

Updating the South Central Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan

Imagine a regional network of roads and trails that brought cyclists and pedestrians safely and enjoyably throughout the 15 towns and cities of south central Connecticut.

SCRCOG has contracted with Hartford-based design firm Fitzgerald & Halliday, Inc. and Boston-based Toole Design Group to update the plan.

The South Central Regional Council of Governments (SCRCOG) recognized years ago that quality bike and pedestrian routes can greatly improve a

community's physical health, economy, and social equity. Throughout our region, all can benefit from expanded transportation options.

SCRCOG is updating this plan to ensure the region stays on track to create a safer and more balanced transportation network, accessible for all users regardless of age, physical capacity, or income.

The updated plan will review progress made in the last 10 years, as well as the shifting needs, concerns and desires of each of the 15 communities. The project is in its very early stages and is expected to finish by mid-autumn.



What's changed since 2007?



Multiple federal initiatives have been implemented to help communities create safer, better connected bicycling and walking networks.



State legislature passed Complete Streets Law and created Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Board (2009)



New bike law allows two-way and buffered bicycle lanes, cycle tracks (2015)



Completed missing segments of Farmington Canal Rail Trail in New Haven and Hamden.



New Haven bike share program launching soon.



A growing number of advocacy groups and communities are championing implementation of safer streets.

Be a part of the planning process with Wikimaps!

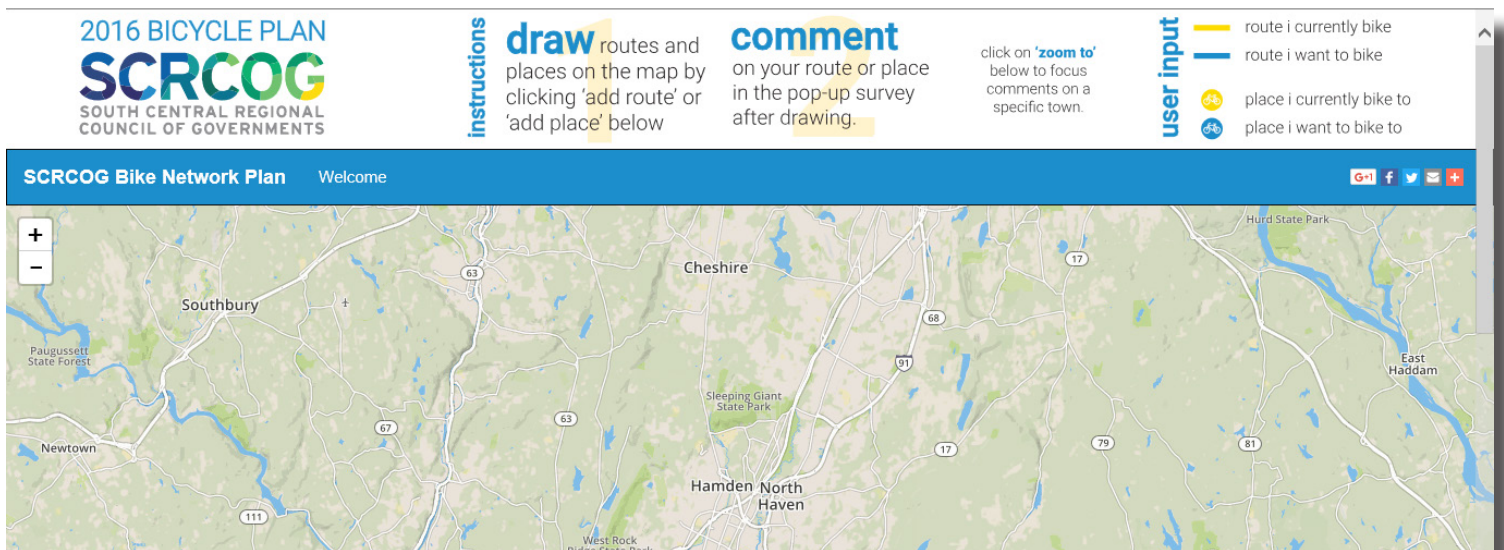
We have created a Wikimap to learn more about biking and pedestrian routes in the region, but we need your help filling it in!

Wikimap is an interactive online feature that allows users to pinpoint and comment on specific locations. Starting this summer, you'll be able to map and share your preferred travel routes and destinations, and how you think they should be improved. This will help determine

which projects get highest priority, and can be used in other transportation planning projects for the future.

Whether you're a commuter, weekend warrior, or just the occasional merrymaker, we want to know where you're going and how you get there. To get started mapping, visit:

<http://wikimapping.com/wikimap/SCRCOG.html>



From Greens to Greenways

New England is known for its quaint town greens, which date back to the 17th and 18th centuries. These important centers of community life and commerce are still important today, but the towns around them are no longer the same isolated hamlets of years past.

States and municipalities around the country began focusing on greenways in the 1990s as a fun and sustainable means of connecting cultural and commercial resources. Several greenways run through or are planned to run through south central Connecticut, often times using abandoned railroad lines. These multiuse trails will connect Downtown Milford and New Haven with coastal parks and beaches, Hamden with the Hartford suburbs of the Farmington River Valley, and the region with places as far away as the Canadian border and Key West, Florida via the 2,900 mile East Coast Greenway!

