EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

What is the Bicycle Master Plan (BMP)?

The BMP is an update to the City's 2010 plan and represents a collaborative effort on behalf of the City of Hagerstown and the Hagerstown/Eastern Panhandle Metropolitan Planning Organization (HEPMPO). The BMP evaluates the city's existing bicycle environment (safety, connectivity, policies) and proposes a variety of new improvements over the next ten years. These plan recommendations include physical improvements, such as bike lanes and trails, and policy initiatives, such as safety programs and bicycle events.

What's been done since 2010?

The City of Hagerstown added approximately 10 miles of bicycle facilities from 2010 to 2015. These improvements include bike lanes, shared-lane markings (sharrows), and multi-use paths.
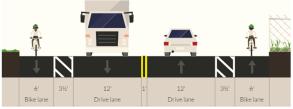

How does the plan evaluate bicycle needs?

The plan relied on data analysis and public input to evaluate bicycle needs. A bicycle-level-of-service (BLOS) tool was used to assess bicycle comfort and a bicycle demand tool was used to gauge where potential bicycle demand is highest. The public provided key input through an interactive, web-based survey, while the Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC) offered guidance throughout the planning process and was critical is helping to prioritize investments.

What does the plan recommend?

The BMP recommends a variety of on-road, off-road, and policy-oriented improvements to help cultivate a healthier bicycle environment. For example, the BMP recommends road diets on Northern Avenue and S. Burhans Boulevard, which would reduce the number of travel lanes and use the newly available space for bike lanes (buffered bike lanes, in the case of S. Burhans).

Proposed cross-section of S. Burhans Boulevard, including road diet and buffered bike lanes.

The plan also recommends safety and policy initiatives to help generate interest/awareness for cycling and ensure that cyclists and motorists understand their roadway responsibilities.

How can we get there?

The BMP includes an Implementation Plan that prioritizes investments based on a data-driven process, which examines projects' varying proximities to schools, parks, trails, housing, and jobs. The Implementation Plan also considers construction costs, sequencing, and anticipated funding constraints.

Did you know?

...the City is designated a bronze-level Bicycle Friendly Community by the League of American Bicyclists?

...the Hub City Bike Loop is a signed 10-mile bike loop around the city, utilizing on-street bike lanes and multi-use paths?

...the City has a bike safety video on its bicycling website and on YouTube?

...the BMP is available for download www.HEPMPO.net/HagerstownBMP?