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Residents are encouraged to sound off about bicycle riding in San Antonio
City-sponsored survey seeks comments, ideas, kudos, and concerns

SAN ANTONIO (Oct. 28, 2015) – For the past six months, San Antonio has been engaged in a big transportation planning effort, dubbed *SA Tomorrow*. SA Tomorrow is a three-pronged planning effort to prepare for the additional 1.1 million people expected to live in San Antonio by 2040. One of those prongs is the Multimodal Transportation Plan. The newest *SA Tomorrow* community outreach activity is a survey designed for those who currently ride and those interested in riding bicycles.

“According to the Alamo Area Metropolitan Planning Organization, there are at least 325,000 area residents who bicycle at least once a month. While the majority ride for recreational purposes, an estimated 11%^[i] of riders bike to work or school,” said Jillian Harris, senior transportation planner for the City of San Antonio. Harris, who focuses mainly on bicycle and pedestrian facilities, continued, “With one in five people riding bicycles in this city, and that number is expected to increase, it’s important to learn about their habits, ideas, and concerns. The more input we get from the community, the better we can plan for them today and in the future. We hope people will give us a few minutes of their time to answer our survey questions about bicycling in San Antonio.”

The survey, located at www.satomorrow.com/survey, rolled out on Oct. 28, and will be available until Dec. 2. Participants can respond in either English or Spanish. The online survey is available 24/7. The study team will post survey results in December at www.satransportationplan.com.

The survey asks respondents to give input on their bicycle riding habits including frequency, purpose, preferred types of bicycle infrastructure, safety, ways to encourage more riding, and car drivers’ and bicycle riders’ behaviors toward each other. It also asks people to talk about issues that prevent them from riding, such as stray dogs, concerns about crime, safety issues, lack of bicycle infrastructure and connectivity, poor lighting, bike parking problems, weather, health, and even seasonal changes.

The study team will use information received via the survey to develop the bicycle component of the Multimodal Transportation Plan. The City’s Transportation & Capital Improvements (TCI) department will also use the data to prepare a 2016 update to the Bicycle Master Plan. In addition to the survey, TCI will post maps in area bike shops to gather input for the bike plan update.

Providing more transportation choices, including more bike facilities, and linking the various modes of transportation are important components of the City’s *SA Tomorrow* Multimodal Transportation Plan. An outcome of the Multimodal Transportation Plan will be projects to be considered for inclusion in the City’s 2017 bond program. The bond program is the City’s primary funding source for capital improvements on transportation facilities.

Residents are encouraged to visit www.SATomorrow.com for more information and follow *SA Tomorrow* on facebook.com/SATomorrow2040 or twitter.com/SATomorrow2040.

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