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## Public Invited to Attend Open House on February 17<sup>th</sup> for the Carbondale Bicycle Master Plan



The public is invited to attend an open house from 5:00 – 8:00pm on February 17 at the Carbondale Civic Center (200 S Illinois Ave Carbondale, IL 62901) for the Carbondale Bicycle Master Plan. The open house will start at 5:00pm with an opportunity to review materials, talk with the planning team, and provide their feedback on the draft recommendations for the Carbondale Bicycle Master Plan. At 6:00pm and 7:00pm there will be a short presentation by the planning team (the same content will be included in both presentations). For those who cannot make the Open House, there are opportunities to stay up to date on the plan. Follow [www.CarbondaleBikePlan.com](http://www.CarbondaleBikePlan.com) for updates about the plan and watch for the draft Bicycle Master Plan report later this spring.

“The planning team will be presenting the draft recommendations of the Carbondale Bicycle Master Plan,” said Joe Zdankiewicz, Director of Transportation Planning for the Southern Illinois Metropolitan Planning Organization (SIMPO). “Recommendations include future bicycle facilities such as bike lanes and multi-use trails. In addition, there are recommendations for bicycle education, encouragement, evaluation, and enforcement.”



Key elements of the Bicycle Master Plan include: an inventory of the existing bicycle network, identification of connections between routes in the existing network, identification of existing roadways that could accommodate bicycle facilities, recommendations of future bicycle facilities, and actions items to move Carbondale as being recognized as a ‘Bicycle Friendly Community’.

The Bicycle Master Plan started last fall and will be complete by later this spring.

The Southern Illinois Metropolitan Planning Organization (SIMPO) is the lead agency for the study which will be a cooperative effort between SIMPO, the City of Carbondale, IDOT, SIU and other partners. Ultimately, the plan will be a valuable resource guiding the implementation of specific projects for all the partners involved. The planning team is led by the i5Group, along with Ride Illinois and Horner Shifrin. The planning team is working closely with each partner as well as a Technical and Advisory Committee to develop a comprehensive and practical plan.

“We had great input from residents at the last open house in October and the online survey,” said Stephen Ibendahl, Principal of the i5Group. “We will be presenting what we heard from residents and how that input was translated into the recommendations of the plan.”

For more information about the Carbondale Bicycle Master Plan, visit [www.CarbondaleBikePlan.com](http://www.CarbondaleBikePlan.com) or contact Joe Zdankiewicz, Director of Transportation Planning for the Southern Illinois Metropolitan Planning Organization at 618-997-9351.