



Tim Keller, Mayor

Greater Albuquerque Active Transportation Committee (GAATC)



Jonathan R. Hollinger, Chair
Environmental Planning Commission
c/o City of Albuquerque
600 Second Street NW
Albuquerque, NM 87102

June 10, 2024

Dear Chair Hollinger:

The City of Albuquerque's Department of Municipal Development is amending the 2024 Bikeway and Trail Facilities Plan (2024 BTFP), which was last adopted in 2015. Since November 2022, staff from DMD and Parks and Recreation (PRD) worked across City Departments, and with advocates and community representatives, including GAATC, to update the 2015 Bikeway and Trail Facilities Plan.

Practices for bikeway facility design have evolved significantly since the City last took a comprehensive look at its bicycling infrastructure and the needs of people who bike. For example, separated (protected) bike lanes have become more commonplace in cities along with e-bikes. There is more emphasis in creating a safe, comfortable, low-stress bike network not only for recreation but also essential transportation needs.

The 2024 BTFP creates consistency with recently adopted plans and policies such as the *Vision Zero Action Plan*, the *Climate Action Plan*, and the Complete Streets Ordinance. The 2024 BTFP also provides a mechanism to implement goals and policies from the *Comprehensive Plan*. The 2024 BTFP focuses on the needs of underserved communities and ensures an equitable distribution of low-stress bikeways to serve people of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds across the city. The 2024 BTFP identifies and prioritizes low-stress on and off-street bikeway projects and locations for improved midblock crossings, which creates a roadmap and sets the city up to implement these meaningful projects through restriping or integrating them into larger transportation projects. The 2024 BTFP also identifies key planning, policy, and programmatic actions that complement and enhance the proposed bikeway networks.

Ultimately, the 2024 BTFP seeks to better accommodate the needs of people who bike today and attract a new generation of residents and visitors of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds to a form of transportation and recreation that is healthy, economical, sustainable, and fun.

The Greater Albuquerque Active Transportation Committee (GAATC) supports the 2024 Bikeway and Trail Facilities Plan amendment and respectfully encourages EPC to approve the plan and recommend plan approval to the City Council.

Sincerely,

Ryan Mast, Vice Chair
Greater Albuquerque Active Transportation Committee