# <u>Appendix "E"</u> Biking and Pathways

## APPENDIX "E"

## **Resource Information on Biking and Pathways**

Below is information provided from the <u>http://www.greaterblufftonpathways.org/</u> website on crossing options for pathways. Also included in this section are other excellent resources.

# Grade-Separated Crossings

### **Overpasses & Tunnels**

- Beneficial when large numbers of young children must regularly cross a high-speed or high-volume roadway.
- Effectiveness of overpasses and tunnels depends on their perceived ease of accessibility by pedestrians.
- May be necessary where the roadway's cross-section is exceptionally wide, such as freeways and principal arterials.
- Provides crossing where no other pedestrian facility is available.
- Extremely high cost (\$500,000 \$4 million)
- Need to be easily accessible and convenient to use or they may lose their effectiveness. Pedestrians may be tempted to cross at grade instead of using the overpass or tunnel.
- Overpasses and tunnels should be used as a measure of last resort. It is usually more appropriate to use traffic-calming measures or install a pedestrian-activated signal that is accessible to all pedestrians.

#### Overpasses

- Extensive ramping on both ends to accommodate bikes and wheelchairs results in long crossing distances and steep slopes that discourage use.
- Most appropriate over railroads, rivers, high speed highways or natural barriers where topography allows for a structure without ramps.
- Studies show that pedestrians will not use it if they can cross at street level in about the same amount of time.
- Visually intrusive (most designs are not very pretty)

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# Tunnels

- Lighting, drainage, graffiti removal, and security are major concerns.
- Tunnels should be designed to let more natural light in and with wide openings to be more inviting to pedestrians.
- To encourage maximum pedestrian use, tunnels should be easy to access and should be as short as possible. Tunnels must be well lit throughout.
- Placing tunnels near places of high activity such as entertainment complexes will discourage crime in and around the tunnel.

See pages 161-162 of Georgia Pedestrian and Streetscape Guide (GA DOT) for drawings/pictures of overpasses/tunnels that might work on Buckwalter Parkway.

http://walkable.org/download/Georgia\_ped\_streetscape\_guide.pdf

greaterblufftonpathways.org

http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/travel/bike-foot/docs/history.pdf History of bike trail development in Wisconsin

http://www.a1trails.com/rail/trailswi.html Bike Trails in Wisconsin

http://www.bicyclinginfo.org/de/shared.htm Specifics on design plans for bike paths

http://www.americabikes.org/ - Funding opportunities

www.pccsc.net - **The Palmetto Cycling Coalition** is dedicated to making South Carolina cycling friendly for everyone by providing access for cyclists on South Carolina roads and trails, improving safety for all South Carolina cyclists, and educating all South Carolinians about the value and importance of cycling for healthy lifestyles and communities.

www.sccppa.org - The South Carolina Coalition for Promoting Physical Activity is uniting the efforts of organizations, businesses, schools, and individuals who are concerned with promoting physical activity and health in all populations throughout our state! www.bikeleague.org - The League of American Bicyclist's mission is to promote bicycling for fun, fitness and transportation and work through advocacy and education for a bicycle-friendly America (Washington, DC). They do this by representing the interests of the nation's 57 million cyclists. With a current membership of 300,000 affiliated cyclists, including 40,000 individuals and 600 affiliated organizations, the League works to bring better bicycling to your community.

<u>www.railtrails.org</u> - **Rails to Trails** (RTC) is: Creating a nationwide network of trails from former rail lines and connecting corridors to build healthier places for healthier people.

www.greenway.org - **East Coast Greenway** -Walkers, cyclists, and other trail advocates have joined forces around an audacious project, a 2,600 mile traffic-free path linking East Coast cities from Maine to Florida. Launched 14 years ago, this vision for an urban alternative to the highly popular Appalachian Trail is quickly becoming a reality.

www.walkable.org - Walkable Communities, Inc. is a non-profit corporation, established in the state of Florida in 1996. It was organized for the express purposes of helping whole communities, whether they are large cities or small towns, or parts of communities, i.e. neighborhoods, business districts, parks, school districts, subdivisions, specific roadway corridors, etc., become more walkable and pedestrian friendly.

www.bikesbelong.org - **Bikes Belong** is a national organization dedicated to putting more people on bicycles more often. We link bicycle manufacturers, suppliers and retailers with broad-based and grassroots efforts to make bicycling safe, convenient and fun.

Government Websites

www.bcgov.net - Beaufort County

http://www.dot.state.sc.us - South Carolina Department of Transportation - Bicycle and Pedestrian Programs.