

# City of Virginia Beach BIKEWAYS AND TRAILS PLAN

A Component of the Comprehensive Plan



Virginia Beach Parks & Recreation  
Planning, Design & Development  
April 26, 2011



COVER IMAGE:

Mayor Sessoms and local children prepare for a bike ride at Mt. Trashmore Park on Earth Day. Photo courtesy of Bruce Drees.



# **Virginia Beach Bikeways and Trails Plan**

A Component of the Comprehensive Plan

Adopted by City Council  
April 26, 2011

Department of Parks & Recreation  
Division of Planning, Design & Development



# Acknowledgements

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Glenn R. Davis .....	Rose Hall	Rita Sweet Bellitto .....	At Large
Vice Mayor Louis R. Jones .....	Bayside	Rosemary Wilson .....	At Large
James L. Wood .....	Lynnhaven		

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## Planning Commission

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Christopher D. Felton.....	Rose Hall	Albert N. Henley .....	At Large
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Robert Thornton .....	Lynnhaven	Philip L. Russo, Jr. ....	At Large
Jeffrey L. Hodgson .....	Beach		

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## Bikeways and Trails Advisory Committee

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Christopher Felton ..... Planning Commission  
Bill DeSteph ..... City Council  
Barbara Henley..... City Council

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# Virginia Beach Bikeways and Trails Plan 2011

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## Glossary of Acronyms and Abbreviations

5 E's.....	A planning paradigm by the Federal Highway Administration and League of American Bicyclists: Engineering, Education, Encouragement, Enforcement & Evaluation
AASHTO.....	American Association of State and Highway Transportation Officials
ADA .....	Americans with Disabilities Act of 1991
ADAAG .....	Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines
APS .....	Accessible Pedestrian Signal
BFC .....	Bicycle-Friendly Community
Bike-ped .....	Bicycle and pedestrian
BLOS .....	Bicycle Level of Service
BFC.....	Bicycle-Friendly Community
BTAC.....	Bikeways and Trails Advisory Committee
CIP .....	Capital Improvements Program
CMAQ.....	Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program
CPTED .....	Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design
DCR .....	Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation
DSC .....	Development Services Center
FHWA.....	Federal Highway Administration
HRSD .....	Hampton Roads Sanitation District
HRTPO .....	Hampton Roads Transportation Planning Organization
HRT .....	Hampton Roads Transit
HSIP .....	Highway Safety Improvement Program
ISTEA .....	Intermodal Surface Transportation and Efficiency Act
ITA .....	Interfacility Traffic Area
JEB .....	Joint Expeditionary Base
LAB.....	League of American Bicyclists
LEED .....	Leadership in Environmental and Energy Design
LOS.....	Level Of Service
LWCF .....	Land and Water Conservation Fund
MPO .....	Metropolitan Planning Organization

## Glossary of Acronyms and Abbreviations

NAAQS .....	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
NALF .....	Naval Auxiliary Landing Field
NAS .....	Naval Air Station
P&R .....	Department of Parks & Recreation
PAAC .....	Princess Anne Athletic Complex
PBIC .....	Pedestrian and Bicycle Information Center (FHWA)
PCI .....	Pavement Condition Index
PDD .....	Division of Planning, Design and Development (in Parks & Recreation)
PLOS.....	Pedestrian Level of Service
PSA .....	Public Service Announcement
PW .....	Department of Public Works
RSTP .....	Regional Surface Transportation Program
SAFETEA-LU ....	Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: a Legacy for Users
SRTS .....	Safe Routes to School
TCC .....	Tidewater Community College
UCI .....	Urban Construction Initiative
UPARR .....	Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Program
VBCCO .....	Virginia Beach Council of Civic Organizations
VDOT .....	Virginia Department of Transportation

# Virginia Beach Bikeways and Trails Plan 2011

## Vision Statement

### City Council's Vision for the City

In the 2009 Comprehensive Plan (at ourfuturevb.com), City Council articulated this vision for Virginia Beach:

#### *City Council Vision 2023*

- *Virginia Beach is the Leading City in Virginia.*
- *Virginia Beach is a community with Diverse, Distinctive Neighborhoods, a Diverse Local Economy, with Diverse Living Choices and an Effective Transportation System.*
- *Virginia Beach has a Beautiful, Natural Setting and Resources, A First Class Resort, and a Vibrant Town Center.*
- *Our People Enjoy Great Schools and Places to Have Fun.*

A strong bikeways and trails system supports Council's vision.

- Virginia Beach has unique resources and opportunities to lead Virginia in biking facilities, biking culture, and active transportation in general.
- Our neighborhoods give us wonderful places to walk and bike.
- Transportation alternatives are an important part of an effective transportation system. Our current roads give us the "bones" of a system for people to move around on bikes, on foot, on skateboards, and in whatever other authorized mode they choose.
- Our oceanfront, resort and town center give us destinations where people want to bike and walk, plus starting points from which people can explore our larger natural setting.
- Bikeways and trails are natural, obvious places to have fun over and over again. People exercise, travel, mingle, and find plenty of special ways to use these assets every day. Visitors value having places to get out and about on their own, whether on foot or by bike or some other modes.

### A Vision for the Bikeways and Trails System

The Bikeways and Trails Advisory Committee presents this Vision for Bikeways and Trails:

*Virginia Beach will be a City where people can walk, run and ride **anywhere** safely, **efficiently**, and enjoyably.*



The Maritime Trail along General Booth Boulevard, near the Aquarium.



Bike riders on the annual Bayside History Tour. Photo courtesy of Bruce Drees

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