

# 2013

## GATEWAY BIKE PLAN ANNUAL REPORT

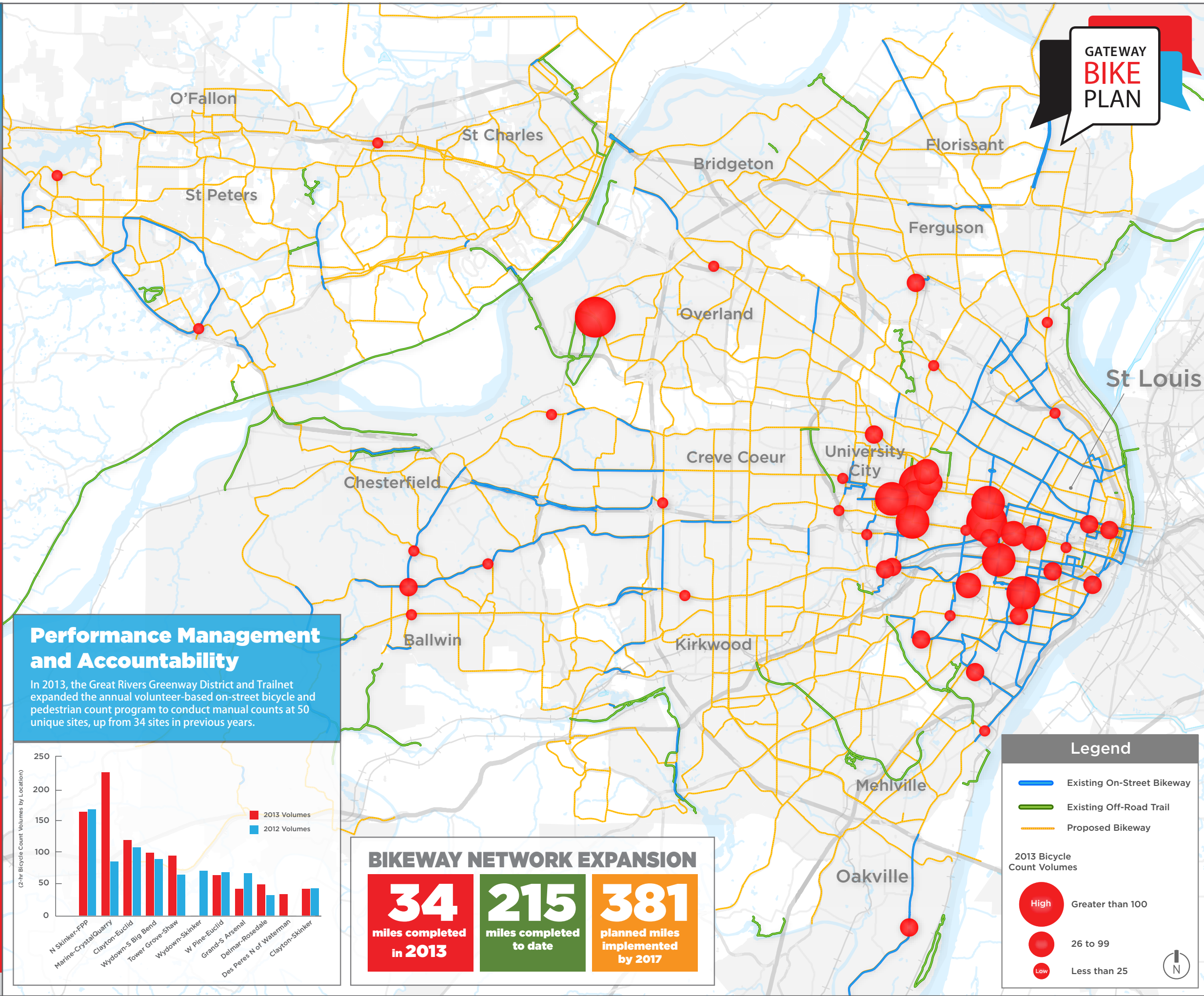
The Gateway Bike Plan identifies a regional system of on-street bikeways in St. Louis City, St. Louis County and St. Charles County to be constructed over the next 20 years. The goal is to connect key destinations such as parks, trails and greenways, colleges and universities, transit and transfer centers, employment centers and town centers. Increasing the number of regional bikeways provides transportation options for residents as well as improving the quality of life in the St. Louis region.

In addition to identifying the regional system of on-street bikeways, the Gateway Bike Plan includes strategies for education, encouragement and enforcement to make bicycling safe for residents of all ages and abilities. This is an important component and an opportunity for neighborhoods, local communities, interested citizens and bicycling advocates to join together to improve bicycling in the region.

This is the third annual report to the community since the Plan's completion. With a Plan that covers three counties and numerous jurisdictions, tracking the progress each year is very important. In 2013, thirty-four additional miles of bikeway were implemented, more safety skills classes for bicyclists were provided, and educational opportunities for municipal and county transportation engineers were provided. The result of the growing bikeway network and efforts to spread the word about the benefits of bicycling is an increase in the number of people using bicycles to meet their daily travel and recreational needs (see map on right).

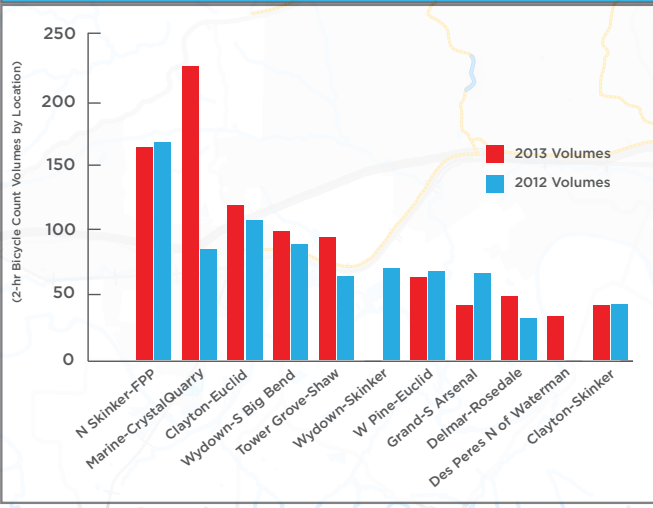
To track the Gateway Bike Plan's progress, each key element is graded based on defined targets established by the plan. A lower grade (C and below) reflects facets of the bicycle plan that may need more attention. Categories that received higher grades (A or B) indicate areas in which the Gateway Bike Plan is making significant progress. Scores for these elements are on the following page.

Great Rivers Greenway is committed to helping implement the Gateway Bike Plan and assisting local agencies with technical assistance, funding education and encouragement programs, and offering partnerships on projects. For more information on the Gateway Bike Plan, visit [www.stbikeplan.com](http://www.stbikeplan.com)



### Performance Management and Accountability

In 2013, the Great Rivers Greenway District and Trailnet expanded the annual volunteer-based on-street bicycle and pedestrian count program to conduct manual counts at 50 unique sites, up from 34 sites in previous years.



### BIKEWAY NETWORK EXPANSION

# 34

miles completed in 2013

# 215

miles completed to date

# 381

planned miles implemented by 2017

#### Legend

- Existing On-Street Bikeway
- Existing Off-Road Trail
- Proposed Bikeway

2013 Bicycle Count Volumes

- High Greater than 100
- 26 to 99
- Low Less than 25



# Encouragement

**A**  
rating on meeting our goal

Encouragement programs are a critical component of the Gateway Bike Plan. In 2013, two new communities in the St. Louis region achieved recognition as bicycle friendly communities. Both the City of Clayton and City of Ferguson achieved Bronze level status to join the City of St. Louis at that same level. Who's next? 2013 also provided a range of opportunities for people to learn about commuting by bicycle to meet their daily travel needs through programs such as Trailnet's increasingly popular "Trailnet on Tap" speaker series. The Travel Green program also helped increase awareness of bicycling safety and offered encouragement to those thinking about bike commuting.

Performance Measure	2012 Activities	2013 Activities	Target
Create and Revise Bike system Maps (Online and Printing)	Updated Bike St. Louis Map in production for print and posting	New 2013 map developed and an online version posted	Revise map every two years
Achieve Bicycle Friendly Community recognition at city, county and state levels	City of Clayton prepared application 6 Bike Friendly Businesses	City of STL retained Bronze status. Cities of Clayton and Ferguson achieved Bronze status	Average One Community Per Year
Facilitate and Support Existing and New Bicycling Promotion Events	26 documented encouragement events and programs around the region	40 documented encouragement events and programs in the region	15 events per year

# Implementation of Bikeways

**A**  
rating on meeting our goal

In 2013, the implementation of the Gateway Bike Plan continued with protected bikeways being implemented via road diets and routine accommodation. These successes were not without their share of challenges. Several bikeways were implemented with parking and roadside buffers, while parking being retained led to challenges for phasing, with the ultimate improvement to arrive later (i.e. Manchester Avenue from Dale Avenue to Sublette Avenue). Below are a few examples of projects implemented in 2013.

- City of St. Charles – Installed shared lane markings and through bike lanes at Hackman Road and Old Highway 94.
- Missouri Department of Transportation – Resurfaced several roadways and included bike lanes on Chippewa Street and Manchester Avenue in the City of St. Louis, and Clarkson Road in West St. Louis County.
- City of St. Louis – The City of St. Louis installed a buffered bike lane on Arsenal to accommodate bicyclist in a safe manner, as well as calm traffic. In addition, the City added bike markings to the north and southbound approaches to Vandeventer on Tower Grove Avenue to complete the bikeway markings started in 2012.
- The City of Wildwood installed bike lanes on a streetscape project on Old Manchester Road, and both Wildwood and the City of Ferguson implemented green pavement markings for enhanced bicyclist safety at intersections. In anticipation of a bicycle boulevard, the City of Ferguson installed our region's first bike boulevard sign.
- St Louis County – The St. Louis County Department of Highways and Traffic installed bike lanes on Pennsylvania Avenue, St. Charles Rock Road, Dougherty Ferry Road, and New Halls Ferry Road.

# Design and Application of Standards

**B+**  
rating on meeting our goal

Trailnet created Streets for Everyone, a brochure and comprehensive guide about low-stress bicycle and pedestrian connections for the St. Louis region. The guide expresses the need for low-stress connections and the need to connect populations with low levels of biking. It also includes design guidance and basic cost estimates for six low-stress connections, best practices and common concerns for construction, and economic and health benefits. Streets for Everyone is used by municipal staff, policymakers, elected officials, and advocates to argue for creating low-stress connections in their community. Trailnet distributed the Streets for Everyone brochure to the 77 attendees of the Moving to the Next Level workshop and will be providing guides to workshop attendees in 2014.

Performance Measure	2012 Activities	2013 Activities	Target
Number of identified spot high crash rate locations rectified	5 locations identified and one route identified	5 locations for improvements identified by the Working Group	Five locations addressed, but not yet rectified
Miles of installed routes that comply with 2009 MUTCD and current AASHTO	40 Miles	34 Miles (30% of network goal complete)	200 additional miles by 2017
Miles of on-street bicycle facilities installed as a result of routine accommodation	11 Miles	5 Miles	5 Miles per year

# Supporting Policies

**C+**  
rating on meeting our goal

Bicycling has been at the forefront of discussions involving transportation improvements in the region. For example, a Complete Street Ordinance was adopted by St. Louis County early in 2014. Active transportation is a key part of every transportation project, including resurfacing projects that allow the implementation of the Gateway Bike Plan as opportunities are presented.

A working group was created as a subgroup of the East-West Gateway Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee to support the implementation and the evolution of the Gateway Bike Plan. This group is composed of a wide range of representatives that will guide implementation and changes needed to keep the plan a current document. The first meeting of the Working Group was held August 22, 2013. Another component to measure the plan's implementation is to encourage and support local communities to endorse or adopt the Gateway Bike Plan, as well as pass complete streets ordinances.

Performance Measure	2012 Activities	2013 Activities	Target
Establish a citizen committee to support intergovernmental cooperation and review plan implementation	Additional discussions took place to formally establish the committee	The Gateway Bike Plan Working Group was developed	Implement committee by the end of 2013
Fund a regional bicycle pedestrian coordinator	Great Rivers Greenway continues to work with Alta	Alta Planning + Design retained by Great Rivers Greenway as the interim coordinator for the plan	Establish a coordinator by 2014
Number of jurisdictions that have adopted complete streets ordinances	None	St. Louis County began debate on Complete Streets Ordinance, and Wildwood began Council discussions	4 Cities per year

# Education

**A+**  
rating on meeting our goal



Gateway Bike Plan 2013 Workshop

Education is a critical component of the Gateway Bike Plan's future success. The St. Louis region has three training programs that support the goal of increasing bicycle safety and operation - the League of American Bicyclists, CyclingSavvy and Trailnet's Bike Smart classes. All offer a variety of instructional classes for citizens around the region. A key goal in 2013 was to further increase the level of education offered for bicyclists. Trailnet and Great Rivers Greenway organized and put together the "Moving to the Next Level" workshop on November 20, 2013. This workshop was designed to educate regional officials on lessons learned from other bike friendly communities like Minneapolis, Memphis and Indianapolis, so that from project development to project implementation, the best possible designed bikeways are planned and developed.

Performance Measure	2012 Sessions	2013 Sessions	Annual Target
Training programs offered by cycling instructors	22	36	5 - 10
Special focused trainings	4	4	4
Training workshops for planners, engineers, and decision makers	18	14	1
New cycling instructors in the region	14	1	1

# Enforcement

**B**  
rating on meeting our goal

Trailnet partnered with the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department in 2013 to create a police officer training video on bicycle and pedestrian laws and behavior. The video featured a foreword from Chief Dotson and narration by a Lieutenant with the bicycle squad. It will be incorporated into the regular rotation of continuing education videos required for officers. This video was made possible by funding from the Missouri Foundation for Health.



Performance Measure	2012	2013	Target
Training for law enforcement officials offered	1	0	1 Every two yrs.