West Virginia Bicycle Connectivity Plan

for the West Virginia Planning Conference

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Perry Keller - WVDOH
West Virginia Bicycle System Plan

- TCSP Grant
- Fund plan for system of signed bike routes
- Encourage bicycle tourism
PROJECT PURPOSE

- Develop a system of signed bicycle routes for WV that connect with other states
- Implement routes with signage and related infrastructure
- Provide a foundation for a Statewide Bicycle Plan and future improvements
- Evaluate connections to other states’ routes and US Bicycle Route System
PLAN VISION AND GOALS

• Establish designated bicycle routes within the state
• Encourage bicycle transportation and tourism while boosting the tourism economy
• Improve quality of life
PUBLIC OUTREACH

• Technical Committee (Guide Direction of Plan)
• Policy Committee (MPOs, State Police, Tourism, Bicycle Advocacy Groups)
• Stakeholder Interviews (State, Regional, Local)
• Two Rounds of Public Meetings
## REGIONAL PUBLIC OUTREACH

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2013</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 3</td>
<td>Ranson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 7</td>
<td>Charleston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 8</td>
<td>Huntington</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 10</td>
<td>Parkersburg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 14</td>
<td>Wheeling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 15</td>
<td>Morgantown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 21</td>
<td>Lewisburg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 22</td>
<td>Elkins</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### 2016

- State Bicycle Summit
Bicycle Routes Should Be Located in Areas Where Use Can Be Maximized

- Location of bike touring support establishments
- Location of rail stations
- Location of state parks, resorts, and other natural attractions
- Local tourism and economic development opportunities
- Sufficient trip lengths/connections
- Review of existing plans
NATIONAL CONNECTIONS

- US Bike Route System
- AASHTO Task Force

- Administered by Adventure Cycling Association
- Now in 25 states
- Over 1100 miles designated
CONNECTIONS TO NEIGHBORING STATES
Issues

- West Virginia is seen as a barrier to cross-country bicycle travel due to mountainous terrain
- River crossings
TIER 1 ANALYSIS

Major North/South & East/West Connections

Key Nodes

- National Routes
- 2009 State Bike Routes
- Scenic Byways & Backways
- Additional Stakeholder Suggestions
- Long Distance Trails
- Neighboring States’ Routes
2009 Proposed West Virginia State Bike Routes
## 2009 Proposed West Virginia State Bike Routes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State Routes</th>
<th>Major Roadways</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>CR 25, SR 9, CR 27, SR 340</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>CR 507, CR 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>CR 1, SR 480</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>US 40, Wheeling Creek Trail</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>US 219, SR 92, SR 42, SR 46, SR 51</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Roughly Parallels US 50</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>North Bend Rail Trail, West Fork Rail Trail, Mon River Rail Trail, Deckers Creek Rail Trail</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>US 119, SR 61, US 60, SR 21, SR 14</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>US 60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loop 1</td>
<td>Lewis County Roads, US 19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loop 2</td>
<td>Cabell County Roads</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Building the Vision

- The following slides overlay some of the building blocks:
  - Proposed USBRS
  - Proposed 2009 routes
  - WV Scenic Byways and Backways
  - Major long distance trails
  - Neighboring state efforts
  - Major destinations
  - Stakeholder input
DRAFT WEST VIRGINIA STATE BIKE ROUTES
OTHER MAJOR LONG DISTANCE TRAILS

Legend
- Yellow: Other Long Distance Trails
- Black: Scenic Byways and Backways
- Blue: State Designated Bike Routes
- Green: U.S. Bike Routes (Conceptual)

Map showing various long distance trails including the Monongahela River Trail, Allegheny Highlands Rail Trail, Appalachian Trail, and others.
CONNECTIONS TO OTHER STATES
7 MAJOR NORTH-SOUTH CONNECTORS
9 MAJOR EAST-WEST CONNECTORS
POTENTIAL NODES
16 Routes Simplified to 9
Regions 1 and 4
Regions 2 and 3
Regions 5, 10 & 11
Regions 6 and 7
## Nomenclature

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feature</th>
<th>New York</th>
<th>New Mexico</th>
<th>Georgia</th>
<th>Pennsylvania</th>
<th>Ohio</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Based on SHS numbering</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Allows local system roads</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td>Some</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Emulate Interstate system: (Even # = E-W)</td>
<td></td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>A-M go N-S, N-Z - go E-W</td>
<td>Some counties</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specific roadway relationships</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>SBR 66 and others</td>
<td>SBR 95 Parallel to I-95</td>
<td></td>
<td>Some counties</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Descriptive or historic names</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>“March to the Sea” etc.</td>
<td>E = East Coast Greenway</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Next Steps

- Field verify routes
- Combine data
- Add flag in WVDOH database
- Develop internal WVDOH procedures to institutionalize
- Plan for signing routes
- Agreements with adjacent states
- Apply for USBRS designation
Questions and Answers

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