



Sustainability Initiatives in the City of St. Louis

Volume 3.1 • 2012

The City of St. Louis is demonstrating its commitment to being a healthy and sustainable community through initiatives that focus on pedestrians and cyclists. Residents may now choose walking and cycling as safe and accessible forms of transportation. City efforts, along with private and non-profit partnerships, have recently promoted these options through support of the St. Louis Downtown Bicycle Station, a Complete Streets Law, bike infrastructure, a Bicycle Parking Ordinance, and the Gateway Bike Plan.

Downtown Bicycle Station

The City of St. Louis used a portion of its American Recovery and Reinvestment Act stimulus funding from the U.S. Department of Energy to create a public-private partnership that launched the region's first public commuter bicycle station.

Opened in April 2011 between 10th and 11th Street on Locust, the Downtown Bicycle Station is located in a LEED Gold certified historic building owned by Loftworks. Workers re-used over half of the existing structure during construction and incorporated low emitting and locally sourced materials in the renovated building. These

environmentally responsible building techniques diverted over 75% of the construction waste from the disposal stream. Among other features, the building boasts a highly efficient HVAC system, energy-efficient light fixtures, and low flow water devices.

The 1,400 square foot Downtown Bicycle Station has 100 internal bike racks, 72 personal lockers and 5 private showers. The station offers users a healthy and sustainable alternative to vehicular transportation. With a membership, commuters can secure their bikes, store gear, and shower before going to work. Daily users can enjoy the amenities of the facility for a small fee.

Complete Streets Law

Complete Streets are those which are designed to safely accommodate multiple modes of transportation. They can help reduce reliance on cars, decrease harmful emissions, and promote individual and community health. In 2010, Mayor Slay signed the City's Complete Streets bill into law. The ordinance requires transportation planners and engineers to equally consider pedestrians, cyclists, public transit users, and motorists in the design and operation of the City's roadways.

Open Streets Initiative

In 2010, the City launched Open Streets, a popular cyclovia event where the City closes some of its roads to cars and opens them to non-vehicular recreation. Open Streets events encourage community socialization, promote active use of public space, and offer educational opportunities about healthy living. Each Open Streets event features a different route and free activity stations. Opting for alternative modes of transportation can help alleviate traffic congestion, improve air quality, and increase personal well-being. By exposing people to some fun and innovative assets of the City in a new light, the City anticipates that Open Streets will also stimulate the local economy.

Bike Lanes and Racks

St. Louis has recently gained national recognition for its bicycle and pedestrian efforts. In 2009, the League of American Bicyclists designated the City a Bicycle Friendly Community. In 2010, Bicycling Magazine ranked St. Louis the 38th most Bike-Friendly City in the U.S. In total, St. Louis City has approximately 90 miles of bike lanes, routes and trails within city limits, including 66 miles





of share the road trails, 13 miles of street bike lanes, and 11 miles of multi-use trails. An estimated one-third of the City's arterial streets are currently designated bike lanes or paved shoulders for cyclists.

In addition to its extensive cycling routes, St. Louis City invests in its bicycle infrastructure. The application of bike lane decals and the painting of existing bike lanes are part of the City's current system maintenance efforts. In addition, the City is placing 40 specially-designed stainless steel bike racks at municipal locations throughout the City.

St. Louis City Bike Rack



Mayor Slay Signs Bike Parking Ordinance Into Law



Bike Parking Ordinance

In 2012, the Mayor's Vanguard Cabinet of young creatives and professionals worked with the City to develop a progressive Bike Parking Ordinance, amending the City's zoning code. This ordinance requires new or renovated City buildings greater than \$1 Million to provide racks for bicycle parking.

Gateway Bike Plan

In 2011, the Great Rivers Greenway District developed an award winning Gateway Bike Plan as a long-term vision to connect communities, transit, greenways, and trails through on road bicycle facilities. Once realized, the Gateway Bike Plan will provide citizens with over 1,000 miles of bike lanes, shared use lanes, and other bicycle facilities throughout the St. Louis region. The Plan encompasses education and encouragement programs, and is designed to support one of the largest bicycle networks in the United States. The City is taking a

leadership role in implementing the Gateway Bike Plan by adding approximately 40 miles of bike lanes and signage in 2012. Future plans include making additional enhancements to existing bike facilities throughout the City.



More Information:

For more information on sustainability initiatives in the City of St. Louis contact Catherine Werner, Sustainability Director, Office of the Mayor
 WernerC@stlouiscity.com
 or visit stlouis-mo.gov/sustainability

