



TITLE

Active Transportation (AT) Plan General Plan Amendment

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution of the Planning Commission recommending the City Council approve a General Plan Amendment to incorporate the American Canyon Active Transportation Plan as an appendix into the General Plan Mobility Element

CONTACT

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BACKGROUND & ANALYSIS

Imagine a community where residents and visitors can easily complete daily trips—to work, the market, or home—without relying on cars or other motorized vehicles. Shifting more trips to active transportation will lower household transportation costs, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve public health, and ease traffic congestion.

To expand opportunities for non-automobile travel, the Napa Valley Transportation Authority (NVTA) has prepared a Countywide Active Transportation Plan (Plan). The Plan aims to enhance walking, biking, and other non-motorized travel options throughout Napa County. It replaces the previous standalone Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plans that were included as appendices to the General Plan. The NVTA Board approved the Countywide Plan on April 15, 2026.

The Plan establishes countywide standards and policies, along with dedicated chapters for each jurisdiction: American Canyon, the City of Napa, Yountville, St. Helena, Calistoga, and unincorporated Napa County. The draft currently under consideration includes countywide and American Canyon-specific standards and excludes unnecessary policies for the other jurisdictions. A copy of the proposed Plan is included as Exhibit A to Attachment 1.

Key Project Goals

Create a Connected Network

Develop a countywide system of bicycle and pedestrian facilities that link communities and key destinations.

Improve Safety and Accessibility

Enhance safety and accessibility for users of all ages and abilities, with a focus on vulnerable road users.

Encourage Active Transportation

Promote walking and biking—especially for short trips—to support public health, reduce congestion, and improve air quality.

Support Local Planning Efforts

Build upon existing plans, including the 2016 Napa Countywide Pedestrian Plan and the 2019 Bicycle Plan, as well as ongoing local initiatives.

Engage the Community

Incorporate community input through surveys, interactive mapping tools, and outreach events to ensure the Plan reflects local needs and priorities.

Grant Benefits for American Canyon

Once adopted, the Plan will help jurisdictions like American Canyon qualify for active transportation grants by aligning local policies with State and Regional funding programs, including:

- California Active Transportation Program (ATP)
- SB1 (Road Repair and Accountability Act)
- AHSC (Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities)
- SCCP (Solutions for Congested Corridors Program)

Local Adoption Is Critical:

Jurisdictions must formally adopt the Plan to qualify for certain funding programs. Adoption demonstrates a commitment to implementation and helps ensure projects are “shovel-ready” when funding opportunities arise.

Implementation & Funding Strategy

The plan includes a dedicated Implementation and Funding Plan (Task 8), which outlines how jurisdictions can pursue grants and other funding sources to build out proposed infrastructure.

Project Readiness:

By identifying priority projects, facility types, and safety improvements, the plan helps jurisdictions present well-defined proposals that score higher in competitive grant applications.

If approved by the Planning Commission, the Plan would advance to the Open Space Advisory Committee and City Council at a special joint meeting on June 16, 2026.

COUNCIL PRIORITY PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS

Outdoors and Recreation: "Expand opportunities for use of outdoor recreation and an active and healthy lifestyle."

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no immediate fiscal impact associated with this report. However, adoption of the AT Plan may improve the City's eligibility for future grant funding opportunities through programs such as ATP, SB1, AHSC, and SCCP.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

The proposed action is statutorily exempt from the CEQA pursuant to PRC §21080.20, as it is an active transportation plan "that promotes and encourages people to choose walking, bicycling, or rolling through the creation of safe, comfortable, connected, and accessible walking, bicycling, or rolling networks, and encourages alternatives to single-occupancy vehicle trips."

COMMUNICATION

Level 0: No Further Public Communication Needed

ATTACHMENTS:

[1 PC Reso Active Transportation Plan](#)

[1. Exhibit A American Canyon-AT-Plan](#)