



## Draft Vision Statement

Somerset County welcomes cycling and walking as essential forms of transportation and recreation for residents, workers and visitors alike. Implementation of the Walk Hike Bike Somerset County Plan over time will build on the County’s interconnected network of trails, sidewalks, paths and bicycle facilities to enable people of all ability levels to comfortably travel to both local and regional destinations. Working toward this vision in tandem with other County and local initiatives will result in a more livable, vibrant, healthy and sustainable region where people are inspired to walk and bicycle for fun, recreation, and daily transportation needs.

To support this aspirational vision, the Plan seeks to achieve the following goals:

*What is most important to you?*



### Mobility

Encourage bicycling and walking for short trips to help reduce roadway congestion and parking impacts.



### Safety

Improve safety for all roadway users and prioritize bicycle and pedestrian safety for those with limited transportation options, including low-income and elderly residents and other communities of concern.



### Accessibility and Comfort

Create a low stress bicycle, trail, and pedestrian network that is accessible to walkers, cyclists and hikers of all ages and ability levels and that enhances travel options.



### Connectivity and Convenience

Develop a core bicycle and pedestrian network with seamless and convenient connections throughout the region. As part of network connectivity, provide clear wayfinding information on network access points, destinations, parking, and other amenities.



### Health

Encourage and promote cycling and walking as active and environmentally sustainable forms of transportation that enhance community health and wellness.



### Equity

Recognize cycling as an essential transportation mode, especially for those who cannot afford to own cars, and as an integral part of maintaining the region’s social diversity and workforce.



### Implementation

Advance and support implementation of Somerset County’s Complete Streets Policy and Master Planning initiatives. Leverage synergy among various County initiatives, including the Somerset County Investment Framework and Somerset County Preservation Plan.



### Accountability

Establish a clear process and milestones and actively track and report on progress for implementation of the Walk Hike Bike Framework Plan via integration of the Plan’s framework into local and county policies, regulations and investments.

