

## CHAPTER 1 | INTRODUCTION

The Village of Hinsdale is a community of 18,000 residents located 16 miles west of Chicago. In the 1970's, Hinsdale became one of the first communities in the region to sign a bicycle route within its boundaries. Today, the Village Bicycle Task Force (BTF) meets regularly to discuss and propose improvements to Village infrastructure to accommodate the needs of bicyclists in and around Hinsdale.

As part of these discussions, the Village has recognized the need for an improved bicycle network in order to provide viable transportation alternatives and to address community health initiatives. As a result, the BTF has proposed an update to the existing bicycle route network and to develop a Village-wide bicycle plan. The Village of Hinsdale is committed to work with local and regional agencies in order to create a system compatible with existing routes and agency plans, including those for Cook and DuPage Counties.

This Bicycle Plan provides descriptions and implementation strategies for several elements essential for the provision of an adequate Bicycle Facilities Network for the Village of Hinsdale. It consists of a series of recommended improvements for on-street and off-street facilities that will provide north/south and east/west routes through Hinsdale. This network is complemented by recommendations for priority bicycle parking improvements.

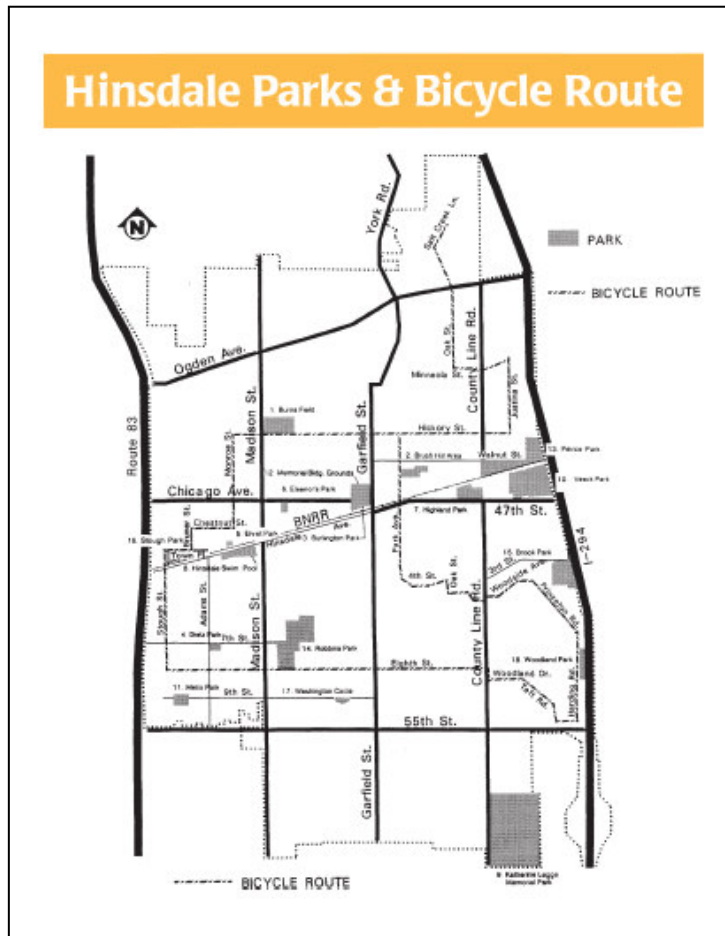


Figure 1.1: Existing Bicycle Route Map

(Source: Village of Hinsdale)



## 1.1 Plan Goal

The goal of the Hinsdale Bicycle Master Plan is to promote bicycling in Hinsdale as a means of transportation and for recreation for the purposes of promoting an active lifestyle and enhancing the quality of life for Hinsdale residents and its visitors.

## 1.2 Plan Contents

**Section 2, Existing Conditions** provides a description of the existing bicycle facilities within the Village of Hinsdale. It describes in detail the signed bicycle route and current plans for facility development within the Village. Additionally, maps are included identifying the locations of these facilities and places that generate vehicular, bicycle, and pedestrian traffic.

**Section 3, Policy and Ordinance Summary** provides a summary of current Village policy regarding the development of a bicycle network. This section summarizes policy objectives from the Village of Hinsdale 2025 Plan and Statement of Policies and Objectives, 2005. Furthermore, regulations controlling the usage of bicycles and licensing procedures are included.

As with all comprehensive planning efforts, public input is an essential element of developing this Bicycle Plan. **Section 4, Public Outreach & Participation** describes the public outreach plan and the development of priorities for the bicycle network.

Accepted bicycle facility design standards, as prescribed by the American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials (AASHTO), are provided in **Section 5, Bicycle Facility Design Standards**.

Recommendations for the bicycle network are included in **Section 6, Bicycle Facility Recommendations**. These account for both on-street and off-street facilities.

**Section 7, Implementation Strategy** provides a description of existing and potential local, state, and federal funding sources for bicycle-related transportation enhancements. A capital plan is included that recommends implementation of the bicycle plan in a series of phases to create a network that is functional and in concurrence with the Village roadway improvement program.

