



# Vision, Goals & Objectives

## VISION STATEMENT

A vision statement was developed early in the bicycle and pedestrian planning process as an inspirational description articulating the future of Warsaw and Winona Lake's alternative transportation system. A vision statement focuses on the future and answers the question, "What will success look like?" It should be realistic and credible, well articulated and easily understood, appropriate, ambitious, and responsive to change.

It is a preface to all goals, objectives, recommendations, and action steps. The vision is:

***The Warsaw and Winona Lake bicycle and pedestrian system will be a comprehensive and visible transportation network that is an asset to the community. The system, inclusive to users of all ages and abilities, will promote safety, health, education, and recreation.***

The vision statement should be used as a benchmark to measure new planning initiatives and development petitions within the project area. These initiatives and petitions should be evaluated to determine if and how they support and advance the stated vision.





## GUIDING PRINCIPLES

**Bicycle and Pedestrian Guiding Principles**

Below are the proposed guiding principles that support the vision statement. Guiding principles are stated as basic philosophies, assumptions, or fundamental rules that direct this Plan's goals, objectives, and recommendations. These guiding principles are intended to represent the values of City officials, staff, advocates, and the Warsaw community. Please indicate how you feel about each proposed guiding principle.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Walking and bicycling are legitimate transportation choices.	37	5			
The pedestrian and bicycle network is a fundamental asset of the community's transportation system.	38	4	1		
Safety is critical to usability.	40			1	
Walking and bicycling positively influences public health.	40				

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In addition to the vision, several guiding principles are stated as basic philosophies, assumptions, or fundamental rules that direct the Plan's goals and objectives. These guiding principles represent the values of City and Town officials, staff, advocates, and the community.

- Walking and bicycling are legitimate transportation choices.
- The pedestrian and bicycle network is a fundamental asset of the community's transportation system.
- Safety is critical to usability.
- Walking and bicycling positively influence public health.
- Transportation needs of all motorists and non-motorists will be balanced.

Guiding principles were presented to the public to determine if the statements reflected Warsaw and Winona Lake community values.

- Mobility for all types of non-motorized users at various skill levels will be enhanced.
- The number of pedestrians and bicyclists will increase with improvements to the system.
- Traffic rules and regulations are enforced for all transportation system users.
- Education is a primary component to successful usage of the system.
- Safe and accessible pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure promotes usage.
- Infrastructure projects consider capital costs as well as operational and maintenance costs.
- Pedestrian and bicycle projects and initiatives consider both cost and connectivity.
- Pedestrian and bicycle projects and initiatives explore the opportunity for public and private funding.
- The pedestrian and bicycle network is a key community asset.
- The pedestrian and bicycle network connects people with destinations.
- Consideration and accommodations for pedestrians and bicyclists are institutionalized into all community policies, standards, and procedures.

## GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Goals and objectives support and promote the vision. The goals and objectives of the bicycle and pedestrian master plan provide the framework for the development of the plan's recommendations. However, goals seek to achieve a more forward-thinking result, a long-term purpose toward which programs or activities are ultimately directed. Objectives are specific, measurable, and/or quantifiable and mark progress toward a goal. Five thematic strategies representing the "why" for the plan are discussed in Chapters 4 and 5.



Goals for this plan are organized around seven key components:

### 1. Economic Benefits Goal

Promote the bicycle and pedestrian system as an exceptional feature of the City of Warsaw and Town of Winona Lake to attract and retain quality residents and commerce.

Objectives

- a. Provide multimodal access to serve existing and future commercial and industrial development.
- b. Explore state and federal programs that offer financial support to transportation facilities having direct impact on local economic development.
- c. Increase the business community's involvement in the development of the bicycle and pedestrian network and increased ridership.
- d. Collect and analyze economic benefits of multi-modal transportation systems.
- e. Establish City and Town-led commitments or policies that advance the bicycle network's infrastructure development.
- f. Integrate the development of the bicycle and pedestrian network into larger planning efforts and development projects.

### 2. Health Benefits & Quality of Life Goal

Market the bicycle and pedestrian system as a tool to address public health concerns and to encourage active lifestyles.

Objectives

- a. Provide safe routes to community destinations.
- b. Provide attractive and easy to follow recreational routes, including looped facilities.
- c. Support the goals of the former Safe Routes to School program.
- d. Provide facilities for multiple user modes at varying levels of ability.

### 3. Connectivity Goal

Establish a network of convenient, safe, and well-designed bicycle and pedestrian facilities that link all local and regional systems and community destinations.

Objectives

- a. Coordinate Warsaw's bicycle and pedestrian system with adjacent community systems.



- b. Develop the multimodal system to serve both transportation and recreational needs.
- c. Provide routes to schools, community services, and concentrated retail areas.
- d. Provide routes that connect the lakes of Warsaw and Winona Lake.
- e. Make it easier for citizens to choose bicycling as a preferred mode of transportation.

#### 4. Safety Goal

Provide for the safe, convenient, and accessible movement of people for all modes of transportation.

##### Objectives

- a. Design and program multimodal facilities with user well-being as the primary precedence.
- b. Increase visibility of facility intersections, road and rail crossings.
- c. Provide a buffer between side paths and vehicular traffic.
- d. Enforce speed limits and pedestrian rights in crosswalks.
- e. Investigate feasibility of adding user- or motion- activated signalization at critical crossings.
- f. Hold motorists and cyclists accountable for the rules of the road.

#### 5. Environment Goal

Enhance natural, cultural, and historic resources with a compatible multimodal system.

##### Objectives

- a. Develop non-vehicular routes along natural features as a means to protect sensitive areas and wildlife habitats.
- b. Provide for adequate drainage of stormwater runoff for all facilities constructed.
- c. Design bicycle and pedestrian facilities that support air quality and energy conservation initiatives.
- d. Design bicycle and pedestrian facilities to minimize impacts on existing neighborhoods.

#### 6. Educational Opportunities Goal

Program bicycle and pedestrian facilities to highlight learning opportunities.



Objectives

- a. Link all schools, parks, libraries, and community centers with multimodal facilities.
- b. Coordinate special events to raise awareness.
- c. Install signage along bicycle and pedestrian facilities indicating points of interest.
- d. Market the multimodal system to educators as a resource for students.
- e. Develop a strategy to routinely communicate a consistent message about the safety and benefits of bicycling and the availability of facilities throughout the City of Warsaw and Town of Winona Lake.
- f. Remain current on trends, opportunities, and best practices.

**7. Community Involvement Goal**

Engage citizens in the planning and development of the bicycle and pedestrian system to build consensus and create champions.

Objectives

- a. Install trail identity signage.
- b. Display a map of all routes with dedicated facilities at trailheads and public places.
- c. Create a pocket size map to distribute to residents, visitors, and all potential users.
- d. Develop a maintenance plan.
- e. Publicize the convenience, health, environmental, and cost-savings benefits of bicycling.
- f. Expand existing and develop new regularly occurring events that advocate bicycling.
- g. Ensure that bicycle programs, facilities, and amenities are planned for and constructed to address the needs of underserved populations.

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