

Leadership in Government, Ada County

Recipient:

Ada County Highway District (ACHD) and the City of Kuna, *Kuna Downtown Corridor Plan*

Description:

The *Kuna Downtown Corridor Plan* provides an example of regional leadership and partnerships. The plan establishes the long-term vision for downtown Kuna including an interconnected pedestrian and bicycle network, reconfiguration of Main Street, and a comprehensive set of 40 prioritized projects. The Kuna City Council and ACHD Commission adopted the plan in October 2012, and the first set of projects is underway.

Identifying downtown access management options, especially with the agricultural truck traffic coming through downtown, emphasized the importance of connections— providing options for safe access and mobility in a cost effective manner. The effort developed and prioritized enhanced connectivity and safety among residential and commercial uses, schools, and parks.

Often the biggest disconnect with transportation and land use planning is the need to focus on project planning for implementation. A project prospectus sheet was created for each of the 40 projects in the plan, including background, project details, criteria met, location, and illustrations of the project by concept design or photo. This level of detail ensures coordination—achieving better inter-jurisdictional coordination of transportation and land use planning.

Eleven evaluation criteria were used in the evaluation of the alternatives including multi-modal mobility, local access for businesses and neighborhoods, safety, environmental impacts, land use compatibility, and flexibility of implementation. The diversity of the criteria was to recognize transportation impacts to people, cultural resources, and the environment, and resulted in the plan best representing the community's values.

The plan exemplifies the value placed on information—coordinating data gathering and dispensation of better information, including “hands-on” workshops and an online interactive map (over 130 responses). The survey identified residents' concerns with pedestrian and bicycle facilities and built priorities. The workshops developed corridor concepts and built streetscape components.

Overall, the plan provides a model for how agencies can work together to serve the needs of common constituencies and has contributed to furthering the dialogue between ACHD and the city.