in Dallas, provide

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greater clarification around the implementation and phasing plan, define an amendment process, and define the tools for measuring the implementation of the Dallas Bike Plan. It is anticipated that the final revised draft plan will be brought to City Council for approval in early 2025.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Ghassan “Gus” Khankarli, PhD, PE, PMP, CLTD, Director of the Department of Transportation, at ghassan.khankarli@dallas.gov.



Majed A. Al-Ghafry, P.E.
Assistant City Manager

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| Tammy Palomino, City Attorney | Dr. Robert Perez, Assistant City Manager |
| Mark Swann, City Auditor | Donzell Gipson, Assistant City Manager (I) |
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