

# Cobb County Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvement Plan



Bicycling and walking are important modes of transportation for Cobb County's future. Whether to help beat the high price of gas, to enjoy the benefits of physical activity, or just for fun, more and more people are seeking safe places to walk or bicycle in Cobb County. The Cobb County Department of Transportation has just begun a 15-month planning project—the [Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvement Plan](#)—that will identify where Cobb County can improve conditions for bicycling and walking and identify a strategy for investing in those improvements over time.

The plan will examine the need for physical infrastructure, including shared use paths, sidewalks, and on-street bike lanes. The plan will also examine Cobb County's existing planning policies, ordinances, and development regulations to understand how these practices assist or impede bicycling or walking in Cobb County. If necessary, the plan will recommend changes to these practices for the County Commissioners to consider.

A portion of the study will be dedicated to developing a [Safe Routes to School Program](#) for Cobb County. This county-wide program will provide individual Cobb County schools with a tool-kit to enable more students and parents to walk or bike to school safely from nearby neighborhoods.

Finally, the plan will also consider options for an extension of Cobb County's popular [Silver Comet Trail](#) toward the Chattahoochee River and a connection with Fulton County's trail system. Such a connection could be a link in a trail system of over 100 miles, stretching from Alabama to Stone Mountain. The plan will develop three potential alignments for the trail extension and recommend a preferred alignment for more detailed development.

*See Reverse for Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvement Plan Facts*



*Cobb County...Expect the Best!*

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# Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvement Plan Facts

- Cobb County's last Bicycle Transportation Plan was approved in 1993.
- Bicycle and Pedestrian needs were considered in the [2030 Comprehensive Transportation Plan](#) (approved by the Cobb County Board of Commissioners in February 2008); this plan will continue that effort by identifying specific facility needs and developing investment and implementation strategies.
- This study is scheduled to last 15 months, from August 2008 to October 2009.
- This study will include evaluation of bicycling and walking conditions on Cobb County's major thoroughfares.
- This study will propose strategies for infrastructure investments, considering such factors as proximity to schools, parks, transit facilities and shopping areas, as well as the mix of commercial and residential properties within walking or biking distance.
- Public input will be used in determining project implementation priorities.
- The study will include recommendation of a preferred alignment to extend the [Silver Comet Trail](#) towards the Chattahoochee River and Fulton County.
- The study will include a [County-wide Safe Routes to School Plan](#), which will help individual Cobb County Schools to improve conditions for walking and biking by students and parents from nearby neighborhoods.



## How Can You Get Involved?

The Cobb County Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvement Plan will include [two rounds of public workshops](#). At these workshops, you will be able to review and comment on the evaluation of walking and biking conditions, identify locations in Cobb County where you have concerns about bicycling or walking conditions, offer your opinion on investment priorities, and review and comment on proposed alignments for the Silver Comet Trail extension.

Public input will be used in determining project implementation priorities. The first round will be scheduled in early 2009, and the second round following in the summer of 2009. Watch the project website (<http://dot.cobbcountyga.gov/bikeped/> or [www.cobbdot.org](http://www.cobbdot.org) *click on Planning Studies then Active Studies*) and other media for the announcement of dates and times as the project progresses; all workshop materials will be available for download as well, for those who cannot attend the workshops in person.



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or [www.cobbdot.org](http://www.cobbdot.org) *click on Planning Studies*