

Media Advisory
July 9, 2004

Salt Lake City to Consider Bicycle-Pedestrian Master Plan

The Salt Lake City Council will begin consideration of a master plan designed to improve pedestrian and bicycle routes in Salt Lake City.

The City Council will hear a briefing from Mayor Ross C. Anderson's Administration on a proposed *Salt Lake City Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan* at its July 13 work session. The Council also is scheduled that night to set a date for a public hearing on the proposed master plan. The date for the public hearing tentatively is scheduled for August 10.

The briefing will be held in the City Council work session room (Room 326) during the Council's work session in the City & County Building, 451 South State Street. The work session will start at 5:30 p.m.

The plan is designed to enhance the use of bicycles for transportation and recreation and to enhance walking for city residents' mobility and pleasure.

If adopted the plan would provide a framework to achieve five goals:

- Enhance pedestrian safety and promote safe cycling.
- Improve the quality of the roughly 100 miles of pedestrian and bicycle routes that already exist in the city.
- Expand the existing pedestrian and bicycle system, including improving bicycle travel among city neighborhoods to connect a variety of locations.
- Incorporate the needs of pedestrians and cyclists into neighborhood and community planning and land-use planning decisions.
- Maximize the use of federal and state funding opportunities to help improve and expand pedestrian and bicycle routes.

People can learn more about the proposed plan by entering the Salt Lake City Transportation Division's website at www.slcgov.com/transportation/BicycleTraffic/default.htm Hard copies of the plan also are available at the Transportation Division's office at 349 South 200 East.

Salt Lake City has 44 miles of on-street bicycle lanes; 21 miles of on-street, shared-use lanes that are signed for pedestrian and bicycle use; and 35 miles of off-street pathways that are shared by pedestrians and cyclists.

In recent years the City has either improved connections or helped pay to improve connections for residents who walk or ride bicycles. Two more notable examples are the Administration's decision to provide parking spaces for cars to back into to protect bicycle lanes on 200 South Street and the construction of a bridge across Parley's Canyon to link sections of the Bonneville Shoreline Trail.

For more information, people can contact Janice Jardine, Russell Weeks or Cindy Gust-Jenson at the Office of the City Council, 535-7600.