

# **Phase 3 Committee Meeting**

Presenters:



Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government







## **Overall Legacy Trail Update**

- Coolavin Rail Trail Status
- Flag Poles and Interpretive Signage Phase 1 and 2
- Hope Center
- Scott County Connection





#### **State of the Watershed**

The Cane Run watershed covers 29,000 acres. Cane Run Creek and its tributaries supply farms and wildlife and recharge Royal Spring Aquifer, the major source of drinking water for the city of Georgetown, 10 miles north of here. But Cane Run isn't the natural watershed Indians, European explorers and early settlers found. Many of its banks have been straightened and heavil eroded. Runoff from agricultural uses and urban development has polluted its waters with sediment and bacteria and made them unsuitable for aquatic life and human activity. The University of Kentucky, the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government and other organizations, businesses and landowners are stabilizing Cane Run's stream banks; planting native trees, shrubs and grasses; reating natural wetlands, and taking other measures to limit pollution and I help restore this vital Bluegrass watershed.













### Legacy Trail Phase 3 – Prior Planning







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# **LEGACY TRAIL PHASE 3 DESIGN**





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#### **Consultant Team**









# **Preliminary Engineering Evaluation**

- Perform Case Studies of Existing Cycle Track/Protected Bike Lane Applications
- Develop Acceptable Typical Section Alternatives
- Determine Preferred Route Alternative



- Evaluate Project Budget to Determine Overall Scope of Project Improvements
- Select Alternative for Final Implementation

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# **Cycle Track/Protected Bike Lane Applications**

#### What is a protected bike lane?

Protected bike lanes are next-generation bikeways being built across the U.S.

They use physical barriers to separate bike lanes from both cars and sidewalks. creating safe, inviting spaces for people to bike. Some, but not all, are painted green.



#### **210** Applications Estimated (2014) 2/3 ARE 1 WAY



Source: People for Bikes







### Cycle Track/Protected Bike Lane Case Study Review

- *Objective* (Find Applications with similar characteristics to help inform design considerations)
  - + Location Characteristics
  - + Street Cross Section
  - + Intersection Types
  - + Conflict Potential

RISON	СІТҮ	APPROXIMATE POPULATION	BIKE FACILITIES (mi)	ONE-WAY PBL (mi)	TWO-WAY PBL (mi)
APAF	Washington, DC	659,000	63	2.6	3.4
200	Indianapolis, IN	838,000	170	0	2.5
	Seattle, WA	640,500	181	0.3	3.8
E STI	Louisville, KY	629,000	171	0	1.7 (Planned)
CAS	Lexington, KY	310,000	57	0	0

Out of 210 Applications, Only 6 Compared Favorably to the Legacy Trail Conditions





### Case Study: Washington D.C. – 1st Street

CATEGORY	STATISTICS
Vehicle	Two-Way
Bicycle	Two-Way
Length	0.46 Miles
Signalized Intersections	3 Each
Unsignalized Approaches	4 Each
Protected Bike Lane Width	8 Feet
Buffer Width	2 - 3 Feet
Speed Limit	25 mph
Buffer Type	Varies



#### **KEY IMPLEMENTATION FEATURES AND ADDITIONAL FINDINGS**

- Left turns across the PBL are separated by phasing at signalized intersections.
- Noted typical vehicular operating speeds are less than the posted speed limit and relatively close to bicycle speeds.
- Noncompliance with bicycle signals and pedestrian signals is greatly increased when cross streets are at lower volumes.









## Case Study: Washington D.C. – 15th Street

CATEGORY	STATISTICS
Vehicle	One-Way (0.8 miles) Two-Way (0.35 miles)
Bicycle	Two-Way
Length	0.46 Miles
Signalized Intersections	8 Each
Unsignalized Approaches	6 Each
Protected Bike Lane Width	8 Feet
Buffer Width	2 - 3 Feet
Speed Limit	30 mph
Buffer Type	Delineator Posts/Parking



#### **KEY IMPLEMENTATION FEATURES AND ADDITIONAL FINDINGS**

- Left turns across the PBL are separated by phase or all-together prohibited and right turns on red are prohibited at signalized intersections.
- Uncontrolled intersections include signs requiring vehicular turning movements to stop for bicycles and pedestrians.
- Noncompliance with bicycle signals and pedestrian signals is greatly increased when cross streets are at lower volumes.









# Case Study: Indianapolis, IN – Shelby Street

CATEGORY	STATISTICS
Vehicle	Two-Way
Bicycle	Two-Way
Length	0.52 Miles
Signalized Intersections	4 Each
Unsignalized Approaches	5 Each
Protected Bike Lane Width	8 - 10 Feet
Buffer Width	1.5 Foot Min.
Speed Limit	30 mph
Buffer Type	Raised Curb/Steel Bollards



#### **KEY IMPLEMENTATION FEATURES AND ADDITIONAL FINDINGS**

- Signalized intersections do not have left-turning conflicts.
- Presence of raised concrete curb and steel bollards provide traffic calming.
- Noncompliance with bicycle/pedestrian signals is not generally an issue.







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### Case Study: Seattle, WA – Linden Avenue

CATEGORY	STATISTICS
Vehicle	Two-Way
Bicycle	Two-Way
Length	0.8 Miles
Signalized Intersections	3 Each
Unsignalized Approaches	5 Each
Protected Bike Lane Width	8 - 10 Feet
Buffer Width	2 to 3 Foot Min.
Speed Limit	25 mph
Buffer Type	Varies



#### **KEY IMPLEMENTATION FEATURES AND ADDITIONAL FINDINGS**

- Left turns across the PBL are separated by phasing at signalized intersections.
- Corridor has limited turning conflicts and various buffer types to provide positive protection.
- Red light compliance at intersections is higher in heavier traffic areas.







### Case Study: Seattle, WA – Broadway

CATEGORY	STATISTICS
Vehicle	Two-Way
Bicycle	Two-Way
Length	1.1 Miles
Signalized Intersections	13 Each
Unsignalized Approaches	2 Each
Protected Bike Lane Width	8 - 10 Feet
Buffer Width	2 - 3 Feet
Speed Limit	30 mph
Buffer Type	Varies



#### **KEY IMPLEMENTATION FEATURES AND ADDITIONAL FINDINGS**

- PBLs are the preferred application along this street car corridor because of the reduced risk of bicycle tires getting lodged in the depressed track channels.
- Left turns across the PBL are separated by phasing at signalized intersections.
- PBL is located in a vibrant district and has higher congestion levels which generally helps reduce vehicular speeds.
- Increased usage of the PBL decreases safety concerns because of increased awareness.







# Case Study: Louisville, KY – Lexington Road (Planned)

CATEGORY	STATISTICS
Vehicle	Two-Way
Bicycle	Two-Way
Length	1.7 Miles
Signalized Intersections	1 Each
Unsignalized Approaches	3 Each
Protected Bike Lane Width	9 Feet
Buffer Width	3 Feet
Speed Limit	35 mph
Buffer Type	Delineator Posts/ Rumble Strips



#### **KEY IMPLEMENTATION FEATURES AND ADDITIONAL FINDINGS**

- Several options were evaluated and the two-way PBL was chosen as the preferred option to minimize conflicts.
- Left turns across the PBL will be separated by phasing at the signalized intersection.
- Noted objections include loss of several on-street parking spaces and safety of bicyclists at intersections and conflict points.









# **Case Study: Summary of Findings**

- Minimize Conflicts
  - + Seattle's Broadway Control Bicycle Crossing of Street Car Tracks
  - + Louisville's Lexington Road Significant Portion has No Conflicting Turns
- Primary Concern
  - + Introduction of Bicycles Traveling Against Traffic
- Keys To Success
  - + Eliminating Turning Conflicts
  - + Heavy Usage
  - + Targeted Education

#### + Monitoring To Identify Adjustments

Project Location	Street Application	<b>Buffer Types</b> (B=Bollards, C=Curb, D=Delineators, P=Parking, O=Other)	Buffer Width	Protected Bike Lane Width	Restricted Left Turn @ Signalized Intersections	Restricted Right Turn on Red @ Signalized Intersection	Bicycle Signals @ Signalized Intersection
1st Street–DC	Two-Way	D, P	2-3'	8'	Yes	Yes	No
15th Street–DC (One-Way)	One-Way	D, P	2-3'	8'	Yes	None	No
15th Street–DC (Two-Way)	Two-Way	D, P	2-3'	8'	Yes	Yes	No
Shelby Street–Indianapolis	Two-Way	В, С	1.5'	8-10'	None	No	Yes
Linden Avenue–Seattle	Two-Way	C, D, P	2-3'	8-10'	Yes	No	Yes
Broadway–Seattle	Two-Way	C, D, P, O	2-3'	8-10'	Yes	No	Yes
Lexington Road–Louisville	Two-Way	D, O	3'	9'	Yes	*	*





### FHWA Planning and Design Guidance

- Safety Real or Perceived?
  - + Existing Data Relatively Small
  - + Increase in Bicycle Crashes at Intersections
  - + Need Communities to Monitor and Share Information
- Pilot Projects Test, Monitor, and Adapt Concepts
- Maintain Separation Between Separate Through and Turning Movements





"New May 2015 Guidance of Affirmed Case Study Findings."







#### LFUCG Assessment and Conclusion for Two-Way Cycle Track/Protected Bike Lane Alternative

- Alternative Specific Challenges
  - + Unexpected conflicts at driveways and minor street approaches
  - + Requires street widening for over a third of the corridor to meet minimum typical section (32')
    - → Acquire right-of-way from adjacent properties
    - $\rightarrow$  Relocation of utilities
    - → Base infrastructure construction cost would exceed overall grant funding (excluding right-of-way and utility relocation)
  - + Requires signal phasing/timing modifications to the corridor and traffic analysis to review impact to cross street corridors
- Based on the alternative challenges, the City has eliminated this alternative from consideration on this project.







# PEDALING FORWARD....









#### **Route Alternatives**





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#### **Common Route Opportunities and Constraints**







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### Alt. No.1: Shropshire Linkage







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#### Alt. No.1: Shropshire Opportunities and Constraints







### Alt. No.1: Shropshire Corridor Considerations

- Sufficient width for both typical section alternatives (Width >= 30')
- Higher residential on-street parking demand
- Existing bike lanes on Shropshire from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup>
- Residential section
  - + Fewer destinations
  - + Lower traffic volumes (Least traveled section of overall)









#### Alt. No.2: Elm Tree Linkage







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#### Alt. No.2: Elm Tree Opportunities and Constraints







### Alt. No.2: Elm Tree Corridor Considerations

- Constrained section (Less than 30') on 3<sup>rd</sup> from Elm Tree to Ford
- Low daily on-street parking demand, but high parking demand for events
- Existing dedicated left turn lane on westbound 3<sup>rd</sup> at Elm Tree
- Existing bike lanes and dedicated on-street parking
  - + 3<sup>rd</sup> from Shropshire to Race
  - + Elm Tree Ln from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup>
- Commercial/Residential section
  - + More destinations
  - + Higher traffic volumes (Most traveled section of overall)









#### **Typical Section Alternatives**



Typical Section – Existing Conditions



Typical Section Alt. No. 1 – Traditional Bike Lanes



Typical Section Alt. No. 2 – Shared Lane Markings





#### **Typical Section Alt. No. 1: Traditional Bike Lanes**



#### **BENEFITS**

- Provides a dedicated bicycle facility on routes LFUCG has denoted as preferred routes on the Bike Lexington Map.
- Bike Lanes on low speed streets have shown to attract the more casual user.
- Provides a better opportunity to maintain sense of trail continuity.

#### **NEGATIVES**

- Impacts existing on-street parking for a majority of both route alternatives.
- Several constrained sections (<30') are not wide enough to accommodate standard bike lanes and 10' travel lanes. If not widened, these sections will require substandard bike lane width and/or reduced travel lane widths.







#### **Typical Section Alt. No. 2: Shared Lane Markings**



#### **BENEFITS**

- Provides markings on the existing street to improve driver awareness of bicyclists who will "share" the road.
- Allows existing on-street parking to remain as is.

#### **NEGATIVES**

- Maintains a physical connection to the existing trail, but loses the continuity of the trail-like character.
- Intermixing vehicular and bicycle traffic reduces the feeling of safety and security for recreational/family users.



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### **Major Project Alternative Considerations**

- Displacement of On-Street Parking Spaces
- Impact to Existing Dedicated Left Turn Lanes
- Width Requirements for Constrained Street Sections







#### **On-Street Parking Spaces Inventory**







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#### **On-Street Parking Area No. 1**





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#### **On-Street Parking Area No. 2**



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#### **On-Street Parking Area No. 3**







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#### **Dedicated Turn Lane No. 1 Impact**







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#### **Dedicated Turn Lane No. 2 Impact**







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#### Constrained Section – 4th St. (Upper to Limestone)



CATEGORY	STATISTICS
Length of Constrained Section	350 Feet
Min. Curb to Curb Width	28 Feet
Transit/Bus Traffic	Yes

#### **ROADWAY WIDENING IMPACTS**

- Traffic signal infrastructure at both Limestone and Upper.
- Existing overhead and underground utilities in the limited buffer between curb and sidewalk on both sides.
- Properties have limited to no availability for minor right-of-way acquisition.









#### Constrained Section – 3rd St. (Elm Tree to Ford)



CATEGORY	STATISTICS
Length of Constrained Section	750 Feet
Min. Curb to Curb Width	28 Feet
Transit/Bus Traffic	Yes

#### **ROADWAY WIDENING IMPACTS**

- Existing overhead and underground utilities in the limited buffer between curb and sidewalk on both sides.
- Minor right-of-way acquisition would be required to widen the roadway and maintain a minimum buffer.
- Roadway widening would provide opportunity to consider additional streetscape enhancements to corridor if budget allows.

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#### The Legacy Trail Story

Materials Textures Local Patterns History Inviting Connectivity Plant Material Sense of Ownership Equestrian Heritage Cost Effective Timeless Development Generator Public Art Color Flexible Outdoor Fitness Public Art Color Flexible Family Story Opportunities Regional Sustainable Safety

#### Design Considerations:

- Interpretive Educational Features
- Public Art
- Seating
- Bicycle Parking
- Signage & Way-finding Elements
  - Mile Markers
  - Trail Identification
- Landscape
- Trail Delineators
- Materials
  - Limestone
  - Color Palette / Legacy Trail Logo
- Crosswalk Enhancements
- Design Style
  - Stong Geometry
  - Purposeful Sightlines

• Trail Heads

Focus Areas:

- Rest Areas
- Major Crossings
- Community Nodes
- Pocket Parks
- Gateways

#### Community Opportunities:

- Transylvania University
- Lexington Traditional Magnet School
- The Living Arts & Science Center
- London Ferrill Community Garden
- Lyric Theatre & Cultural Arts Center
- Charles Young Community Center & Park

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• East End Farmer's Market

















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EXISTING SITE PHOTOS:







### **Additional Considerations - Connectivity**

- Town Branch Commons (Trail) at Isaac Murphy Memorial Art Garden
- North/South Connectivity for Neighborhood
  - + Existing Elm Tree Bike Lanes
  - + Future Downtown Connection Improvements





### Additional Considerations – Safety Improvements

- Posted speed limit
- Traffic calming treatments at intersections
- Lighting
- Experimental Treatments (Bicycle Boxes and Two-Stage Left Turn Treatments









### **Alternatives Comparison Matrix**

	ALTERNATIVE ROUTE/TYPICAL SECTION COMBINATIONS			
Criteria	Shropshire Route with Traditional Bike Lanes	Shropshire Route with Shared Lane Markings	Elm Tree Route with Traditional Bike Lanes	Elm Tree Route with Shared Lane Markings
Dedicated facility separates people in cars from people on bikes	$\checkmark$	×	$\checkmark$	×
Attractive to recreational/more casual riders	$\checkmark$	×	$\checkmark$	×
Minimizes impact to existing on-street parking inventory	<b>X</b> (37)	$\checkmark$	<b>X</b> (19)	$\checkmark$
Ability to maintain the trail feel	$\checkmark$	×	$\checkmark$	×
Required infrastructure available within budget	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$
Avoids impact to existing left turn lane at 3 <sup>rd</sup> and Elm Tree	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	×	$\checkmark$
Connects community to destinations/commercial properties	×	×	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$









#### **Base Alternative Costs & Additional Considerations**

- Alt. Range (w/ 30% Contingency) \$1.1 \$1.2M (\$2.4M Project Funding)
  - + Included Costs
    - → Mill/Overlay for entire route and allowance for full depth repairs
    - $\rightarrow$  Pavement marking and signage
    - → Intersection ADA improvements
    - → Minor traffic calming improvements
    - → Interpretive Signage
  - + Additional Project Cost Considerations
    - → Mitigation of impacted on-street parking spaces
    - → Widening constrained sections roadway construction, utility relocation, and right-of-way acquisition

- → Additional sidewalk replacement
- → Amenities and aesthetic treatments
- → Street lighting
- → Additional traffic calming
- → Professional services





#### Stakeholder Feedback

- Discussion
- Next Steps







Above images courtesy of lexinthecircle.com







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