

Jeffersonville Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan Implementation



SUMMARY

The Indiana State Department of Health Division of Nutrition and Physical Activity (DNPA) provided a planning grant to the City of Jeffersonville to prepare the city's first bicycle and pedestrian master plan that was adopted in 2013. The plan included recommendations for more than \$34 million in infrastructure improvements supporting bicycling and walking along with policy and program recommendations. The planning grant enabled the city to hire a team of consultants to assist them with the development and adoption of the plan.



CHALLENGE

Prior to the plan adoption, Jeffersonville lacked an overall vision for creating a more active community. The Clark County seat (on the Ohio River across from Louisville, Kentucky) had a population of 47,124 (2016) but did not contain basic active-living amenities and had infrastructure issues that limited active living. Approximately 33% of Clark County adults experienced obesity and 30% of adult Clark County residents reported no leisure-time physical activity in the past month, according to the 2017 County Health Ranking and Roadmaps. Physical activity can lower the risk of early death, heart disease, type 2 diabetes and some cancers. Physical activity also can help manage many chronic diseases, yet communities like Jeffersonville struggle with educating residents and putting environmental changes into action to support physical activity such as biking or walking.

YOUR INVOLVEMENT IS KEY

For more information about Jeffersonville's Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan, visit the city's website at <https://cityofjeff.net/bicycle-and-pedestrian-master-plan-presented/>.

More information about DNPA can be found at <http://www.dnpa.isdh.in.gov>. This project is supported by the State Public Health Actions to Prevent and Control Diabetes, Heart Disease, Obesity, and Associated Risk Factors and Promote School Health cooperative agreement (DP13-1305).

"Developing a network of bicycle and pedestrian paths expands the potential, the livability and the attraction of the region and potential investment. Younger generations, in particular, are very interested in facilities like this. It's a really important investment; it's beyond transportation and includes a health factor as well."

- Steve Sizemore
University of Louisville

Contact

Pete Fritz, AICP, RLA
Indiana State Department of Health
Division of Nutrition and Physical Activity

2 N. Meridian St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Phone: 317-234-6808
Email: pefritz@isdh.in.gov
Website: <http://www.dnpa.isdh.in.gov>

SOLUTION

The Jeffersonville planning director and staff of the city's Planning Department put into motion a process that led to the creation of an advisory committee for the plan. The committee acted as a sounding board for the consultant team, providing valuable input on the recommendations of the plan. The city conducted numerous public workshops as part of the planning process in an effort to determine the public's desires for bicycle and pedestrian networks. The plan also included an in-depth inventory and analysis of the existing bicycle and pedestrian network along with recommendations for short-term and long-term improvements. The plan was adopted by the City Council in early 2013. Adoption of the plan was only the beginning of Jeffersonville's vision for the future of bicycling and walking in the region, though. The city has launched a number of infrastructure improvements and programs that support active living since the plan was adopted.

RESULTS

The adopted Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan included more than \$34 million in bicycle and pedestrian improvements in the city. Since the adoption of the plan, the city has opened the Big Four Pedestrian Bridge, a new bicycle and pedestrian bridge over the Ohio River that connects downtown Louisville and downtown Jeffersonville. It averages 1.5 million visitors per year. The city also has leveraged the recommendations of the plan to create a unified vision of bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure through the downtown, linking to the riverfront and the Big Four Bridge and park. New pedestrian crosswalks have been constructed in the downtown.

U.S. Department of Health and Human
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Contact CDC

<http://www.cdc.gov/cdc-info/requestform.html>

Website

<http://nccd.cdc.gov/nccdsuccessstories/>

The findings and conclusions in this success story are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official position of the funding agencies or the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

SUSTAINING SUCCESS

Change is occurring in Jeffersonville that will ensure long-term sustainability of their bicycle and pedestrian accommodation efforts. The City has budgeted \$150,000 to bring a bike share program to the city, expanding on the very successful Louisville bikeshare program. The recently adopted Spring Street Master Plan includes numerous bicycle and pedestrian improvements outlined in the 2013 plan. Jeffersonville is committed to implementing more bike lanes in the coming years as well.



Indiana State
Department of Health