



ACTIVE FAIRFAX

Vision, Goals, and Objectives

DRAFT AUGUST 2021



DRAFT Vision Statement

Fairfax County streets, sidewalks, bikeways and trails are welcoming places where people of diverse races, cultures, incomes, ages and abilities feel comfortable using active transportation to safely and conveniently access the widest range of destinations and to exercise, relax or spend time outdoors. Active transportation is any human-powered mode of transportation, such as walking, bicycling or riding a scooter.

Framework

The ActiveFairfax Plan introduces a framework for advancing active transportation that includes an overarching vision statement, goals, objectives, action items, and evaluation metric. The outline below provides an overview of the organizing framework.

Vision Statement

A concise and inspirational statement that describes the current and future of active transportation in Fairfax County. The vision statement will be used as a guide to help Fairfax County make decisions that align with its philosophy and declared set of goals.



Goals



Desired result that Fairfax County and its partners envision, plan, and commit to achieve within a target timeline. Developed using goals and objectives from previous planning efforts and initiatives.



Objectives

Broad statements of work related to attainment of goals.



Action Items*

Specific statements of work related to accomplishment of objectives.



Evaluation Metrics*

Specific amounts of progress related to accomplishing the goals.

**These items will be developed in a later phase of the project.*

What are Complete Streets?

Complete Streets balance the needs of all users and create places that are inviting, safe, and pleasant to experience. This is done by matching the infrastructure with community needs through amenities such as wide sidewalks, protected bike lanes, and parallel parking, as well as placemaking features such as trees, lighting, public art, and wayfinding. The amenities and features is dependent on the character of the neighborhood and the needs of the community.

The graphic below describes the space allocation for different modes of transportation on an example street. The design of each street will vary and be sensitive to the surrounding land use context.



Incorporating Public Feedback

What We Did...

Public engagement is critical for the development of the vision for ActiveFairfax to shape the future of transportation in Fairfax County. This engagement process allowed for voices to be heard through the following methods:



1,474

Virtual community surveys



1,217

Comments on virtual Barrier + Destination Feedback Map



537

Comments on virtual Planned Trail + Bikeway Network + Complete Streets Map



12

Virtual community conversations

What We Heard...

County residents and stakeholders left comments regarding access, connectivity, safety, comfort, livability, health, equity, and social justice. When asked, "In one word, what is your vision for active travel?," residents and stakeholders responded with the following:

Lighting Plazas Crossings
Sidewalks Transit Education
More E-mobility Share Options Traffic Calming
Parks **Connectivity** Places to Rest
Enforcement Trails Trees
Bike Lanes Wayfinding
Safety Bike Parking

A full report summarizing what we heard about active transportation in Fairfax County today is available here: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/transportation/bike-walk/activefairfax>



GOAL 1: ACCESS + CONNECTIVITY

Goal Statement: Provide a well-connected, multimodal transportation network that offers safe, convenient, healthy, sustainable and affordable mobility options for Fairfax County.

Access + Connectivity Objectives

Objective 1.1: Plan, implement and maintain a comprehensive, connected and efficient network of comfortable, safe and inviting sidewalks, bikeways, trails and Complete Streets that link neighborhoods and commercial areas, and provide convenient access to the widest range of destinations.

Objective 1.2: Develop and prioritize strategies to accelerate active transportation project funding, design and implementation, and make projects more cost-effective without reducing quality.

Objective 1.3: Prioritize active transportation needs in all County capital improvement projects and throughout all phases of public and private development.

Objective 1.4: Reduce travel distances by implementing best practices in land use planning and seek ways to shorten active transportation trips.

Objective 1.5: Monitor new trends and technologies and update standards to encourage their use.





GOAL 2: SAFETY + COMFORT

Goal Statement: Increase active transportation user safety and comfort.

Safety + Comfort Objectives

Objective 2.1: Develop and implement policies and programs that focus on minimizing traffic injuries and fatalities with a focus on active transportation users, monitor effectiveness and update as needed.

Objective 2.2: Pursue policies and incentives that reduce vehicle trips and vehicle travel speeds.

Objective 2.3: Apply design solutions that reduce conflicts for all roads users, and prioritize the safety of active transportation users.

Objective 2.4: Monitor crash factors and provide targeted multi-modal education on transportation safety best practices.

Objective 2.5: Ensure regular maintenance of sidewalks, bikeways, trails to enhance user experience, safety and comfort.



GOAL 3: LIVABILITY + HEALTH

Goal Statement: Advance public health, sustainability and the quality of life by providing inviting sidewalks, bikeways and trails that encourage frequent usage.

Livability + Health Objectives

Objective 3.1: Apply best practices in Complete Streets design, including wider sidewalks, bicycle facilities serving all ages and abilities, narrower streets, lower design speeds and supporting amenities.

Objective 3.2: Follow best practices in environmental stewardship during planning, design and construction of active transportation facilities in or near environmentally sensitive areas and habitats.

Objective 3.3: Apply best practices in techniques to reduce speeds in both residential and commercial areas.

Objective 3.4: Provide a variety of educational and promotional programs and events to boost the use of active transportation modes, facilities and programs.





GOAL 4: EQUITY + SOCIAL JUSTICE

Goal Statement: Provide a multi-modal transportation system that prioritizes the needs of the most vulnerable road users including communities of color, low-income communities, small children and their caregivers, youth, people with disabilities, and older adults.

Equity + Social Justice Objectives

Objective 4.1: Adhere to the OneFairfax Policy when developing, implementing and evaluating active transportation policies, programs, facilities, and practices. Equity is defined as the commitment to promote fairness and justice in the formation of public policy that results in all residents— regardless of age, race, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, national origin, marital status, disability, socio-economic status or neighborhood of residence or other characteristics— having the opportunity to fully participate in the region's economic vitality, contribute to its readiness for the future, and connect to its assets and resources.

Objective 4.2: Apply best practices in inclusive public engagement to adequately determine the active transportation needs of the full spectrum of users.

Objective 4.3: Prioritize the needs of active transportation users in the funding, planning, designing, constructing and maintaining of all transportation facilities to provide equitable access to affordable, safe, comfortable and convenient mobility options and recreational opportunities.



August 2021

Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FCDOT) ensures nondiscrimination in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). To request this information in an alternate format, contact FCDOT at 703-877-5600, TTY 711.