

8.0 Conclusion

The Tysons Corner Bicycle Master Plan provides a strategic approach for making bicycle travel a viable transportation alternative, and for expanding upon the vision outlined in the Tysons Corner Urban Center Amendment to the Fairfax County Comprehensive Plan. The Plan describes how bicycle facility planning, design and construction will be integrated into ongoing and planned road and transit improvements and private sector development.

A interconnected on and off-road bicycle network and high-quality bike parking will support and reinforce transit use and emerging transportation and land use patterns in Tysons Corner. It will enlarge the catchment area for the Metrorail stations. In so doing, it will enable public agencies to maximize the return on their investment in the Silver Line. The detailed policy recommendations will improve agency and private sector coordination and the program recommendations will foster the development of a bike culture in Tysons Corner.

As these changes occur, residents, employers, employees, and visitors will enjoy a range of direct and indirect benefits, including:

Traveling by Bicycle. Full implementation of the Plan will result in an additional 85 miles of on-road bicycle facilities by 2030. The 44 miles of new bike lanes, buffered lanes, climbing lanes and cycle tracks will nearly triple the amount of on-road bicycle facilities in Tysons today. These facilities will improve connections to and from the W&OD trail and enhance connectivity throughout Tysons.

Traveling by Transit. The Plan creates safe and direct links from residential communities to and from the Metrorail stations, and from Metrorail stations to employment centers and other destinations throughout Tysons Corner. This will be especially critical given that no motor vehicle parking will be provided at the four new Metrorail stations in Tysons.

Traveling by Automobile. The recommendations in this Plan carefully consider potential impacts to automobile mobility. The majority of actions recommended will not diminish motor vehicle capacity on a roadway. Moreover, the Comprehensive Plan Amendment calls for revised expectations regarding motor vehicle level of service from the typical LOS B-F for suburban areas, to the typical LOS E for downtown settings.

Safety. It is difficult to travel by bicycle today in Tysons. The four implementation phases of the Plan, in coordination with the implementation of the Fairfax County Comprehensive plan, will improve Tysons Corner from a “car only” environment to a true bicycle and pedestrian friendly urban place with a variety of multimodal transportation options. This will make it safer and more comfortable for all transportation modes.

Air Quality. The bicycle facilities, programs and policies recommended in this plan are expected to result in increased levels of bicycling, with some of these new bicycle trips

replacing vehicle trips. This mode shift will help reduce congestion and associated road maintenance costs, contribute to goals of reducing energy consumption and improve air quality. This will benefit bicyclists and non-bicyclists alike.

Given the pace and scale of change that is coming to Tysons, there is a momentous opportunity to transform the area into a more livable place. A connected bicycle network and a vibrant bike culture will make an important contribution to this change. The Tysons Corner Urban Center Amendment provides the vision for the future of Tysons Corner. This Plan builds on the vision, providing specific recommendations for physical improvements and a strategic phased implementation plan.

The successful implementation of this Plan will require a sustained commitment to integrating bicycle needs into ongoing and planned projects. This commitment will be demonstrated by planning and design decisions, both small and large, made over time. It will require coordination between the public and private sector, as well significant investments of time, resources, and money from all stakeholders. These investments are hugely cost efficient, as they will contribute to sustained economic growth in Tysons Corner and will make Tysons Corner a place where “People are engaged in their surroundings and a place where people want to be.”