



Verde Valley Cyclists Coalition
PO Box 20332
Sedona, AZ 86341

Mayor Moriarty, Vice Mayor Martinez, and City Councilors,

As the City of Sedona begins to bring the Transportation Master Plan to life, it is vital that the City create a comprehensive and integrated city-wide Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. This plan should include infrastructure such as sidewalks, trails and a paved pathway system connecting neighborhoods with parks, schools, business centers, recreational facilities, trailheads, etc.

The Verde Valley Cyclists Coalition (VVCC) strongly supports such an initiative. The 275+ member strong VVCC is comprised of mountain, road, and commuting cyclists who are dedicated to promote safe and enjoyable cycling in Sedona.

The City has accomplished a lot to make Sedona a safe place to walk and bike. Designation of Sedona as a Silver Level "Bicycle Friendly Community" by the League of American Bicyclists since 2015 is a strong testament to this success.

At the same time, our highways and streets are becoming more congested each year. Sedona has millions of annual visitors who are attracted to our red rocks, trails, and favorable weather that allows people to walk and cycle here year around.

Walking and biking improvements can reduce traffic congestion. Electric bikes are also becoming very popular. These will give more people the opportunity to move about Sedona's hilly terrain.

A comprehensive city-wide Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan is essential to continuing to make Sedona the world-class visitor destination and desirable livable community it already is. We should match our world class trail system with a city-wide pathway system. A pathway system will help ease parking congestion on the roads and trailheads by making access via biking and walking easy, safe and appealing.

The commendable city-wide pathway systems in other communities similar to ours - Moab UT, Lake Tahoe CA, Jackson WY, and Steamboat Springs CO, offer models for excellence.

VVCC members walk, bike, and hike and want to have a say! The planning process provides a way for us to be involved in identifying priority projects. This is important to us because we will be the beneficiaries of this innovative system. There has not been this type of in-depth, comprehensive look at potential walking/biking improvements that we're requesting in the City of Sedona within the last twenty years.

A comprehensive Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan enables extensive public participation from those who are the most invested in supporting the community. The Plan can build on what has already been done, looking at previous efforts but adding a current perspective from those who live, walk, hike, and bike in Sedona.

We hope this letter will encourage the council to begin to identify options that will result in new bicycle and pedestrian connectors in Sedona. We look forward to attending a future council meeting to lend our support for these actions.

Sincerely,
Marty
Martin Glinsky, President VVCC