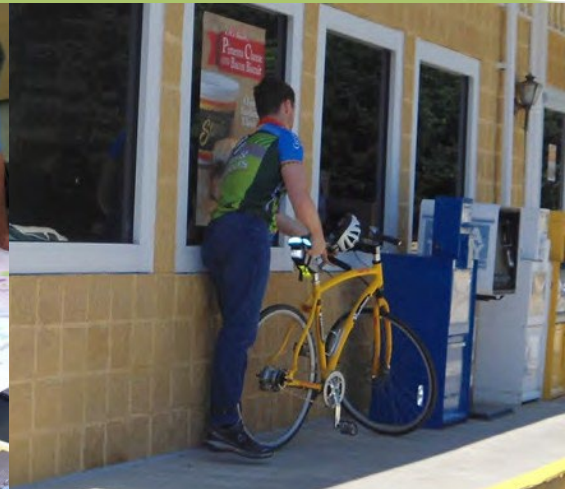


CITY of MEBANE



BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMISSION

2023 Annual Report & 2024 Work Plan

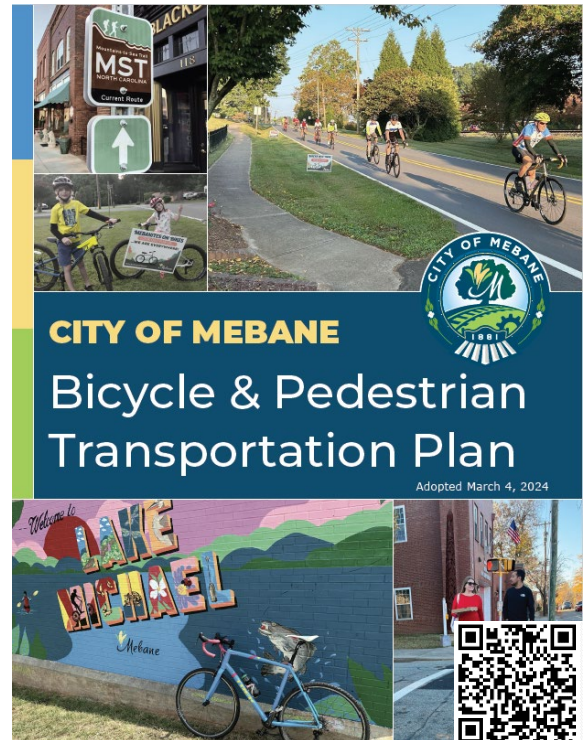




2023 IN REVIEW

Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation Plan

Work on updates to the Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation Plan and the new Recreation and Parks Comprehensive Master Plan officially began in June 2022. City staff and BPAC members have been working in coordination with the selected consultants, Berry Dunn for the Recreation and Parks Plan and Stewart for the Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation Plan. Public engagement efforts were conducted through November 2022 and the results of those efforts were presented to the BPAC at their November 2022 meeting. A public meeting to present the results was held on January 31, 2023. A project priority list was developed and BPAC members and other stakeholders were asked to rank top ten projects in August 2023. A draft version of the plan and the selected top ten projects were presented to a combined meeting of the BPAC and RPAC (Recreation and Parks Advisory Commission) in October 2023. The final draft of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation Plan was presented to the Planning Board and the BPAC in January 2024, where both groups recommended approval. The Plan was adopted by the Mebane City Council on March 4, 2024.



To view the full plan, go to <https://cityofmebanenc.gov/long-range-plans/> or scan the QR code.

Capital Projects

- **E.M. Yoder Sidewalk** – In response to a request from a community member, the BPAC coordinated with City staff to fill gaps in the sidewalk network near E. M. Yoder Elementary school. 5-foot-wide sidewalk was constructed on W Carr Street from the existing sidewalk location east to N Charles Street. The sidewalk was also extended south to the existing sidewalk on the west side of N Charles Street. Crosswalks were also added across the staff parking lot and bus loop on W Carr Street. Construction of this project was completed in August 2023.
- **Intersection Improvements** – Two intersection improvements that were recommended by the BPAC in 2022 were completed by the City in 2023. At the intersection of Ashbury Boulevard and Mockingbird Lane, high-visibility crosswalks, stop bars, and curb ramps were installed. This project was identified following a hot spot analysis of intersections in



the Ashbury neighborhood, studying speeding and possible traffic calming methods. Standard crosswalks and stop bars were also installed at the intersection of S Second Street and W Lee Street. These improvements will help community members more safely access the recreational facilities in this area.

- [Lake Michael Connector \(along Lebanon Road\)](#) – This multi-use path will connect Lake Michael Park to the Retreat at Lake Michael and Havenstone neighborhoods. Design work for this project has been completed and construction began in the fall of 2023. Construction is anticipated to be completed by the end of 2024.
- [Holt Street Greenway](#) – This multi-use path will connect Corregidor Street to W. Roosevelt Street and S. Third Street. This will create a direct connection between the Mebane Arts and Community Center and South Mebane Elementary. Design work for this project has been completed. Construction is anticipated to begin in early 2024 and to be substantially completed by the end of the year.
- [Third to Fifth Street Connector](#) – This project will create an off-road connection from S Third Street to S Fifth Street via the Duke Energy power transmission easement. Design work for this project is ongoing.

Bike Racks

At the beginning of the year, City staff and BPAC members conducted an inventory of existing bike racks at City-owned properties and facilities. Through this process the BPAC members noted that there were two locations with inadequate access to bike racks: the outdoor basketball courts and the Mebane Arts and Community Center. The BPAC purchased three bike racks utilizing discretionary funds in order to address this issue and encourage bicycling to city facilities. Two of the bike racks were located at the outdoor basketball courts at the corner of S Second Street and W Lee Street and one was placed at the front entrance of the Mebane Arts and Community Center.

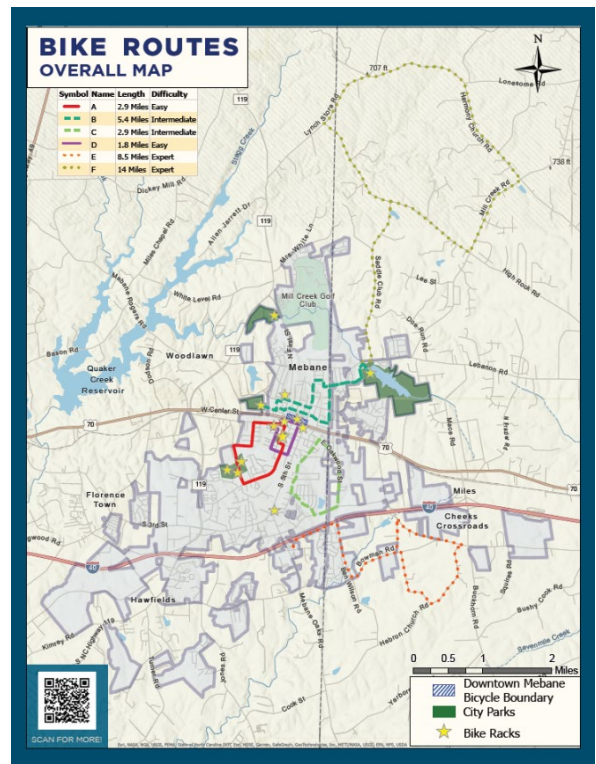
A portable bike rack was also purchased in order to test the effectiveness of other proposed bike rack locations. Currently the BPAC is working to identify appropriate locations for a downtown bike rack.





Bicycle Route Map

In response to interest from community members, the BPAC developed a map of recommended bike routes in the Mebane area. The six routes shown are ranked from easy to expert and city facilities with bike racks are noted on the map. The map is available on the BPAC website and there is a GPS version available as well.



Public Engagement

In 2023, the BPAC devoted a significant amount of time to public engagement and outreach projects.



Mebane Activity Challenge

Explore at least 4 bike and pedestrian opportunities in our town - win a prize!

How does it work?

- Before October 1, take a selfie while taking part in at least 4 of the challenges below.
- Email bpac@cityofmebane.com with your photos and name
- We'll set you up with some Mebane swag!

Mebane Challenges (4 of 6 for a prize)

- Follow the Mountains-to-Sea trail for a mile through Mebane
- Try out the .2 mile paved loop track at Holt Street Park
- Bike or hike a trail at Lake Michael Park
- Hike one or both of the Cates Farm Loops
- Explore one of Mebane's Urban trails and take a picture at a trail head (Bell Garden at 5th and Washington or the MACC)
- Visit one of Mebane's four pocket parks: N. 1st St, Giles St, 5th St, or Downtown

QR Code: SCAN FOR MORE!



Dogwood Festival and Autumnfest

BPAC members attended two of Mebane's largest downtown events, the 35th Annual Dogwood Festival in April and Autumnfest in October, in order to promote the city's bike and trail networks and related events and programming. Printed copies of the BPAC's city trails map and bicycle route map were made available to the public as well as free bicycle helmets.

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National Bike Month Campaign and Mebane Activity Challenge

In May, BPAC members promoted national bike month with a social media campaign and local signs. The Mebane Activity Challenge also kicked off in May and ran until October. Residents were challenged to explore at least four bike or pedestrian trails in Mebane and submit pictures. Twenty-two participants completed the challenge, an increase of nearly 50% from last year.



Annual Bike Rodeo

In partnership with the Mebane Police Department, the BPAC co-hosted a children's bike rodeo in May in the Truist Bank parking lot in Downtown Mebane. Various stations were set up for the rodeo, including bike registration with Mebane Police, bike maintenance, riding lessons, and an obstacle course. Free bicycle helmets and fittings were also available to all participants.



Cycle NC – Mountains to Coast Ride

Mebane was selected as one of eight stops on the 2023 Cycle North Carolina Mountains to Coast Ride. The Mountains to Coast Ride is an annual 7-day bicycle tour that runs the full length of the state from west to east. There were nearly 1,000 participants in the 2023 ride. The event in Mebane was organized by the Recreation and Parks Department and several BPAC members volunteered to help.

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2023 BPAC Members

James Allen	Orange County
Rebecca Brouwer	City
Matt Cummings, Vice-Chair	City
Katy Jones, Chair	At-large
Jennifer Nunez ¹	City
Jason Smith	Alamance County ETJ
Allison Tate	City
Nate Wood, Vice-Chair ¹	City

¹ Jennifer Nunez was appointed to fill the remainder of Nate Wood's term after he resigned in July 2023.
BPAC 2023 Annual Report & 2024 Work Plan



2024 WORK PLAN

Projects & Programs

The BPAC will continue to evaluate where safe crossings are needed and coordinate with staff to pursue them. The BPAC will also continue to assist in organizing the annual bicycle rodeo and will explore the potential to partner with the Mebane Police Department on further projects. Additionally, the BPAC will coordinate with the City's new Public Information Officer on a bicycle campaign for National Bike Month and other promotional efforts. The BPAC will continue to look for opportunities to support ongoing City projects, such as the planned multi-use path networks and new recreation areas. As construction on the Holt Street Greenway moves forward, the BPAC will be organizing and coordinating promotional efforts and events. The BPAC is also looking forward to collaborating with the newly formed Mebane Main Street program to increase bicycle and pedestrian facilities and accessibility in the downtown area.



Capital Projects

The BPAC is supporting the City of Mebane moving forward with many bicycle and pedestrian projects in Fiscal Year 2024-2025, including:

- [Sidewalk – Crawford Street from N. First Street to N Second Street](#) – This project will help connect the existing sidewalk network in Downtown Mebane. Design work has been completed and easements have been secured for this project. Construction is anticipated to begin in 2024. An additional sidewalk extension from this project onto N Second Street is currently in the planning phase.
- [Lake Michael Connector \(along Lebanon Road\)](#)- This multi-use path will connect Lake Michael Park to the Retreat at Lake Michael and Havenstone neighborhoods. Design work for this project has been completed and construction began in the fall of 2023. Construction is anticipated to be completed by the end of 2024.
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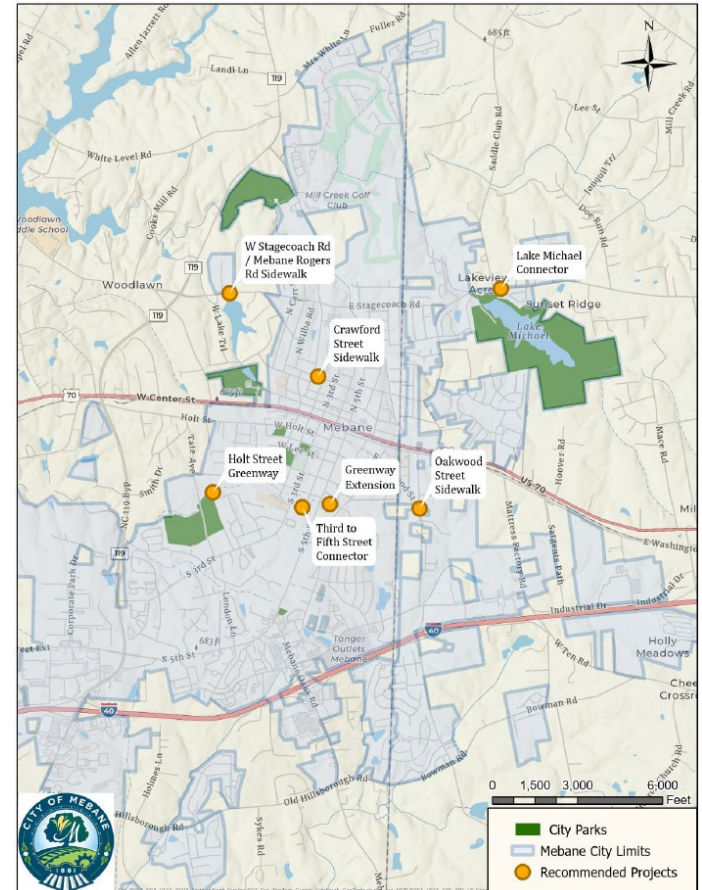
CITY OF MEBANE



- [Third to Fifth Street Connector](#) – This project will create an off-road connection from S Third Street to S Fifth Street via the Duke Energy power transmission easement. Design work for this project is ongoing. Construction is expected to be funded in FY25.

The BPAC also recommended that three additional projects be considered through the City's planning for capital improvements:

- [Extensions of the Greenway](#) – The BPAC recommends that the City begin looking at possible extensions of the planned greenways, particularly the Third to Fifth Street Connector. It is hoped that this greenway will eventually extend farther east through the Duke Energy transmission easement. In order to achieve this extension, an improved crossing of S Fifth Street is desired.
- [Sidewalk on Oakwood Street and Eleventh Street](#) – There are several residential developments underway on Oakwood Street that will include the construction of sidewalks and multi-use paths. As the developments are not all adjacent, there are expected to be a few gaps between the proposed facilities. The BPAC recommends that the City design a project to connect the planned developments and incorporate them into the existing sidewalk network through the installation of additional sidewalk, multi-use path, and crosswalks.
- [Sidewalk on W Stagecoach Road and Mebane Rogers Road](#) – There is a small gap between the sidewalk fronting the Woodlawn Estates neighborhood and existing sidewalk on W Stagecoach Road. The BPAC recommends installing sidewalk to close that gap and considering the installation of a crosswalk across Mebane Rogers Road at W Lake Trail. These projects would help connect residents of the Woodlawn Estates and Forest Lake neighborhoods to a shopping plaza on N First Street and to downtown.



City of Mebane
Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission
*106 E Washington St
Mebane, NC 27302*

