

# 2035 Coulee Regional Bicycle Plan

A Component of the La Crosse & La Crescent Metropolitan Area Transportation Plan

ONALASKA MENDS-IN-MOTION



LA CROSSE BICYCLE RODEO

***“Encourage and promote the availability and choice of human-powered transportation that will improve the health and safety of our citizens, the sustainability of our environment, and the economy of our region.”***

**For Adoption: May 19, 2010**



# COULEE REGIONAL BICYCLE PLAN



*Prepared by the Staff of the*

## La Crosse Area Planning Committee

Metropolitan Planning Organization for the La Crosse, WI and La Crescent, MN Urbanized Area

---

Tom Faella, Executive Director:

PH: 608.785.5977 E-mail: [faella.tom@co.la-crosse.wi.us](mailto:faella.tom@co.la-crosse.wi.us)

Jackie Eastwood, Transportation Planner:

PH: 608.785.6141 E-mail: [eastwood.jackie@co.la-crosse.wi.us](mailto:eastwood.jackie@co.la-crosse.wi.us)

La Crosse County Administrative Center, 400 4<sup>th</sup> St N, Room 2300, La Crosse, WI 54601

Web site: [www.lapc.org](http://www.lapc.org)

This document was prepared to meet the requirements of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) for metropolitan transportation planning, and is consistent with U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration US Code, 23USC134, and Code of Federal Regulations, 23CFR450.

## Acknowledgements

The La Crosse Area Planning Committee is made up of the following officials of member communities:

**Lynnetta Kopp, Chairperson**  
Chairperson, Town of Shelby

**Mike Poellinger, Vice-Chairman**  
Mayor, City of La Crescent

**Mike Giese**  
Mayor, City of Onalaska

**Matt Harter**  
Mayor, City of La Crosse

**Nancy Proctor**  
President, Village of Holmen

**Dennis Manthei**  
President, Village of West Salem

**Linda Seidel**  
Chairperson, Town of Medary

**Scott Johnson**  
Chairman, Town of Campbell

**Dave Paudler**  
Chairman, Town of Onalaska

**Steve Doyle**  
Chairman, La Crosse County Board

We would like to extend special thanks to the following members and active participants of our Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee for being such an integral part in the update of this plan.

**John Boland**, Chairman  
**Sandy Sechrest** Citizen Advocate  
**Bob Fisher** Citizen Advocate  
**Mike Henderson** Onalaska  
**Ginny Loehr** SRTS  
**Matt Gallager** La Crosse Engineering  
**Rachel Hazuga** Pioneering Healthy  
Communities  
**Harvey Witzenburg** Onalaska  
**Stephanie Welch** LCPD  
**Paul Wydeven** WisDOT

**Ed West**, Vice-Chairman  
**Bill Ferguson** Citizen Advocate  
**Tim Tiber** West Salem  
**Tim Acklin** La Crosse  
**Peter Fletcher** MRRPC  
**Dave Conklin** Citizen Advocate  
**Jeremy Gragert**  
Student Representative  
**Tim Keneipp** DRBC  
**Steve Flottmeyer** WisDOT  
**Mary Pamperin-Volk** WisDOT

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLE OF CONTENTS	PAGE
<b>CHAPTER 1: PURPOSE AND NEED</b>	<b>1-1</b>
1.1 Introduction	1-1
1.2 Why Support Bicycling?	1-2
1.3 Goals for the Plan and Planning Process	1-3
1.4 Existing Plans	1-4
1.5 Geographic Scope	1-5
1.6 Document Organization	1-6
<b>CHAPTER 2: PUBLIC PROCESS</b>	<b>2-1</b>
2.1 Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee	2-1
2.2 Public Workgroup Meetings	2-1
2.3 Data Collection	2-2
<b>CHAPTER 3: EXISTING CONDITIONS</b>	<b>3-1</b>
3.1 Bicycling in the Planning Area	3-1
3.2 Existing Facilities	3-2
3.3 Barriers to Bicycle Travel	3-21
3.4 Physical Hazards to Bicycle travel	3-29
3.5 Bicyclist Safety	3-32
<b>CHAPTER 4: RECOMMENDATIONS</b>	<b>4-1</b>
4.1 Introduction	4-1
4.2 Current Practice	4-2
4.3 Recommended Actions	4-8

<b>TABLE OF CONTENTS (continued)</b>	<b>PAGE</b>
<b>CHAPTER 5: FINANCIAL PLAN</b>	<b>5-1</b>
5.1 Funding Sources and Cycles	5-1
5.2 Estimating Project Costs	5-10
5.3 Recommended Short-Range Projects	5-13
5.4 Mid-Range Projects	5-16
5.5 Illustrative Long-Range Projects	5-22
5.6 Summary	5-22
<b>CHAPTER 6: EVALUATION</b>	<b>6-1</b>
6.1 Implementation Strategies & Next Steps	6-1
6.2 Plan Evaluation	6-4
6.3 Summary of Performance Targets	6-7
<b>APPENDIX A: ACRONYMS</b>	<b>A-1</b>
<b>APPENDIX B: DEFINITIONS</b>	<b>B-1</b>
<b>APPENDIX C: PUBLIC PROCESS</b>	<b>C-1</b>
<b>APPENDIX D: REGULATIONS</b>	<b>D-1</b>
<b>APPENDIX E: FACILITIES DESIGN</b>	<b>E-1</b>
<b>LIST OF TABLES</b>	<b>PAGE</b>
Table 3-1: Dedicated Bikeway Facilities	3-18
Table 3-2: Public Bicycle Parking Facilities	3-18
Table 4-1: Hierarchy of Bicycle Treatments	4-13
Table 4-2: Recommended Accommodations: Holmen & Onalaska	4-24
Table 4-3: Recommended Accommodations: West Salem & STH 16 between West Salem and CTH B	4-37
Table 4-4: Recommended Accommodations: Rural La Crosse (Barre, Greenfield, Medary, Shelby)	4-49

**LIST OF TABLES (continued) PAGE**

Table 4-5: Recommended Accommodations: North La Crosse & French Island 4-55

Table 4-6: Recommended Accommodations: South La Crosse 4-67

Table 4-7: Recommended Accommodations: La Crescent 4-83

Table 5-1: 2010 Costs for Bicycle-Related Improvements 5-11

Table 5-2: 2010 Costs for Trail-Building Activities 5-13

Table 5-3: Estimated 2010 Costs for Short-Range Bicycle Projects 5-14

Table 5-4: Schedule of Short-Range Bicycle Projects and Costs 5-16

Table 5-5: Mid-Range On-Road Bicycle Facilities Projects 5-17

Table 5-6: Mid-Range Trail Projects 5-19

**LIST OF MAPS AND CHARTS**

Map 1-1: LAPC Metropolitan Planning Area 1-7

Map 3-1: Existing Trails and On-Road Facilities 3-19

Figure 3-28: Bicycle Crashes 2005 – 2009 3-34

Figure 3-29: Bicycle Crashes per 100 Miles of Road 3-35

Figure 3-30: Bicycle Crashes per 1,000 Residents 3-36

Map 4-1: Recommended Accommodations: Holmen & Onalaska 4-35

Map 4-2: Recommended Accommodations: West Salem & STH 16 between West Salem and CTH B 4-47

Map 4-3: Recommended Accommodations: Rural La Crosse (Barre, Greenfield, Medary, Shelby) 4-53

Map 4-4: Recommended Accommodations: North La Crosse & French Island 4-65

Map 4-5: Recommended Accommodations: South La Crosse 4-79

Map 4-6: La Crosse – La Crescent Urban Trail Link 4-81

Map 4-7: Recommended Accommodations: La Crescent 4-89

Map 4-8: Recommended Local and Regional Routes 4-93

Map 4-9: Recommended Regional Routing and Designations 4-95

This page intentionally left blank.