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## MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item # 19

**Date:** March 2, 2010  
**To:** Metropolitan Planning Commission  
**From:** Mark Donaldson, Executive Director  
**Subject:** The **Knoxville Regional Bicycle Plan** and Amendments to the General Plan – 3-A-10-SAP

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### RECOMMENDATION: APPROVE

MPC staff recommends that you adopt the Knoxville Regional Bicycle Plan, which represents amendments to the General Plan, and forward the plan to City Council and County Commission with recommendations for adoption. A resolution is included for that purpose.

### BACKGROUND

The Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization (TPO), housed within MPC, is responsible for developing a twenty-year multi-modal long range plan and a transportation improvement program in cooperation with the state and affected transit operators and the public. The TPO serves Knox and urbanized portions of Blount, Loudon, and Sevier Counties.

In 2001, the TPO Executive Board developed a citizen Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC) with eleven members. The BAC had many duties: updating and maintaining the Bicycle Plan for the Knoxville Urban Area; making recommendations and encouraging the implementation of bicycle provisions and opportunities to the TPO Technical Committee, Executive Board and implementing agencies; and working with local businesses, agencies and organizations to encourage bicycling and promoting community investment in bicycle racks, signage and other facilities/programs. These duties continue today.

The 2002 Knoxville Regional Bicycle Plan, adopted as an amendment to the TPO Long-Range Transportation Plan, was a detailed plan with more than 80 action steps. Much progress has been made since then. This 2009 plan is intended as a supplement to the 2002 plan, and provides a succinct plan of action to guide the work of the TPO, BAC and local jurisdictions. It should be noted that this plan is subject to fiscal and policy decisions made by each local government

With adoption, it will be an element of the Knoxville Knox County General Plan, including the vision statement, nine objectives and corresponding action steps. Suggested implementing partners are identified for each action step.

The plan was developed through interagency meetings, Bicycle Advisory Committee meetings, public meetings, online comments and reviews of drafts. Local bicycle clubs, shops and advocates were consulted through the entire update process, which began in 2006.

**KNOXVILLE-KNOX COUNTY  
METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION  
A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE 2009 KNOXVILLE REGIONAL BICYCLE PLAN**

*WHEREAS, the Knoxville-Knox County Metropolitan Planning Commission, a regional planning commission established pursuant to state statute, has the duty to make and adopt plans for the development of Knoxville and Knox County; and*

*WHEREAS, the MPC Agenda for Quality Growth calls for providing transportation choices for all citizens; and*

*WHEREAS, investing in bicycle transportation addresses numerous objectives by creating safer streets; reducing the causes of global climate change; promoting a healthy environment; limiting adverse health effects related to inactivity; providing equity and access to viable, affordable transportation options; creating vibrant and livable neighborhoods; and supporting the region's economy; and*

*WHEREAS, the Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) staff developed the 2009 Regional Bicycle Plan with input from the Bicycle Advisory Committee and through a public process including a series of public meetings; and*

*WHEREAS, the TPO Executive Board adopted the Bicycle Plan as part of the 2009-2034 Knoxville Regional Mobility Plan on May 27, 2009; and*

*WHEREAS, the Bicycle Plan is in accord with the recently adopted Knoxville/Knox County Park, Recreation and Greenways Plan;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE KNOXVILLE-KNOX COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION:*

*SECTION 1: The Commission hereby adopts the Knoxville Regional Bicycle Plan,, dated May 2009, and amendments to the General Plan.*

*SECTION 2: The Planning Commission further recommends (a) that the Knoxville City Council adopt the plan and corresponding General Plan and Sector Plan amendments through passage by ordinance and (b) that the Knox County Commission adopt the plan and corresponding General Plan amendments by resolution.*

*SECTION 3: This Resolution shall take effect upon its approval.*

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*Date*

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*Chairman*

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*Secretary*