

# Regional Bicycle Barriers and RBTN Update Process

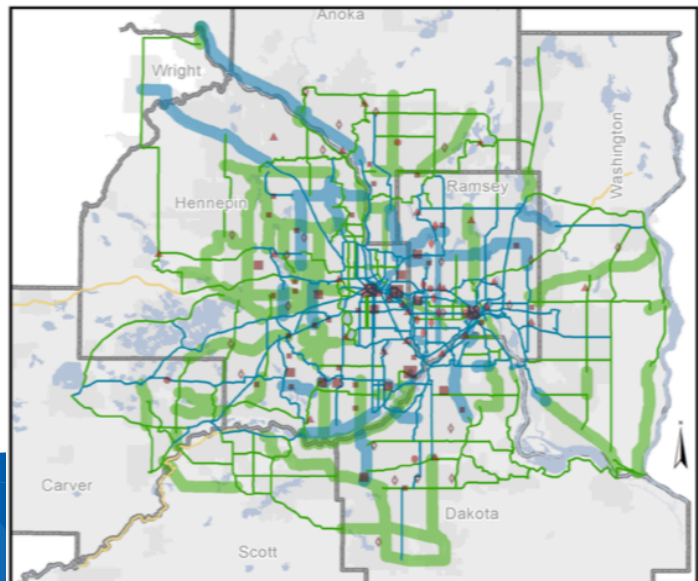
Transportation Advisory Board  
April 21, 2021



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## Regional Bicycle Transportation Network

- RBTN introduced in 2014 Transportation Policy Plan update
- RBTN corridors & alignments used in Regional Solicitation selection criteria since 2016
- Developed new process to consider more significant RBTN changes every two years
- Process aligns with Regional Solicitation cycles



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## RBTN Facility Guidelines & Measures Study

### Phase I: Quantitative Measures

- Study advised by our Bicycle-Pedestrian Peer Discussion Group

Recommended measures from study will

- Facilitate evaluations of agency proposed RBTN updates
- Allow flexibility to consider a broader range of RBTN proposed changes (i.e., RBTN route extensions, new additions, or spatial adjustments)

Measure categories include

- Corridor Spacing
- Route Directness
- System Connectivity
- Social/Economic Equity
- Proximity to Development



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## RBTN Guiding Principles

Regional bikeways should be planned to:

1. Overcome physical barriers and eliminate critical system gaps
2. Facilitate safe and continuous trips to regional destinations
3. Function as arteries to connect regional destinations and the transit system year round
4. Accommodate broad range of cyclist abilities & preferences to attract wide variety of users
5. Integrate and/or supplement existing and planned infrastructure
6. Provide improved opportunities to increase the share of trips made by bicycle
7. Connect to local, state, and national bikeway networks
8. Consider opportunities to enhance economic development
9. Be equitably distributed throughout the region
10. Follow spacing guidelines that reflect established development & transportation patterns
11. Consider priorities reflected in adopted plans



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## New RBTN Measures

### Directness Measures

- Directness to regional destinations & transit nodes
- “Out-of-direction Ratio” compares distances along proposed routes with existing network routes

### Corridor Spacing Measure

- Provides a visual check for spacing gaps and overlaps between adjacent & parallel RBTN corridors through mapping

### Equity Measures

- Access to BIPOC population and people in poverty
- Qualitative assessment of benefits to disadvantaged and vulnerable populations

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## New RBTN Measures

### Connectivity Measures

- Regional bicycle barrier crossings
- State and regional trails
- Local bikeway network access points
- Adjacent city/county bikeway networks

### Proximity to Development Measures

- Proximity to people & jobs along proposed routes in urban & suburban areas
- “Activity per mile Ratio” combines route distance with people & jobs along proposed routes through rural areas

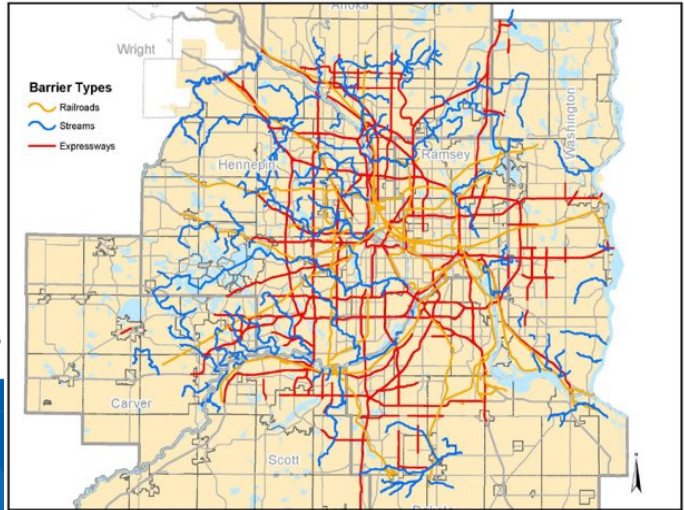
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# REGIONAL BICYCLE BARRIERS & BARRIER CROSSING AREAS

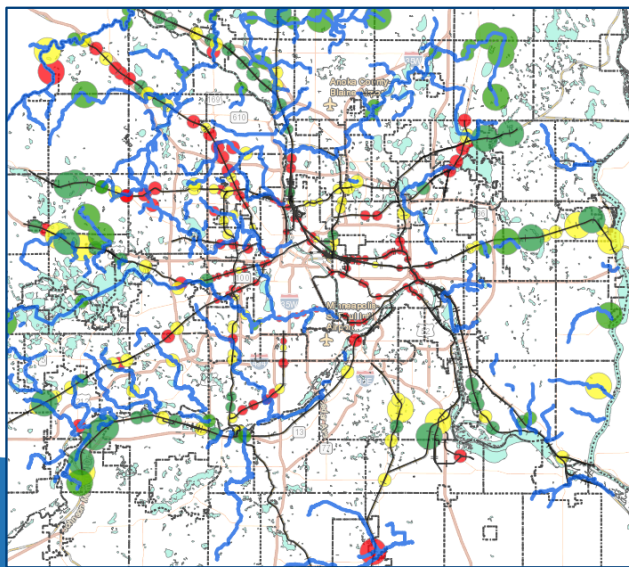
- Developed in Regional Bicycle Barriers Study (2018) & Tech. Addendum (2019)
- Introduced in 2018 and updated in 2020 Transportation Policy Plan
- Regional bicycle barriers defined to include:
  - Freeways & Expressways
  - Rail corridors
  - Rivers and Streams
- Added as alternative criteria for Trails/Bike Facilities funding applications in 2020 Regional Solicitation



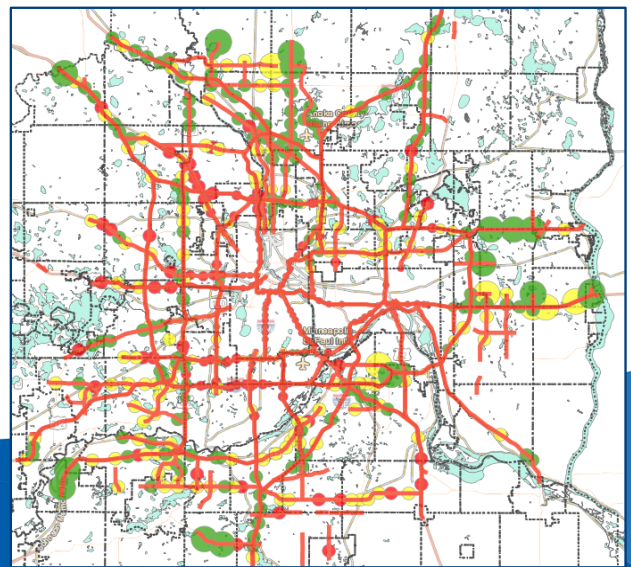
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## Regional Bicycle Barrier Crossing Areas

1. Rail & Stream Crossing Areas



2. Freeway/Expressway Crossing Areas



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## Agency Review Process

### Regional Bike Barrier Change Applications:

- Agencies will be asked to review regional bicycle barriers and barrier crossing areas in their communities via interactive online map
- Based on those reviews, agencies can request the following:
  1. Addition of a ***new regional bicycle barrier*** consistent with the definitions provided
  2. Addition of a ***planned bicycle facility improvement location*** that crosses a regional bicycle barrier and is not currently included within a prioritized *regional bicycle barrier crossing area*

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## Agency Review Process

### RBTN Change Applications:

1. Agencies will be asked to review RBTN corridors and alignments within their communities (online map)
2. Agencies will be given option to propose these change types:
  - **Addition** of a *new RBTN corridor or alignment*,
  - **Re-alignment (shift)** of an existing RBTN corridor or alignment
  - **Extension** of an existing RBTN corridor or alignment
3. Agencies can propose new development nodes or facilities that meet or approach the RBTN criteria for *regional destinations or regional transit nodes*

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# Application Process

## What are the Steps?

1. Publish notification of period to submit applications for Regional Bicycle Barriers & RBTN changes
2. Council staff review submitted applications:
  - **Regional Bicycle Barriers:** will evaluate on consistency with definitions
  - **RBTN:** will evaluate using recommended measures from RBTN Guidelines & Measures Study
3. Meet with Bicycle-Pedestrian Peer Discussion Group to review staff recommendations on submitted update requests

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# Application Process

## What are the Steps?

4. Present recommended changes through TAC/TAB process for developing the 2022 Regional Solicitation application
5. TAB accepts changes and updated maps prior to releasing draft Regional Solicitation application packet for public comment
6. Map updates will also require a TPP administrative modification; public comment will be afforded through Regional Solicitation public comment process
7. Final maps presented for approval by TAB and Met Council

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## Regional Barriers/RBTN Update Schedule

- Publish notification to propose changes Target: 4/23
- Deadline to submit applications Target: 5/28
- Council staff review applications June
- Review staff recommendations with Bike-Ped Peer Group June/July
- TAC/TAB approval process for updated maps Aug/Sept
- Public Comment period for Reg. Solicitation/TPP modification Sept/Oct
- Final maps approved by TAB & Met Council Dec/Jan

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