

Approved Goals for Non-Motorized Trail Plan & Suggested Amendments

Charge: Consider how new goal of water access and water trails can be incorporated

Goal #1: Develop a comprehensive, high-quality non-motorized transportation system in Island County in order to:

- Encourage and support the development of on- and off-street facilities for non-motorized travel, including such as new and existing trails (including water trails), designated bikeways, public beach access, and the public road system, that serve and connect communities and destinations throughout the county.
- Ensure that facilities are designed, built, and maintained to an appropriate standard in order to accommodate safe and efficient non-motorized travel that meets the needs of users.

Goal #2: Develop an expanded, high-quality recreational trails system in Island County that:

- Encourages and supports the development of recreational trails, and where appropriate, trailheads, parking, signing, sanitation, visitor amenities, and related facilities that can equitably serve communities and destinations throughout the county.
- Ensures that trail facilities are built and maintained to an appropriate standard utilizing low-impact and low-maintenance design, while accommodating safe and efficient use by a variety of user groups.
- Accommodates the needs of the physically disadvantaged through the application of universal design techniques at trailheads and along trails that are best suited to such use.

Goal #3: Encourage public use and enjoyment of non-motorized transportation facilities and recreational trails in order to:

- Help develop and support educational efforts that encourage non-motorized travel as a cost-efficient, environmentally friendly, and sustainable alternative to motorized travel.
- Be responsive to the public's desire for new and enhanced trail-based recreation opportunities in urban, suburban, rural, and wildland environments, and serving a diversity of users.
- Promote the development of facilities that are aesthetically pleasing and complementary to their natural surroundings.
- Encourage volunteer efforts, cooperative programs, and public-private partnerships in the development, improvement, and maintenance of trails and related facilities.
- Provide, where appropriate, for the posting and enforcement of rules and regulations that apply to trails, water activities and public roads in order to enhance public safety, reduce conflicts, and ensure adequate protection of private property, public facilities, and the natural environment.
- Help build awareness among motorists of the rights and responsibilities of both motorists and cyclists and the importance of "sharing the road."
- Promote community and school-based educational programs that teach or encourage safe bicycling for all riders, including the importance of wearing helmets.
- Support the production of trail and non-motorized travel maps and information in the form of brochures, visitor kiosks, websites, signs, or other means.

Goal #4: Ensure that sufficient local resources, including staff support and funding, are provided to implement the recommendations of this plan over the next five to twenty years, specifically by:

- Dedicating staff and local resources while actively pursuing state and federal grant funding necessary to develop trails, bikeways, trailheads, and related facilities as outlined in this plan.
- Establishing an ongoing, multi-agency coordinating committee to assist with the management of resources, project selection and priorities, property or easement acquisitions, community outreach, volunteer support, as well as the actual development or improvement of recommended facilities.
- Carefully integrating the implementation of this plan with related planning, funding, permitting, development, and maintenance programs administered by the Island County public works, parks, planning, and/or community development departments. Specifically, priority projects recommended in this plan should be identified in the county's (or in some cases, a city's) transportation improvement program, capital facilities plan, and/or comprehensive plan.
- Facilitating adjustments to the plan's recommendations or priorities in response to new or unique opportunities, emerging needs, or other changed circumstances.