Regional Council of Mayors

Presented by The American Heart Association and the Bicycle Alliance of Minnesota

May 9, 2016
The Idea…

• Five year partnership between American Heart Association, the Bicycle Alliance of Minnesota and Minnesotans for Healthy Kids.

• The light bulb turned on in 2016 and we decided to work on bringing together a caucus of mayors interested in active transportation.

• CoChairs came together with shared vision: Mayors Mary Hamann-Roland of Apple Valley, Ardell Brede of Rochester and Hank Ludtke of Frazee.

• The Caucus will continue into 2017 and beyond!
Why a Caucus?

To advocate for the needs of Minnesota’s transportation system, including pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure, from a very local level.

Who’s involved with the Caucus?

Greater Minnesota and outer-ring, suburban-based mayors because active transportation is important to ALL Minnesotans.
The Caucus: A Snapshot
41 Mayors Strong!

- Apple Valley
- Baxter
- Bemidji
- Birchwood Village
- Center City
- Coon Rapids
- Edina
- Eyota
- Falcon Heights
- Fergus Falls
- Frazee
- Glenwood
- Golden Valley
- Grand Marais
- Granite Falls
- Hawley
- Hopkins
- International Falls
- Inver Grove Heights
- La Crescent
- La Sueur
- Long Lake
- Maplewood
- Marshall
- New Ulm
- North Branch
- North Mankato
- Olivia
- Owatonna
- Perham
- Redwood Falls
- Rochester
- Royalton
- Shoreview
- Saint Louis Park
- Wabasha
- White Bear Lake
- Willmar
- Winona
- Worthington

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Winona mayor Peterson joins statewide pedestrian, bicyclist safety caucus

Known as the Minnesota Mayoral Active Transportation Caucus, the informal group was created to help create a broader understanding of the need for and importance of investing in quality pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure such as safer street crossings and routes to school, sidewalks and bicycle lanes.

Wosk has joined with 30 other mayors from Greater Minnesota as a member of a mayoral caucus designed to give increased visibility to the importance of safer and better transportation infrastructure for pedestrians and bicyclists throughout Minnesota.
Work As of Today

- Mayor Hank Ludtke of Frazee presented at the Minnesota Bike Summit.
- A news release is sent to local papers for each mayor that joins the caucus.
- Letter sent to legislators across the state letting them know the Caucus is here to offer input and guidance on active transportation issues and needs at a local level.
- LTE from Co-Chairs in the StarTribune
Why?

“Communities play a critical role in making healthy and active lifestyles easier for all Minnesotans”

- Janelle Waldock, Director, Center for Prevention Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota
Thanks ULI!
83% of Minnesotans believe that future transportation projects should accommodate not only motorized vehicles, but also walkers and people on bicycles.

Center for Prevention poll, October 22, 2015
One in Three
“The poorest 1/5 of U.S. families pay 42% of their income to own and drive a car.”

Commissioner Edward Ehlinger, Minnesota Department of Health
"I would like to live in a place where I don’t need to rely on a car to get around."

Survey of 18-35 year-olds in 10 cities (including Mpls)

- Strongly agree: 49%
- Somewhat agree: 31%
- Somewhat disagree: 10%
- Don't know/refused: 1%
- Strongly disagree: 9%

Source: 2014 Survey by Rockefeller Foundation and Transportation for America
Minnesota Has 72 BFB’s
Quality Bicycle Products
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Regional Bicycle Transportation Network (RBTN) Corridors

**PROPOSED**

**RBTN Corridors with Alignments**
- Tier 1 Alignments
- Tier 2 Alignments

**RBTN Corridors (Alignments Undefined)**
- Tier 1 Priority Regional Bicycle Transportation Corridor
- Tier 2 Regional Bicycle Transportation Corridors

**Other Trail Systems**
- Regional Trails (Regional Parks Policy Plan)
- Mississippi River Trail (US Route 45)
- State Trails (DNR)

**Regional Destinations**
- Metropolitan Job Centers (50,000+ jobs)
- Regional Job Centers (15,000 - 50,000 jobs)
- Subregional Job Centers (7,000 - 15,000 jobs)
- Large High Schools (2000+ Students)
- Colleges & Universities (2000+ Students)
- Major Sport & Entertainment Centers
- Highly Visited Regional Parks (400,000+ visits per year)

**Reference Items**
- Principal Arterial Roads
- Lakes and Rivers
- City Boundary
- County Boundary
- 2040 Municipal Urban Service Area
- MPO Area

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Lincoln Avenue in Fergus Falls
Midtown Greenway now has a year-around average of 5,000 people a day.
The State of Active Transportation at the Capitol

• H.F. 1645 (Norton) & S.F. 1376 (Pederson) introduced in 2015. S.F. 1376 included in the Senate transportation funding proposal.
• Session is half over, transportation will be dominating much of the conversation.
• Differing Senate and House bills.
• What happened Friday?
• Looking into the crystal ball.
Next Steps for the Mayoral Active Transportation Caucus

• Tell your colleagues about the Caucus!
• Tell legislators that you support funding active transportation infrastructure and programs like safe routes to school.
• What can BikeMN, AHA and the Minnesotans for Healthy Kids do to help you?
THANK YOU!

Rachel Callanan, American Heart Association, rachel.callanan@heart.org
Dorian Grilley, Bicycle Alliance of Minnesota, dorian@bikemn.org