

Challenges

Potential Strategies



1 Texas cities are rapidly growing, increasing traffic congestion.

- ✓ Build more sidewalks, bikeways, and trails.
- ✓ Identify key active transportation connections with existing and future transit investments.
- ✓ Support development patterns that reduce trip lengths so that more travel can be accomplished through walking and biking.

2 Current funding for active transportation doesn't cover demand and need.

- ✓ Increase funding for active transportation.
- ✓ Further integrate active transportation in existing transportation funding programs.
- ✓ Consider the need for active transportation enhancements during maintenance activities.
- ✓ Promote partnerships to amplify public and private funding support.

3 Pedestrians and bicyclists are disproportionately represented in roadway fatalities.

- ✓ Prioritize vulnerable road users such as bicyclists and pedestrians in roadway design.
- ✓ Maximize physical separation of pedestrians and bicyclists from auto travel.
- ✓ Expand investments in safe intersection and crossing designs.
- ✓ Evaluate posted speeds to prioritize vulnerable user safety at potential risk areas.
- ✓ Invest in travel safety education and enforcement.

4 Confusion about rules of the road.

- ✓ Clarify regulations through effective signage.
- ✓ Invest in driver education related to active transportation.
- ✓ Promote awareness through public information materials and campaigns.
- ✓ Support training and education of new and young riders through local bike rodeos.

5 Many of Texas' active transportation routes are not comfortable for all users.

- ✓ Build more sidewalks, bikeways, and trails.
- ✓ Develop strategies to enhance lighting to improve bicyclist and pedestrian visibility.
- ✓ Perform regular maintenance and sweeping to ensure passable and smooth surfaces.
- ✓ Evaluate posted speeds based on roadway usage and surrounding context.
- ✓ Maximize physical separation of pedestrians and bicyclists from auto travel.

6 Limited space (ROW) can lead to less than optimum active transportation designs.

- ✓ Develop design guidance for space-constrained corridors.
- ✓ Evaluate posted speeds to prioritize vulnerable user safety at potential risk areas.
- ✓ Prioritize key active transportation corridors to optimize safety and connectivity.

7 Emerging design techniques and technologies have not been integrated to their fullest extent.

- ✓ Provide active transportation design training opportunities.
- ✓ Invest in pilot projects to test the effectiveness of emerging practices and technologies in both rural and urban contexts.

8 Active transportation is not considered in every planning and design process.

- ✓ Strengthen active transportation considerations in existing project development processes.
- ✓ Provide active transportation design training opportunities.
- ✓ Monitor progress and report results.

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Lack of sufficient travel options to accommodate local community needs.

- ✓ Build more sidewalks, bikeways, and trails.
- ✓ Develop and implement projects that spur local investment in underserved communities.
- ✓ Prioritize projects that have strong community support.

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Lack of a statewide network for long distance active transportation.

- ✓ Identify a statewide active transportation priority network (PIN), including the establishment of routes on the U.S. Bicycle Route System (USBRS).
- ✓ Partner with local and regional agencies on funding and construction of a statewide active transportation network.

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Physical barriers limit access to key destinations, especially for people with disabilities.

- ✓ Prioritize projects that overcome barriers to active transportation with a focus on connecting to areas of rapid economic growth.
- ✓ Develop design guidance for space-constrained corridors to achieve key connections.
- ✓ Develop innovative design examples to overcome barriers.

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Limited active transportation connections to other modes such as transit facilities.

- ✓ Identify key active transportation connections with existing and future transit facilities.
- ✓ Promote transit-supportive roadway designs that include active transportation elements.

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Lack of multimodal connections and amenities serving ports of entry.

- ✓ Construct active transportation connections to transit hubs and parking areas near ports-of-entry.

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Many existing active transportation facilities are not well-maintained.

- ✓ Maintain state of good repair to ensure active transportation facilities are useable.
- ✓ Establish a funding mechanism for the maintenance and upkeep of active transportation facilities statewide.

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The economic impact of active transportation is not universally understood.

- ✓ Research the role of active transportation as an economic development tool.
- ✓ Identify and measure the impacts of active transportation to the economy.

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Lack of coordination between land use planning and active transportation implementation.

- ✓ Support development patterns that reduce trip lengths so that more travel can be accomplished through walking and biking.
- ✓ Partner with governmental entities and businesses to identify priority improvements.
- ✓ Promote inter-jurisdictional collaboration to design infrastructure that facilitates a safe, consistent travel experience.
- ✓ Continue to partner and participate in the creation of local and regional active transportation planning.