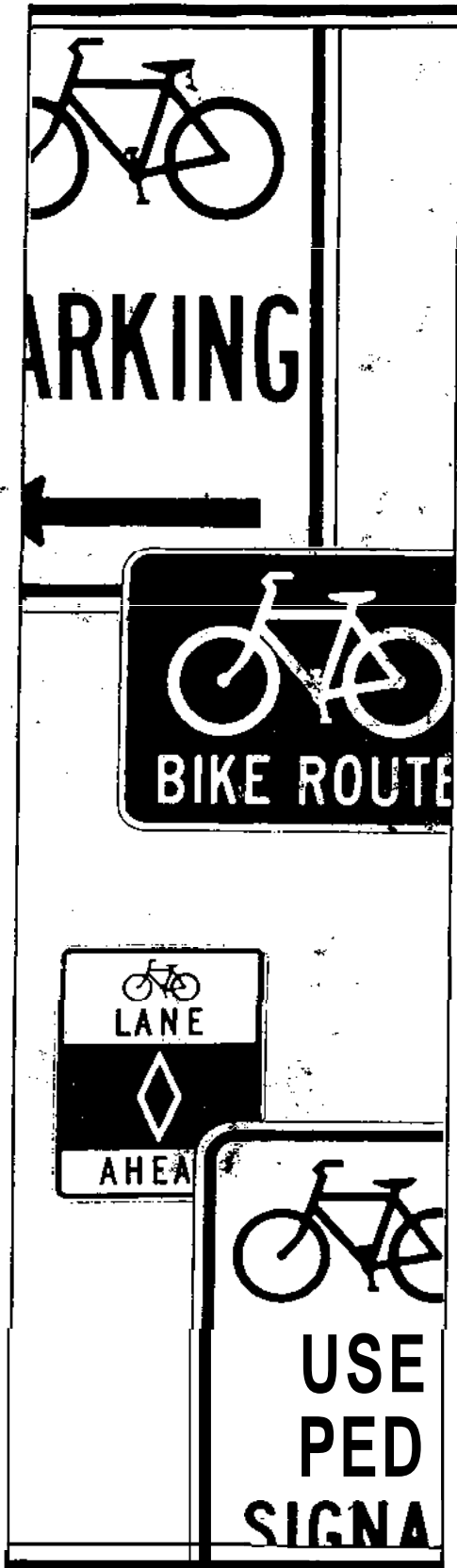


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The Regional Bicycle Plan

DURHAM AND ORANGE-COUNTIES, NC

prepared for:

The Durham-Chapel Hill-
Carrboro MPO

prepared by:

Greenways Incorporated

October 27, 1993

Section 7:

Regional Bicycle Route Planning

A major objective of the Regional Bicycle Plan is to develop a plan for implementing bicycle facilities throughout Durham and Orange Counties. This section of the report contains the following elements:

- a plan for a regional system of bikeways
- an explanation of the route planning process conducted for the Bicycle Plan
- a plan for implementing bicycle facilities throughout the region

Explanation of the Proposed Regional System of Bikeways

The Bicycle Route Maps serve as a master transportation plan for bicycles throughout Durham and Orange Counties. This system is composed of linkages between major destinations and between urban centers. The Regional Bicycle Plan is not intended to serve as a complete local bicycle facility development strategy for each jurisdiction. The Plan will solve some local bicycle transportation needs, where those needs have regional significance. Each community is encouraged to make local additions to the Regional Plan where necessary.

The Urban Route Plan map identifies a variety of corridors to be in need of bicycle facilities. The map mainly recommends on-road bikeways. It is important to remember that the specific type of **on-road bikeway has not been identified for each road** highlighted by the map. Although a preliminary engineering evaluation has been completed for each proposed bikeway, it would be premature to determine the facility type for each individual situation. These proposed bikeways must undergo further study through local jurisdictions to specify facility type.

Bicycle routes proposed by the Rural Route Plan map will link small towns and rural communities, county recreation areas, and out-of-county bicycle routes. Complete recommendations for rural bicycle facilities are included at the end of this section.

PLEASE NOTE: The route plan maps in this report represent a starting point. Future regional route planning and re-evaluation will be necessary, as the reality of implementing each bike-way is not known at the present time.

The route plan maps propose bicycle connector routes for commuting between urban areas in Durham and Orange Counties. Five specific zones of connection require attention: Durham to Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill to Research Triangle Park, Durham to Research Triangle Park, Chapel Hill to Hillsborough, and Durham to Hillsborough (see Urban Bicycle Route Map).

Through route planning discussions with bicycle commuters and city planners, it was determined that there were usually several options available for each regional bicycle connection. These routes are listed below. At least one route from each group should be considered initially. Additional routes should be considered as funds permit (each route option serves a different urban zone).

Connections between Durham and Chapel Hill/Carrboro:

- Route a: Erwin Road
Northern and central Durham connection to northern Chapel Hill
- Route b: Picket Road to Erwin Road
Central Durham connection to northern Chapel Hill
- Route c: Old Durham/Chapel Hill Road
Central Durham connection to northern Chapel Hill
- Route d: Old Durham/Chapel Hill Rd. to Farrington to Ephesus Church Road
Central Durham connection to northern Chapel Hill
- Route e: Option 1:
NC 751 Hope Valley Road to NC 54
Central Durham connection to southern Chapel Hill

Option 2:
South Roxboro Road to NC 54:
Central Durham connection to southern
Chapel Hill

Special consideration:

US 15-501 should be examined through
future Corridor Study as to the possibil-
ity of including bicycle facilities. A bi-
cycle route within this corridor may
eliminate the immediate need for bicy-
cle facilities along other alternatives.

Connections between Chapel Hill/ Carrboro and Research Triangle Park

Route a: NC 54 to Barbee Chapel Road to
Stagecoach Road to Massey Chapel
Road to Barbee Road to NC 54
Southern Chapel Hill connection to RTP
via southern Durham County

Route b: Old Durham-Chapel Hill Road to
Martin Luther King Jr. Parkway
Northern Chapel Hill connection to RTP

Route c: Option 1:
NC 54
Southern Chapel Hill connection to RTP

Option 2:
NC 54 to Woodcroft Parkway
Southern Chapel Hill connection to RTP

Connections between Durham and Research Triangle Park

Route a: Cornwallis Road
Central Durham connection to northwest
RTP

Route b: Martin Luther King Jr. Parkway
Southern Durham connection to north-
west RTP

Route c: American Tobacco Trail to Cornwallis
Drive
Downtown Durham connection to north-
west RTP

Route d: Midland Terrace to Lynn Road to Angier
Avenue to South Miami Blvd.
North-eastern Durham connection to
eastern RTP

Route e: Eno Drive Extension to Sherron Road to
South Miami Blvd.
North-eastern Durham connection to
eastern RTP

Route f: Option 1:
Alston Avenue
Central Durham connection to RTP

Option 2:
Briggs Avenue to Northeast Creek
Parkway
Eastern central Durham connection to
northwest RTP

Connections between Chapel Hill/Carrboro and Hillsborough

Route a: Option 1:
NC 86
Northern Chapel Hill connection to
Hillsborough

Option 2:
Old NC 86
Western Chapel Hill connection to
Hillsborough

Option 3:
I-40 corridor pathway
Northern Chapel Hill connection to
Hillsborough

Connection between Durham and Hillsborough

Route a: Old NC 10 Road to NC 86
Northern Durham connection to southern
Hillsborough

How Were the Urban and Rural Route Maps Developed?

In developing the Bicycle Route Plan Maps, pre-
vious plans for bicycle facilities within urban ar-
eas were reviewed for their regional significance.
This review included facilities listed within the
1992 Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) pro-
duced by the NCDOT Office of Bicycle and
Pedestrian Transportation. In this funding sched-
ule, Orange County is scheduled for 6 independent
projects and 14 incidental projects. Durham
County is scheduled for 3 independent projects and
29 incidental projects. Nearly all