



THE LACE & AXLE



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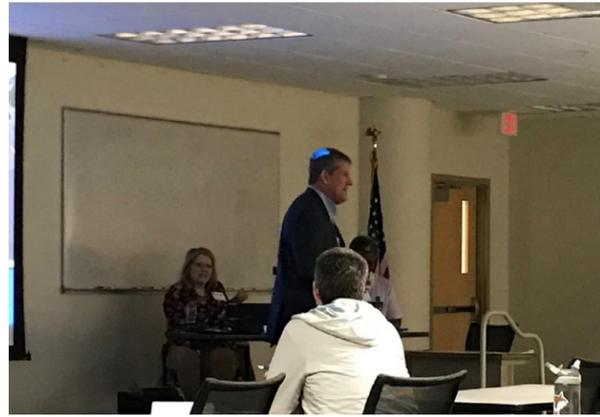
BIKE SAFETY WORKSHOP RECAP!



On April 12-15, the City of Jacksonville cohosted a series of workshops at the Ed Ball Building, entitled Designing for Bicycle Safety: Emphasis Upon Separated Bike Lanes and Intersections. The workshops were facilitated and instructed by Brooke Struve and Keith Sinclair from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). The FHWA instructors utilized their expertise and years of experience to teach the region's planners, engineers, safety professionals, and advocates about the latest bike facility designs and proven countermeasures aimed at keeping bicyclists safe on the roadway. Attendees included a notable mix of private and public sector staff from all levels of government, which underscored the importance of the partnerships necessary to reduce bicyclist injuries and fatalities in the region. **(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE!)**



BIKE SAFETY WORKSHOP (CONTINUED)



Bill Killingsworth, Director of Planning and Development, kicks-off the FHWA Workshop. Source: City of Jacksonville

Bill Killingsworth, Director of Jacksonville's Planning and Development Department, kicked-off the training workshops with remarks emphasizing the city's commitment to the expansion of safe, comfortable, and connected bikeway and pedestrian networks for all residents. A reoccurring theme throughout the training was the concept that bike facilities need to be designed for bicyclists of all ages and abilities, and not just for expert riders. Some cyclists feel comfortable coming with autos on the roadway, but most kids, daily commuters, and casual riders feel safer on wide shared-use paths or protected bike lanes that connect to jobs, retail centers, schools, hospitals, etc. The training sessions culminated in a bike tour downtown where practitioners were able to ride several types of bike facilities – good and bad – to gain a wheels-on-the-ground perspective on what feels safe and comfortable for cyclists and where improvements can be made. City and FHWA staff have already begun to coordinate a pedestrian version of the training workshops slated later this year, focusing on safe roadway crossings and sidewalk networks for those traveling by foot or wheelchair.

Hogan Street Shared-Use Path and Two-Way Cycle Track



Rendering of the proposed shared use path from Water Street to Bay Street. Photo courtesy of Groundwork Jacksonville.



Rendering of the transition from a 2-way cycle track to a 14' shared-use path at the intersection of Ashley and Hogan. Photo courtesy of Groundwork Jacksonville



Groundwork Jacksonville and the City of Jacksonville have partnered to develop a complete streets project along Hogan Street downtown, which begins as a 9'-wide, two-way cycle track, at Water Street, continuing northward to Ashley Street, where the track seamlessly transitions into a 14' shared-use path, extending past the Rosa Parks Transit Station to Laura Street, by way of State Street, eventually connecting with the existing shared-use path along Hogan's Creek. Public comment was collected throughout the design process to ensure the infrastructure and beautification elements would improve the downtown experience for all nearby residents, retailers, and visitors. The project is slated for completion in 2023.

The development is part of Groundwork Jacksonville's larger Emerald Trail shared-use path network, which – once completed – will implement roughly 30-miles of connected urban trails within the downtown area, linking 14 neighborhoods, 16 schools, 2 colleges, and 21 public parks, among other key locations.

THIS JUST IN

Green-Colored Bicycle Lanes on St. Augustine Road

As part of a pilot program, green-colored bike lanes were installed in March in the San Marco neighborhood, along St. Augustine Road, from Phillips Highway to Ashland Street. The green pavement markings have been shown in case studies to help drivers be more aware of cyclists, especially in traffic conflict areas like driveways and intersections and are also effective at guiding cyclists through crossings to connect with adjacent bike lanes. Vehicles are less likely to encroach on the green bike lanes, in turn reducing bicycle-vehicular accidents and improving the overall level of comfort for cyclists. The green bike lanes along St. Augustine Road meet FDOT statewide requirements, as similar roadway treatments have been effective at reducing reported crashes in other parts of Florida, including St. Petersburg and Miami.



Before: St. Augustine Road Green Paint. Source: Google StreetView



After: St. Augustine Road Green Paint. Source: City of Jacksonville

Pedestrian-Bicycle Safety Table at First Wednesday Art Walk



Transportation Planning Staff distributing free bicycle helmets. Photo courtesy of the City of Jacksonville



Jacksonville locals enjoying their new bicycle helmets. Photo courtesy of the City of Jacksonville



Celebrating Jacksonville's downtown culture, the First Wednesday Art Walk, hosted by Downtown Vision since 2003, is a monthly opportunity to sample local cuisine, learn about programs and businesses at informational tables, and enjoy the craftsmanship of local artists and vendors. Key streets are closed to motorized traffic to create a safe and walkable space for families along the event's three major hubs: James Weldon Johnson Park, The Jessie (DuPont Center), and Vagabond Flea at The Breezeway at Vystar Tower. In March, the City's Planning and Development Department were on-hand to share bicycle and pedestrian safety items and information, including the fitting/providing of 50 free bike helmets to attendees, courtesy of Florida's Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Resource Center (pedbikesrc.ce.ufl.edu). Visitors were happy to receive new helmets, bike lights, safety guidebooks, and attachable reflectors to keep them protected on their next bike or E-scooter ride downtown! The Downtown Jacksonville Public Library have graciously provided space for informational tables at the recurring event, so be sure to look for the City's bike-ped safety table at future First Wednesday Art Walks!

UPCOMING LOCAL EVENTS

Thursday, June 23: Public Hearing for FDOT Project 103rd Street, from Shindler Drive to Firestone Road:

The \$6 million resurfacing project along two miles of 103rd Street (State Road 134) is scheduled to begin in spring 2023 and be completed in summer 2024. The project includes roadway milling and resurfacing; pedestrian, sidewalk and bus stop upgrades; bike lane grate replacements; curb ramp ADA upgrades; driveway repairs; traffic signal updates and Ortega Creek Bridge deck, joint and beam repairs. The project also includes median modifications at two two unsignalized intersections within the project limits.



Jacksonville residents may participate online at <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3702457395101631501> or by phone at (914) 614-3221 and enter access code 834-495-747.

Saturday May 14th: Waves of Grey Brain Cancer/Tumor Awareness Walk: This 5K will raise funding for The Waves of Gray Neuro-Oncology Endowment; Supporting research programs at Baptist/MD Anderson Cancer Center in Jacksonville, with 100% proceeds going to research.

[REGISTER HERE](#)



Saturday July 16th: JAX Olympic and Spirit Triathlon: Triathlon begins in downtown Jacksonville at the Riverfront PLaza Park (formerly the Jacksonville Landing)

[REGISTER HERE](#)



UPCOMING TRAINING

June 7th, 1pm: [Webinar] Research in Shared Micromobility

National Institute for Transportation and Communities

nitc.trec.pdx.edu/events/professional-development/webinar-06072022

May 18th, 1pm: [Webinar] Introducing the Safer Streets Priority Finder, an Open-Source Tool for Evaluating Network Level Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety

Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals (APBP)

apbp.mclms.net/en/package/8379/view

Recorded: [Webinar] Not Easy Being Green – Colorizing Bicycle Lanes to Enhance Safety

Transportation Research Board (TRB)

nationalacademies.org/event/06-02-2021/trb-webinar-not-easy-being-green-colorizing-bicycle-lanes-to-enhance-safety

Thank You to our Spring Intern, Thalia Fusté

Thalia joined the Planning and Development Department as a Spring intern and was instrumental in developing Jacksonville's first comprehensive GIS inventory of all bicycle infrastructure, among other projects related to bicycle and pedestrian planning. Thalia graduated this May from the University of North Florida where she earned a bachelor's degree in political science (major), with a minor in urban and metropolitan cities planning. We wish her the best of luck in all her future endeavors!

