Regional Connectivity through Trails – Southeastern Massachusetts

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Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District (SRPEDD)
What is SRPEDD?

• Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District

• Staff to the Southeastern Massachusetts Metropolitan Planning Organization (SMMPO)

• Regional Planning Agency covering 27 communities in southeastern Massachusetts

• Our region is a mix of urban, suburban and rural landscapes with a population of over 600,000 in 808 square miles.
Regional Network - Completed

Legend
Bike Facility Status
- Complete
- Under Construction

Road Classification
- Interstate Highway
- Principal Arterial
- Collector/Arterial

Source: 2015 SMMPO Regional Bicycle Plan
Regional Network - Proposed

Legend

Bike Facility Status
- Existing Class 1 (Off Road/Path)
- Existing Class 2 (Lanes)
- Existing Class 3 (Sharrows/Signage)
- Proposed Class 1 (Off Road/Path)
- Proposed Class 2 (Lanes)
- Proposed Class 3 (Sharrows/Signage)

Road Classification
- Interstate Highway
- Principal Arterial
- Collector/Arterial

Source: 2015 SMMPO
Regional Bicycle Plan
The South Coast Bikeway

• The South Coast Bikeway, once realized, will be a 50-mile continuous system of separate use paths and bicycle lanes that will connect Rhode Island to Cape Cod.

• Includes: Swansea, Somerset, Fall River, Westport, Dartmouth, New Bedford, Fairhaven, Mattapoisett, Marion and Wareham.

• The South Coast Bikeway was designated as part of an East Coast Greenway route from Providence to Provincetown in 2011.

• Regional Priority - 2016 Regional Transportation Plan

• Portions included in the Bay State Greenway Plan
The South Coast Bikeway

Legend
- South Coast Bikeway
- Existing Class 1 (Off Road)
- Existing Class 2 (Lanes)
- Existing Class 3 (Signage/Sharrows)
- Proposed Class 1 (Off Road)
- Proposed Class 2 (Lanes)
- Proposed Class 3 (Signage/Sharrows)
The South Coast Bikeway Alliance

• The South Coast Bikeway Alliance is a non-profit organization that works with local leaders and organizations to advocate for and build the networks of bikeways throughout the South Coast region.

• Representatives from each South Coast Bikeway community plus representatives from UMass Dartmouth, the YMCA South Coast/Voices for a Healthy South Coast, and Mass in Motion Fall River and New Bedford

• Main goals:
  • Develop a bikeway network connecting the South Coast communities.
  • Develop a wide support network for bikeway initiatives in the South Coast region
  • Share information and experiences regarding the bikeway development process.
  • Advocate for bicycle and pedestrian facilities at all levels of government.
  • Organize events that promote awareness of bicycling and walking.
Figure 17: Proposed South Coast Bikeway Routing Options
## BIKE WAY STATUS

**New opportunities identified for off road connecting trails**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community</th>
<th>Wareham</th>
<th>Marion</th>
<th>Mattapoisett</th>
<th>Fairhaven</th>
<th>New Bedford**</th>
<th>Dartmouth**</th>
<th>Westport**</th>
<th>Fall River**</th>
<th>Somerset</th>
<th>Swansea</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COMPLETE</td>
<td>12 miles</td>
<td>4 miles</td>
<td>4.5 miles</td>
<td>4.5 miles</td>
<td>5.2 M</td>
<td>7 M</td>
<td>2.05</td>
<td>5.61</td>
<td>Veteran's</td>
<td>3 M</td>
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<tr>
<td>23.9m</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Harbor Path; Cove Path; Route-6/18 connection</td>
<td>Chase &amp; Westport Rds bike lane</td>
<td>MassDOT</td>
<td>Memorial Bridge MassDOT</td>
<td>On and Off road Town and MassDOT</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PROGRESS</td>
<td>9.1 M</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Town and MassDOT</td>
<td>MassDOT</td>
<td>Padanaram Ave</td>
<td>Route 79 &amp; Down Town routing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.73m</td>
<td>Minot Ave</td>
<td>3.84 m</td>
<td>1.25m</td>
<td>.32m</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Town and MassDOT</td>
<td>Town, MassDOT Friends</td>
<td>Padanaram Ave</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRE-PROJECT PLANNING</td>
<td>10.44</td>
<td>1.33</td>
<td>2.25 M</td>
<td>.56</td>
<td>Route 6 Bridge Cove walk to Dartmouth</td>
<td>5.6 M Multiple</td>
<td>8.49 Rail bed + multiple roads 7.47 alt</td>
<td>1.83 Read Road To Brayton Ave</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Multiple Projects</td>
<td>County Road</td>
<td>Multiple projects</td>
<td>Main Rd Bike Lane</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*The Northern route is an emerging proposal. CAN YOU AND YOUR ORGANIZATION HELP TO REALIZE IT?*
Challenges
• Diversity of the Region
• Land/ROW Ownership
• Jurisdiction
• “Buy-in” from leadership
• Design standards
• Public Opinion

Opportunities
• Diversity of the Region
• Economic Impact
• Potential for utility and recreation
• Partnerships
• Flexibility
Recent Activity

Pedal for the Path
Sunday, September 16
The Taunton River Trail

Source: www.tauntonpathways.org
The Taunton River Trail

• The proposed Taunton River Trail will be a 22+ mile continuous network of off-road multi-use paths and on-road bike lanes that will connect the communities of Taunton, Dighton, and Somerset along the Taunton River.

• Once complete, it will also intersect with the South Coast Bikeway at the Veterans Memorial Bridge in Somerset/Fall River.

• Potential to connect to the Mansfield MBTA Commuter Rail Station through the extension of the Mansfield WWII Trail through Norton (TIP 2021).

• The Taunton River is designated as a Federal Wild and Scenic River.
Taunton Pathways Committee/ Friends of the Taunton Pathway

- The Taunton Pathways Committee, was appointed by Mayor Thomas C. Hoye, Jr. and confirmed by the Taunton City Council on January 31, 2017 in accordance with the City's 2015 Open Space Plan. https://www.taunton-ma.gov/pathways-committee

- The Friends of the Taunton Pathways, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization created to aid the mission and goals of the Taunton Pathways Committee.
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