



COCHISE COUNTY

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

"Public Programs...Personal Service"

DATE: January 7, 2014
TO: Board of Supervisors
THRU: Karen Riggs, P.E., Highway and Floodplain Director
FROM: Karen Lamberton, AICP, County Transportation Planner
SUBJECT: Cochise-Vista Bicycle Path Route IGA

Recommendation: This department recommends signing a Resolution and approving an Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Sierra Vista to fund and construct a joint bicycle pathway known as the Cochise-Vista Bicycle Path Route.

Background (Brief): The Cochise Bicycle Advocates, a volunteer entity that provides ideas and recommendations on bicycling issues within Cochise County and the City of Sierra Vista, worked with the City of Sierra Vista on a Safe Bicycle and Pedestrian Routes Plan, completed in August 2011. One of those proposed routes, known as the Cochise-Vista Bicycle Path Route ("the Route"), was prioritized by the Cochise Bicycle Advocates for implementation. The City of Sierra Vista and Cochise County staff met to coordinate this joint effort and bring the request to their respective elective officials for consideration.

The new Route would begin at Buena High School, head westward to Ranchos Carmela, and then southward to Ramsey Canyon Road. The Route traverses both City and County sections and is approximately 14 miles in length. Across its full length, the Route incorporates multi-use path sections, striped bicycle lanes, and safer sections of local streets.

Fiscal Impact & Funding Sources: This IGA commits County staffing resources for construction of pathway signs (materials costs will be provided by the City of Sierra Vista). Cochise County will also be committed to ongoing maintenance of the pathway and signs within the County areas of the route. These funds will be provided from the Highway Dept. line items for sign and striping.

Next Steps/Action Items/Follow-up: The County will record the approved Resolution and IGA and provide copies to the City of Sierra Vista. Both agencies will then coordinate the funding and construction of the pathway signs for installation in 2014.

Impact of NOT approving: The County will not work with the City of Sierra Vista to provide a seamless bicycle pathway between jurisdictional boundaries.