BICYCLE MOBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

2017 Annual Report
BMAC Purpose

The Bicycle Mobility Advisory Committee (BMAC) is established by the Alamo Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) to improve bicycle mobility within the Alamo Area MPO Study Area.

Generally, the BMAC will:

- Provide bold and visionary leadership in all matters affecting bicycle mobility in the MPO study area
- Be expansive in its vision and assertive with its mission throughout the entire community

BMAC Responsibilities

BMAC is a defined subcommittee under the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). Along with the Pedestrian Mobility Advisory Committee, BMAC directly advises the TAC and Transportation Policy Board on bicycle and pedestrian-related policy issues and projects.

BMAC members are charged with the following specific responsibilities:

- Supporting region-wide transportation initiatives such as Vision Zero and the Traffic Jam Safety Coalition
- Developing recommendations and advice on bicycle-related projects and policies
- Providing a forum for collaboration among agencies, organizations, and the public to address bicycle-related issues and enhance the overall bikeability of the region
- Attending transportation-related meetings throughout the community
- Attending monthly BMAC meetings
This year, the Alamo Area MPO celebrated its 20th Annual Walk & Roll! Walk & Roll is a regional month-long effort held in May to encourage people to walk, ride a bike, take transit, or carpool instead of driving alone. It highlights active forms of transportation that increase quality of life, improve public health, and minimize impacts on the environment. BMAC members helped plan and promote Walk & Roll events throughout the month.

More than 300 people came out for the 21st Annual Walk & Roll Rally, the MPO’s kickoff event for National Bike Month. Participants enjoyed free breakfast, music, a hula hoop contest, transportation trivia contest, Zumba class, and interactive exhibits from community groups and agencies who play a role in making the Alamo area more pedestrian and bicycle friendly. News 4 San Antonio Anchor Randy Beamer also made an appearance as the event’s emcee.

Other events that took place throughout National Bike Month included group social rides and tours, bike safety classes, and bike buying workshops. BMAC also hosted Bike Night to encourage citizens to come and learn more about transportation plans and projects in the region.
Members of the Bicycle Mobility Advisory Committee provided input and recommendations for several key plans, projects, and other initiatives in 2017, including:

- The Alamo Area MPO’s Bike Share Master Plan
- Bicycle and pedestrian connections between San Antonio and Austin
- Harry Wurzbach & Austin Highway interchange design
- Next steps for SA Tomorrow
- The Alamo Area MPO’s Bicycle-Friendly Business Program
- The Alamo Area Council of Governments’ Walk & Roll Challenge
- The City of San Antonio’s priority bicycle and pedestrian projects
- The Texas Department of Transportation ADA Transition Plan requirements
- Proposed roadway designs for Avenue B
- Dockless bike share trends
- The City of New Braunfels’ Parks & Recreation Strategic Plan
- The MPO’s Walkable Community Workshop Program
- The Texas Bicycle Tourism Trails Study
- The City of San Antonio’s Severe Pedestrian Injury Area Study
- The Alamo Area MPO’s Metropolitan Transportation Plan update
- The Alamo Area MPO’s Transportation Improvement Program development process
- MPO technical project scoring

### Transportation Alternatives Projects

In early 2017, BMAC reviewed projects that were submitted for Transportation Alternatives funding, which is dedicated specifically to bicycle and pedestrian projects. Nine projects were submitted totaling approximately $19 million. However, the MPO only had about $15 million to allocate to projects. BMAC members helped score the projects, and in February, BMAC held a joint evening meeting with the Pedestrian Mobility Advisory Committee to gather public input on the project proposals. BMAC recommended approval for six projects totaling about $14 million, which the Transportation Policy Board approved in June. The funded projects are listed below:

- Converse Greenway Trail ($1,365,440)
- New Braunfels Citywide Pedestrian Connectivity ($1,516,711)
- Zarzamora Pedestrian Improvements ($4,500,000)
- Schertz Pedestrian Routes and Bike Lanes ($1,158,266)
- Seguin Walnut Springs Trail Extension Project (2,773,234)
- Alazan Creek Linear Hike and Bike Trail ($3,125,000)
Bicycle Safety

In 2017, 35 people were killed or seriously injured while riding a bike in the MPO study area, compared to the same amount in 2016. However, fewer of the serious crashes in 2017 were fatal than in 2016.

The Bicycle Mobility Advisory Committee is committed to reducing this number through the 5 E’s: engineering, education, encouragement, enforcement, and evaluation. The MPO continually works with its partner agencies to implement more comfortable, low-stress bicycle facilities. The MPO also conducts regular Street Skills and Defensive Driving courses to promote better driving and riding behavior. The MPO and the City of San Antonio are also working on analyzing crash data to better understand the underlying causes and contributing factors of serious injury crashes.

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**Bicyclist Fatalities and Serious Injuries in the MPO Study Area**

- **Fatalities**
- **Serious Injuries**

Source: MPO’s analysis of 2017 Crash Records Information System (CRIS) data. Data includes only TxDOT reportable crashes that occurred in the public right of way.

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**GOALS FOR 2018**

- Continue to support Vision Zero efforts to reduce the number of bicycle crashes region-wide
- Help local communities improve bicycle infrastructure through knowledge-sharing and inter-agency cooperation
- Increase the number of Bicycle Friendly Businesses in the Alamo Area
- Continue to provide input on local and regional plans, programs, and projects
- Enhance community awareness of and involvement in bicycle-related events and activities through information-sharing