

TXDOT STATEWIDE BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN PROGRAM

TxDOT-PTN Bicycle and Pedestrian Program Overview

Bicycle Advisory Committee

- Strategic Direction Report

Funding

- FHWA Transportation Alternatives
- Safe Routes to Schools - infrastructure

Planning

- TxDOT's Bicycle Tourism Trails Study
- Inventory of bikeways on state-maintained ROW

Research

- Bicycle/pedestrian count program
- Crowd-sourced bicycle/pedestrian counts
- Economic Impact of Bicycling in Texas

Education

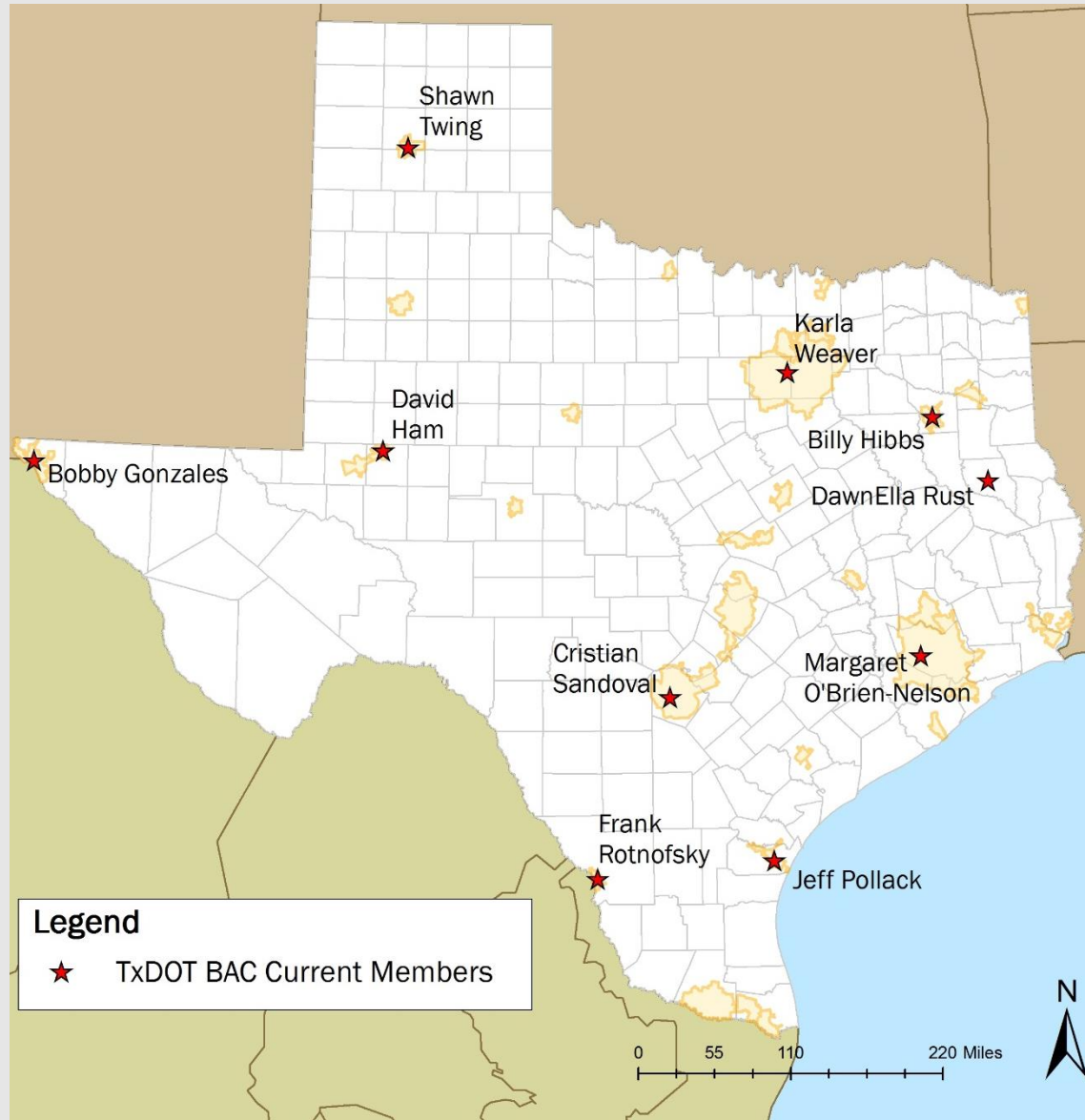
- Bicycle Safety Guide
- Handle-bar hanger

TxDOT Bicycle Advisory Committee

- 11-person, voluntary panel
- 3-year staggered terms (new term begins Fall 2018)
- Selected by Texas Transportation Commission
- Geographically and professionally diverse
- Responsibilities:
 - Represents bicyclists' perspectives
 - Advises TxDOT on policies affecting bicycle use
 - Participates in bicycling initiatives:
 - Strategic Direction Report
 - BikeStripe
 - Bicycle Tourism Trails Study

**Applications due
each June.**

TxDOT Bicycle Advisory Committee Membership



2015 Strategic Direction Report for TxDOT Bicycle Program

Focus Areas



Expand the bikeway network



Build safer and better bicycle and pedestrian accommodations



Provide training for engineers, planners and construction staff



Educate the public on safe driving, bicycling and walking



Encourage people to walk and bicycle



Develop statewide management systems for bicycle and pedestrian information



Fund more bicycle and pedestrian projects

<https://www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/modes-of-travel/bicycle/plan-design/strategic.html>

Summary of TxDOT Transportation Alternatives (TA) Funding

TxDOT-Administered TA Funding

Federal Funds Available (2013 - 2020)

- **\$52M Nonurban** - Population areas of 5,000 or less
- **\$52M Small Urban** - Population areas of 5,001 to 200,000
- Past Calls for Projects in **2015 and 2017**
- **\$93M** awarded to 91 projects

Call for Projects Typical Schedule:

- **Spring:** Program Call Opens
 - Program guide, nomination form, and website
 - Informational workshops statewide
- **Summer:** Project Evaluation
 - Technical Standards, Benefit Criteria, Project Budget
- **Fall:** Commission Action to Select Projects

**Call for Projects
coming in 2019!**

<https://www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/division/public-transportation/bicycle-pedestrian.html>

TxDOT-PTN 2019 Call-for-Projects

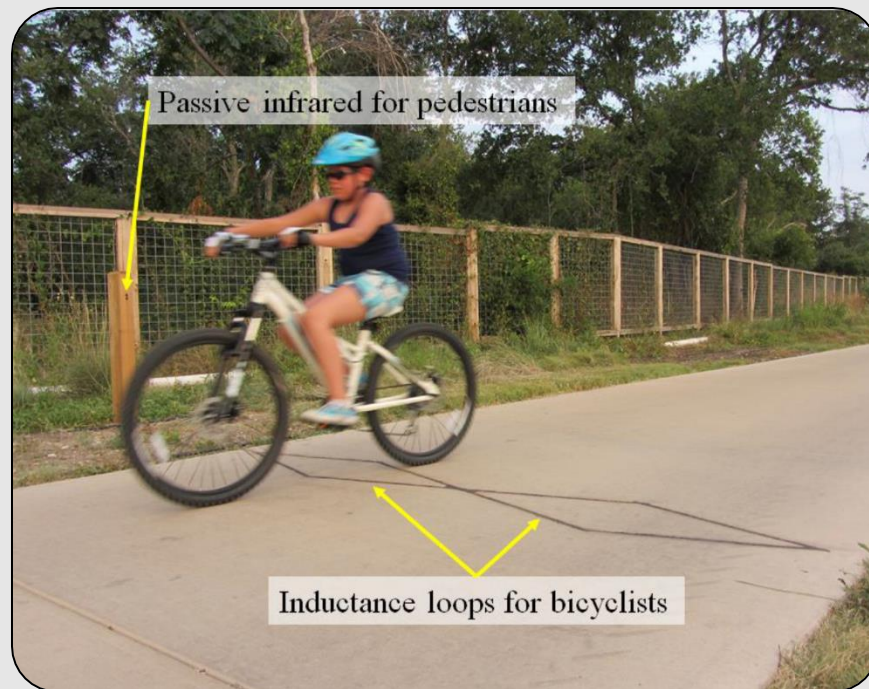
Program	Location	Population Size	Local Match	Eligible Activities	Funding
SRTS Infrastructure	<2 miles from schools (K-8)	Any	0%	Planning, Design, & Construction	~\$8.7M
Transportation Alternatives (TA) Program	Nonurban/rural areas	<5,000	20%	Construction*	~\$10.6M

Conditional project approval for anticipated future TA funding for communities of 200,000 or less!



B/P Count Monitoring Research: Scope of Work

- Recommend bicycle/pedestrian count equipment and installation practices
- Provide statewide seasonal adjustment factors for short-term (7-day) counts
- Provide equations to extrapolate Strava data
- Establish a consolidated statewide bicycle/pedestrian count database
- Standardize statewide data collection attributes



Support safer bicyclist and pedestrian facilities with more accurate counts!

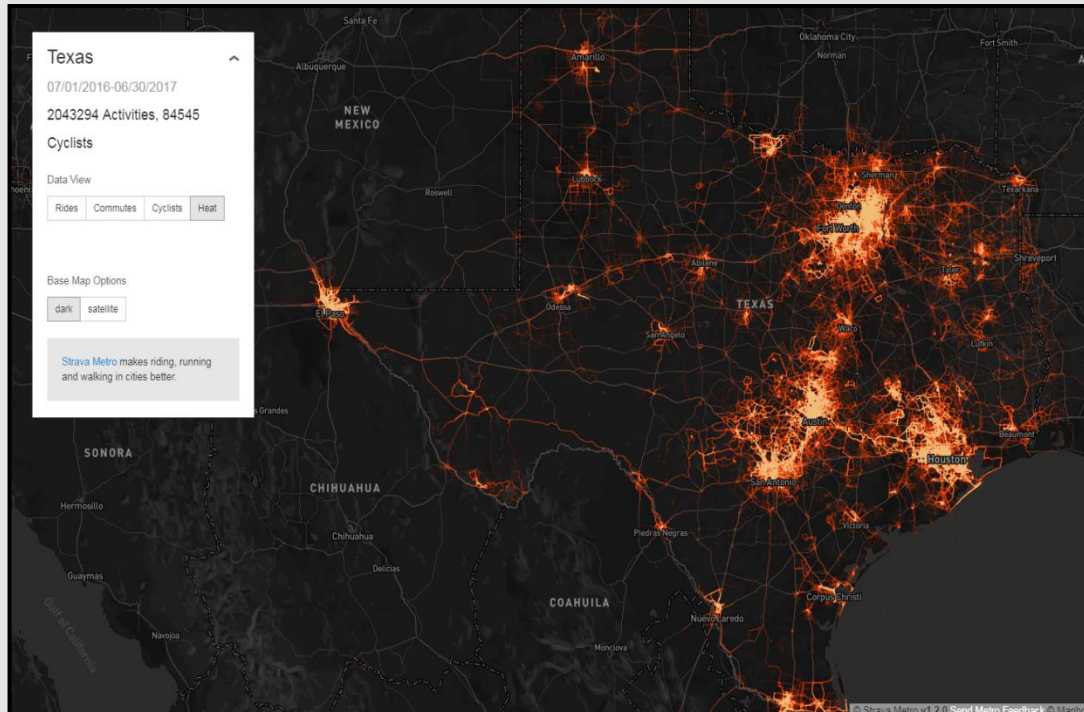
Strava Data

Overview:

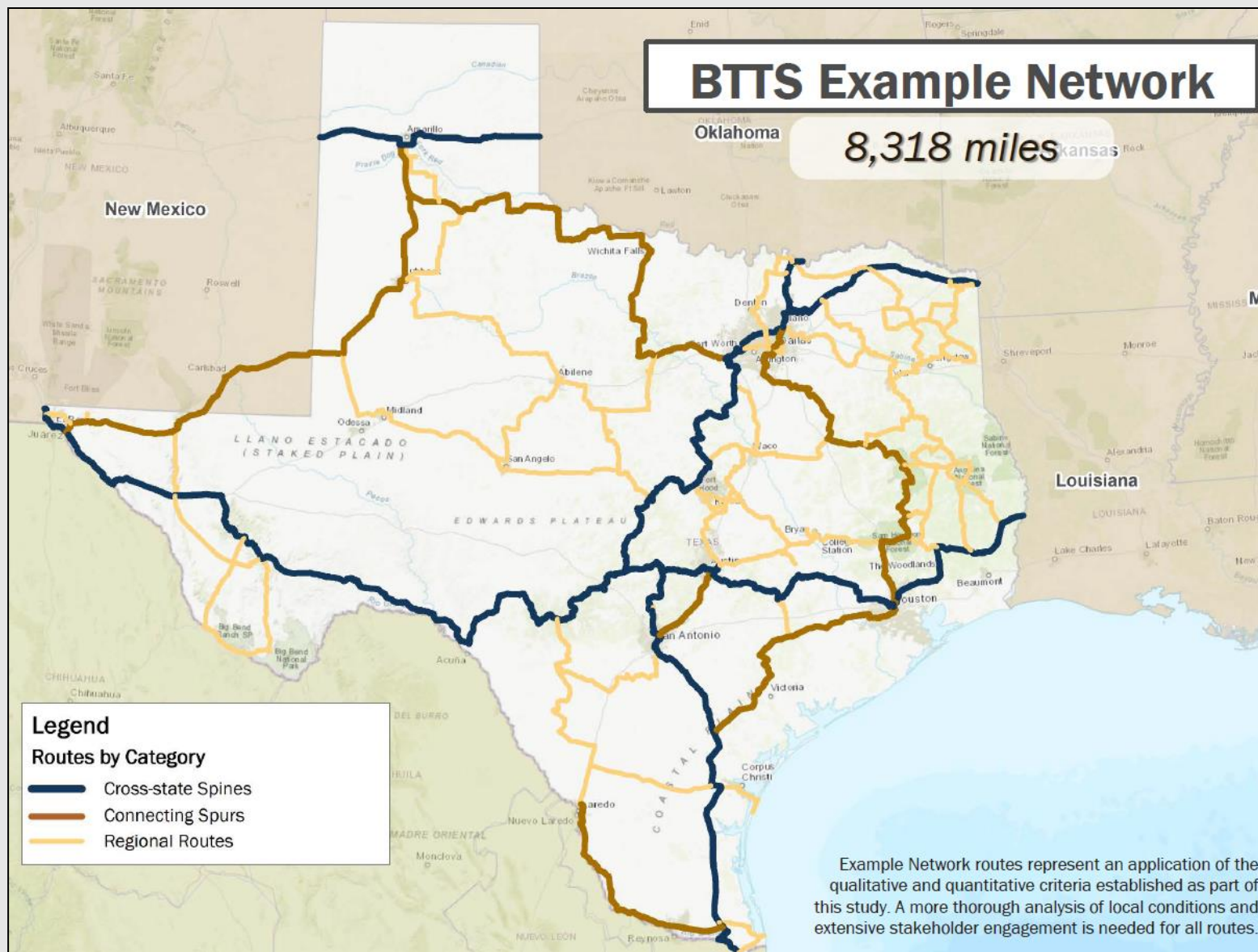
- TxDOT-PTN acquired 4 years of statewide Strava data
- Crowd-sourced data collected by bicyclists and runners using smartphone app

Strava Data Access/Usage:

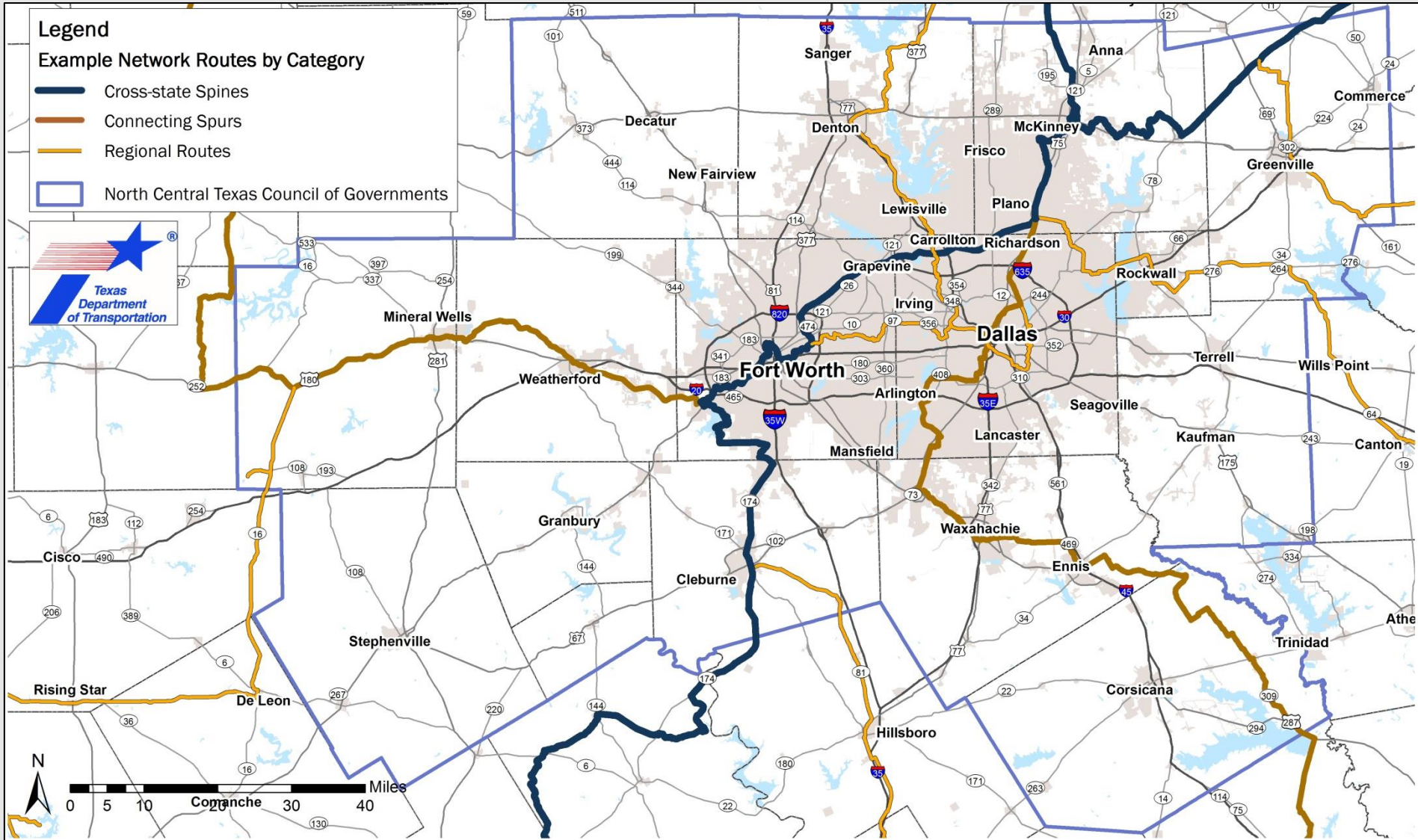
- Coordination w/ TxDOT-PTN's bike/ped counting research project
- Local partners have free access through sublicense agreement with Strava



Texas Bicycle Tourism Trail Study



Texas Bicycle Tourism Trails Example Network - NCTCOG



Texas Bicycle Tourism Trails Study

TEXAS BICYCLE TOURISM TRAILS STUDY

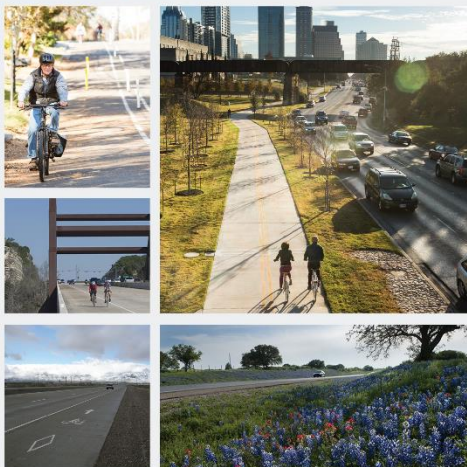


A network of bicycle tourism trails across Texas would highlight the natural, historic, and exceptional landscapes across the many unique regions of the state. These tourism trails would attract bicyclists from around the nation and the world, showcase communities across the state, and boost economic development.

The Texas Bicycle Tourism Trails Study investigated the development of a statewide bicycle tourism trail network and was undertaken in response to the 2005 Texas Bicycle Tourism Trails Act (Texas Transportation Code § 201.9025).

Study Goals - The study was developed under the guidance of TxDOT's Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC) with the following goals:

- **Identify tourism trail routes** - Where do bicycle tourists want to go?
- **Identify benefits of bicycle tourism trails** - How would Texas communities benefit?
- **Foster the development of safer bicycle tourism trails** - What types of bikeways are recommended as tourism trails?
- **Engage stakeholders** - Making the study a reality.



Photos (clockwise from top left): Buffered bike lane, Austin, TX, Coppola Photography; Shared Use Path, Austin, TX, Coppola Photography; Wildflowers along Texas 71, Llano, Texas, SH 375 Transmountain Rd, El Paso, TX; Pennybacker Bridge, Loop 300, Austin, TX

Texas Bicycle Tourism Trails Planning Process



TEXAS BICYCLE TOURISM TRAILS STUDY SUMMARY

<https://www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/modes-of-travel/bicycle/plan-design/tourism-study.html>

Accomplishments:

- ✓ Established a methodology to form a bicycle tourism network
- ✓ Recommended bikeway designs for all-ages-and-abilities network
- ✓ Estimated construction and maintenance costs (continuously under development)
- ✓ Created excitement about bicycle tourism and long-distance bicycle infrastructure
- ✓ Initiated dialogue about bicycle tourism within TxDOT and between state agencies

Regional Stakeholder Engagement

- BTTs is a preliminary, statewide investigation into the development of a bicycle tourism trail network in Texas.
- Regional stakeholders were engaged through an online input tracking tool (wikimap) to gain a better understanding of local-level bikeway infrastructure and planning efforts.



Eventual development of the BTTs would require:

- thorough engagement of local jurisdictions (cities, towns, counties, etc.) across Texas.
- additional analysis of local conditions, planned infrastructure improvements, and extensive stakeholder engagement.

BTTs Example Network

Existing vs Future
(3,518) (4,800)

Legend

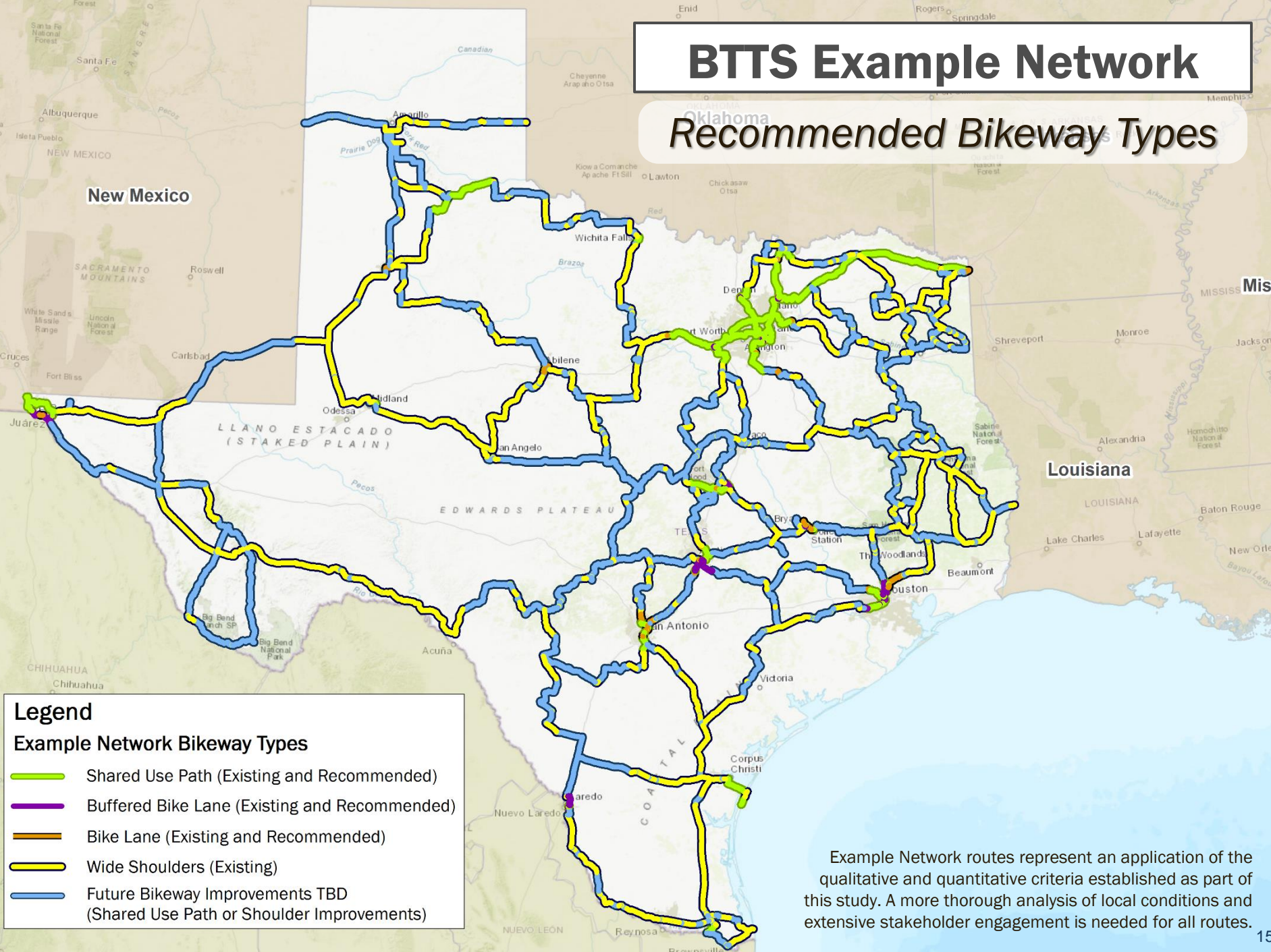
Example Network Bikeway Accommodations

- Existing (meets recommended BTTs design minimums) **42%** of total
- Future (improvements needed) **58%** of total

Example Network routes represent an application of the qualitative and quantitative criteria established as part of this study. A more thorough analysis of local conditions and extensive stakeholder engagement is needed for all routes.

BTTs Example Network

Recommended Bikeway Types



Legend

Example Network Bikeway Types

- Shared Use Path (Existing and Recommended)
- Buffered Bike Lane (Existing and Recommended)
- Bike Lane (Existing and Recommended)
- Wide Shoulders (Existing)
- Future Bikeway Improvements TBD (Shared Use Path or Shoulder Improvements)

Example Network routes represent an application of the qualitative and quantitative criteria established as part of this study. A more thorough analysis of local conditions and extensive stakeholder engagement is needed for all routes.

BTTTS Example Network Geographic Analysis

Economic Development and Tourism-related characteristics	Within 10 miles of BTTTS Example Network	
	Number	Percent
National Parks/Forests/Historic Sites	18	69%
State Parks/Forests/Historic Sites	110	68%
Historical Markers	6,705	62%
Texas Main Street Communities	65	75%
Small Towns (under 5,000 ppl)	540	62%
Medium Cities (5,000 to 200,000 ppl)	243	75%
Large Urban Areas (over 200,000 ppl)	13	100%

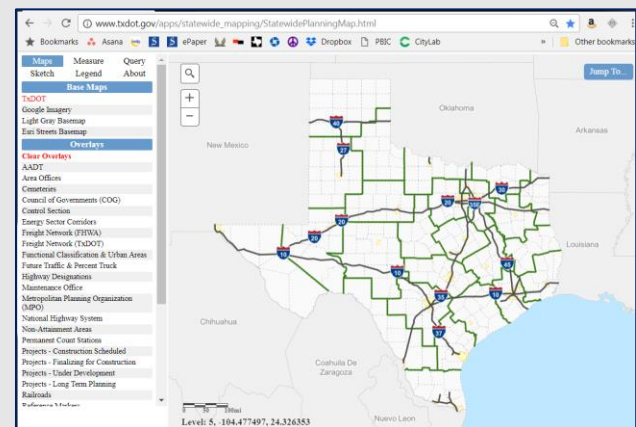
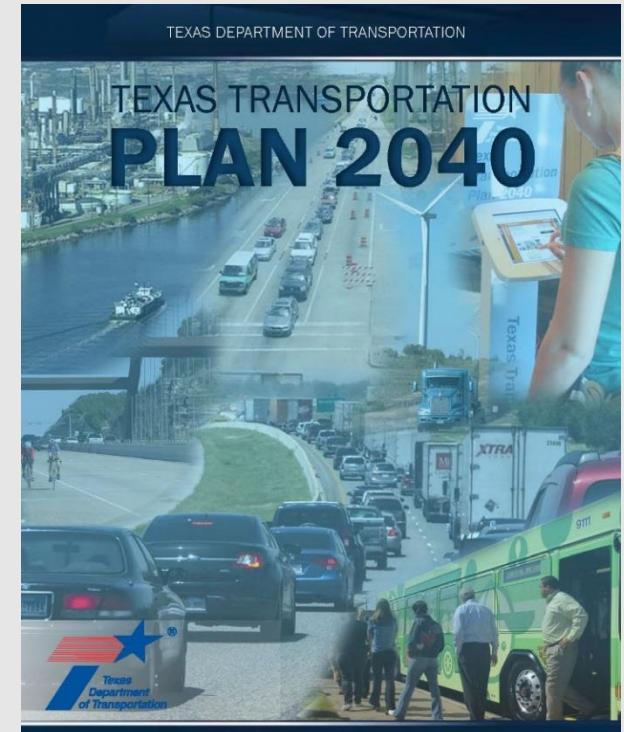
- The BTTTS Example Network crosses directly through **254 small towns** (*under 5,000 people*) across Texas.

Slides intended for discussion purposes only

Bicycle tourism next steps

Next Steps:

- Incorporate aspects of Bicycle Tourism Trails Study into TxDOT's Texas Transportation Plan 2050.
- Include BTTS Example Route Network on TxDOT's Statewide Planning Map.
- Establish pilot project selection process
- Identify funding opportunities



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TxDOT-PTN Bicycle Program Website

<https://www.txdot.gov>

Modes of Travel:



A screenshot of the TxDOT website's 'Bicycle' program page. The header features the TxDOT logo and 'TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION'. Navigation links include 'A - Z Site Index | Contact Us | Español', a search bar, and 'Driver | Government | Business | Inside TxDOT | Careers'. A secondary navigation bar shows 'Inside TxDOT' and 'Get Involved | Media Center | Projects | Forms & Publications | Administration | Districts | Divisions'. The main content area is titled 'Bicycle' and contains four featured articles: 'Planning & Designing', 'Know Before You Go', 'Funding Opportunities', and 'Coordination'. A sidebar on the right titled 'Looking for These?' lists 'Bikeway Maps', 'Bicycle Advisory Committee', 'Safety', and 'Contact Us' with corresponding icons.

<https://www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/modes-of-travel/bicycle.html>

Thank you!

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