

# Floyd Avenue Bicycle Boulevard Project

## *Richmond Regional Transportation Alternatives Program*

The Floyd Avenue Bicycle Boulevard will significantly enhance the Richmond Region’s biking infrastructure by converting 2.25 miles of Floyd Avenue into a preferred route optimized for bicycle traffic, while accommodating low-speed local motor-vehicle traffic.

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## Project Scope

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### Description

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The Floyd Avenue Bicycle Boulevard project will convert a portion of Floyd Avenue into a preferred route for bicycle traffic, while accommodating low-speed local motor-vehicle traffic. Bicycle Boulevards incorporate design elements that optimize bicycle transportation by giving through-traffic priority to bicyclists.



Example of a Traffic Diverter  
(Courtesy of City of Richmond)

Floyd Avenue will be modified with the addition of enhanced bicycling lanes and safety accommodations, such as signage and pavement markings. The project will also implement motor vehicle traffic-calming measures such as roundabouts, chicanes, speed lumps, and traffic diverters. These facilities will discourage cut-through motor-vehicle traffic, but allow local motor-vehicle traffic.

The project will retain access to Floyd Avenue for all modes of transportation, but will specifically enhance safety for those travelling by bicycle or walking.

### Location and Neighborhood

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The project will be located on Floyd Avenue in the City of Richmond covering 2.25 miles between Laurel Street and Thompson Street (roughly from Carytown to Monroe Park on the VCU campus). The project area incorporates 27 intersections.

Floyd Avenue serves as a predominantly residential connector from Carytown to the Museum District and Virginia Commonwealth University. As a result, it has significant bike and pedestrian traffic seeking to avoid busier parallel streets such as Main Street and Cary Street.

Floyd Avenue passes in front of Binford Middle School, which will benefit from safer pedestrian and bicycling travel through motor vehicle traffic calming measures. It is anticipated that Floyd Avenue will also become a preferred route for those travelling by bike or foot to William Fox Elementary School, which is located two blocks from Floyd Avenue (between Stafford Avenue and Strawberry Street).

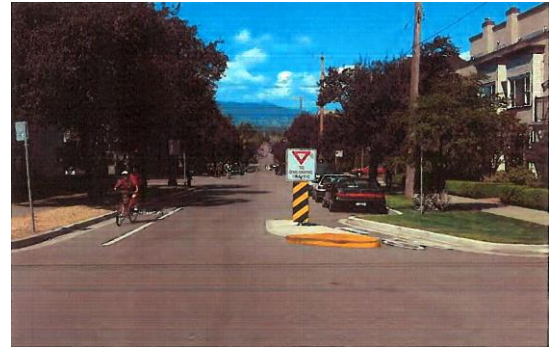
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## Project History

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This project was identified by the ongoing Richmond multi-modal transportation study, which was funded by RAMPO using regional transportation funds. RRPDC Principal Planner Barbara Nelson serves on the Advisory Committee for the study. The study recently released a draft plan entitled *Richmond Connects: The Richmond Multi-Modal Transportation Plan*, which is available online.

On June 6, 2013, the nine localities and transportation partners of the Richmond Region provided funding for the planning, design, and community outreach for the development of the Floyd Avenue Bicycle Boulevard. The action by the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (RAMPO) demonstrates the power of regional cooperation to advance bicycling transportation projects. The funding will provide for public outreach and communication, and ultimately improving the quality of the design-construction process.



Example of a Bike Lane, Traffic Diverter, & Chicane  
(Courtesy of City of Richmond)

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## Project Funding

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On June 6, 2013, the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization allocated \$40,000 of Regional Transportation Alternatives Program (TA Program) funds for the preliminary engineering (PE) phase of the Floyd Avenue Bicycle Boulevard project, which includes planning, design, and community outreach. As required by the program, the City of Richmond will provide a 20% local match of \$10,000.

As part of the PE phase, the City of Richmond will identify a total cost for building the project. Staff to the RAMPO anticipate the City of Richmond will then apply for additional funds to build the project.

## Transportation Alternatives Program

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The Transportation Alternatives Program (TA Program) is a new transportation funding program created by the federal Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21). The program provides funding for programs and projects defined as transportation alternatives, including pedestrian facilities, bicycle facilities, recreational trails, safe routes to school, and infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation.

The Richmond Region will receive \$927,818 in TA Program funds in FY14, which will be allocated by the locally-elected officials and transportation agency partners of the Region's nine localities working together as the RAMPO. These localities and regional partners work cooperatively to consider project applications based on a competitive process based on the merit of each application.

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## More information

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For more information about regional support for the Floyd Avenue Bicycle Boulevard Project or the Regional Transportation Alternatives Program, please contact:

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For more information about the specific details of the Floyd Avenue Bicycle Boulevard Project, please contact:

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