

LOS ALAMOS COUNTY
BICYCLE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM

The Transportation Board recommends to Council that the following roads be adopted as the Los Alamos County Bicycle Transportation System. Throughout this Bicycling Transportation System, bicycling improvements (appropriate to each facility) should be implemented when major maintenance, reconstruction, or construction is performed on the roadway facilities included below.

Bicycling improvements should be appropriate to the type of roadway in question, such as wider shoulders on highways or bike lanes on arterials (if possible); and should include bicycle-friendly intersection improvements, uniform signing, and appropriate markings; and should avoid the use of bicycle unfriendly infrastructure such as parallel gratings, poorly placed rumble strips, or use of the gutter-pan as part of the travel lane. In addition to improvements, appropriate preventative maintenance must continue to be performed throughout the system such as routine sweeping, pothole patching, and snow removal. Furthermore, the County should review the Bicycle Transportation System periodically to ensure that any new developments are bicycle-friendly.

PRIORITY I

Arterials:

- a. Diamond Drive from San Ildefonso Road to Omega Bridge.
- b. Central Avenue from NM 502 to Rose Street.
- c. Canyon Road from Rose Street to Diamond Drive.
- d. Trinity Drive – East Road from Diamond Drive to Airport Road.

PRIORITY II

Major Collectors:

- a. Arkansas Avenue and North Road.
- b. Grand Canyon Drive.
- c. Rover Boulevard and Meadow Lane.
- d. San Ildefonso North from Diamond Drive to the end of Barranca Road.
- e. San Ildefonso Road South from Diamond Drive to Sioux Street.
- f. Thirty-eighth Street and Villa.

PRIORITY III

Minor Collectors:

- a. Bryce Avenue.
- b. Canyon Road from NM 502 to Central Avenue.
- c. North Mesa Road.
- d. Sherwood Boulevard.
- e. Western Area Loop: Trinity Drive from Diamond Drive to 48th Street, 48th Street to Sandia Drive, and Sandia Drive to Diamond Drive.
- f. Urban from Diamond Drive to North Road.

Los Alamos County supports and promotes regional bicycle transportation and therefore, encourages connectivity through adjoining jurisdictions. It is recognized that the County does not own the following “Regional Connectors” listed below. That said, the County should cooperate with neighboring government entities, to the extent possible, to develop appropriate regional bicycling infrastructure.

REGIONAL CONNECTORS

Department of Transportation Roads:

- a. NM State Road 4.
- b. NM State Road 501.
- c. NM State Road 502.

LANL Roads:

- a. Pajarito Road.
- b. East Jemez Road (Truck Route).
- c. Diamond Drive from Omega Bridge to Pajarito Road.
- d. Bikini Atoll Road from West Jemez Road to Mercury Road.
- e. Mercury from Pajarito Road to Bikini Atoll Road.
- f. West Road from Diamond Drive to NM 501.

Motion passed, 5-0.

(End of motion text)

Background

Several years ago, Los Alamos County tasked the Bicycle Subcommittee of the Transportation Board to gauge citizen interest in bicycling and to recommend a bicycle master plan to Council through the Transportation Board. As part of this task, the County commissioned two polls to gauge interest in bicycling, especially as a form of transportation, and to solicit input as to the kinds of bicycling improvements desired.

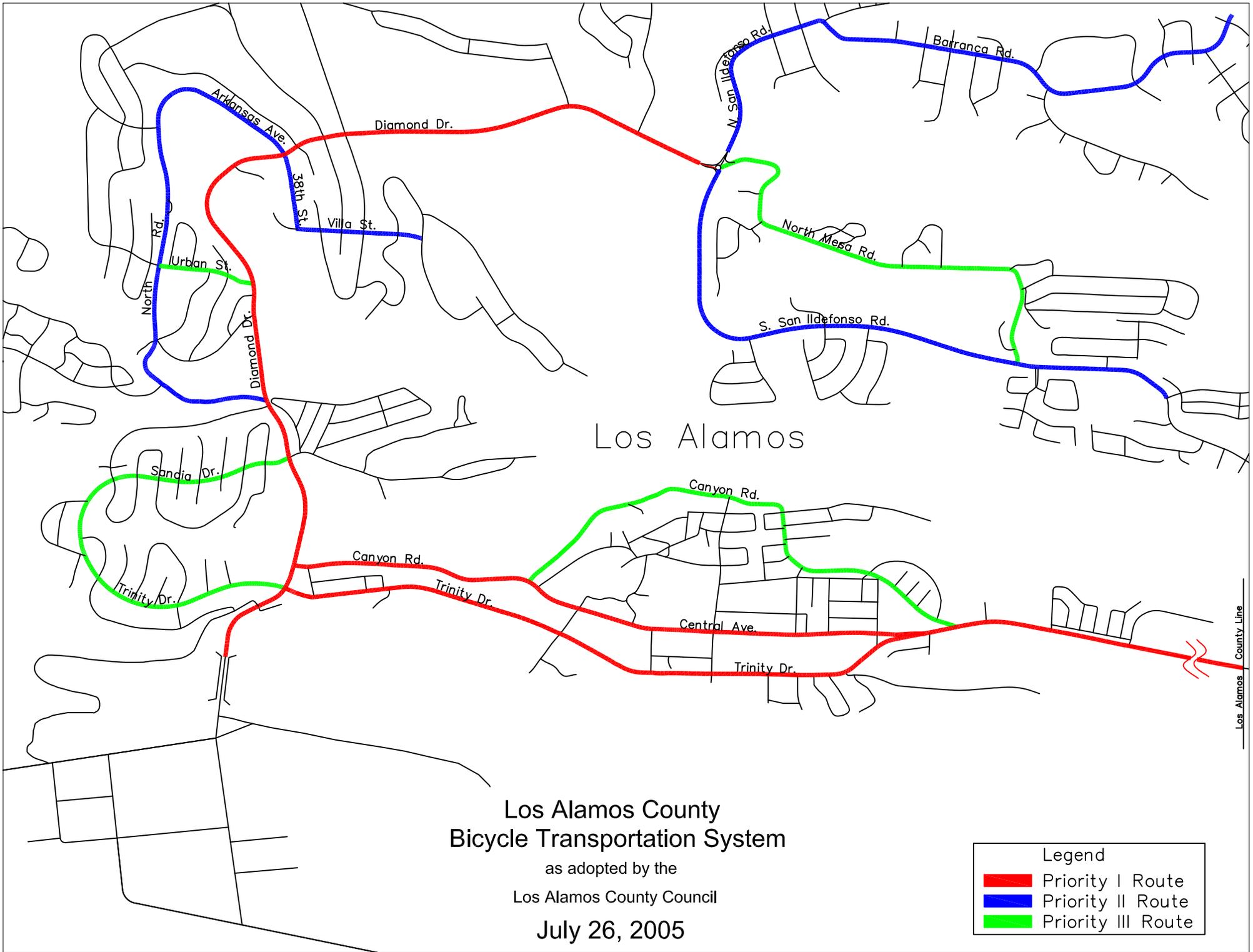
The results of these polls were encouraging. The 2002 Community Perception Study (Research and Polling, Inc.) indicated that 10% of respondents rode to work or school more than 50 times per year and another 9% rode between 6 and 50 times per year. This number compares favorably with bicycling-friendly communities such as Gainesville, Florida; Eugene, Oregon; Boulder, Colorado; and Madison, Wisconsin ([FHWA-PD-92-041](#)).

A second survey “[County-Wide Bike Survey Findings](#)” was commissioned by the County, sent by county mailing, and tabulated by the Bicycle Subcommittee. Drawing

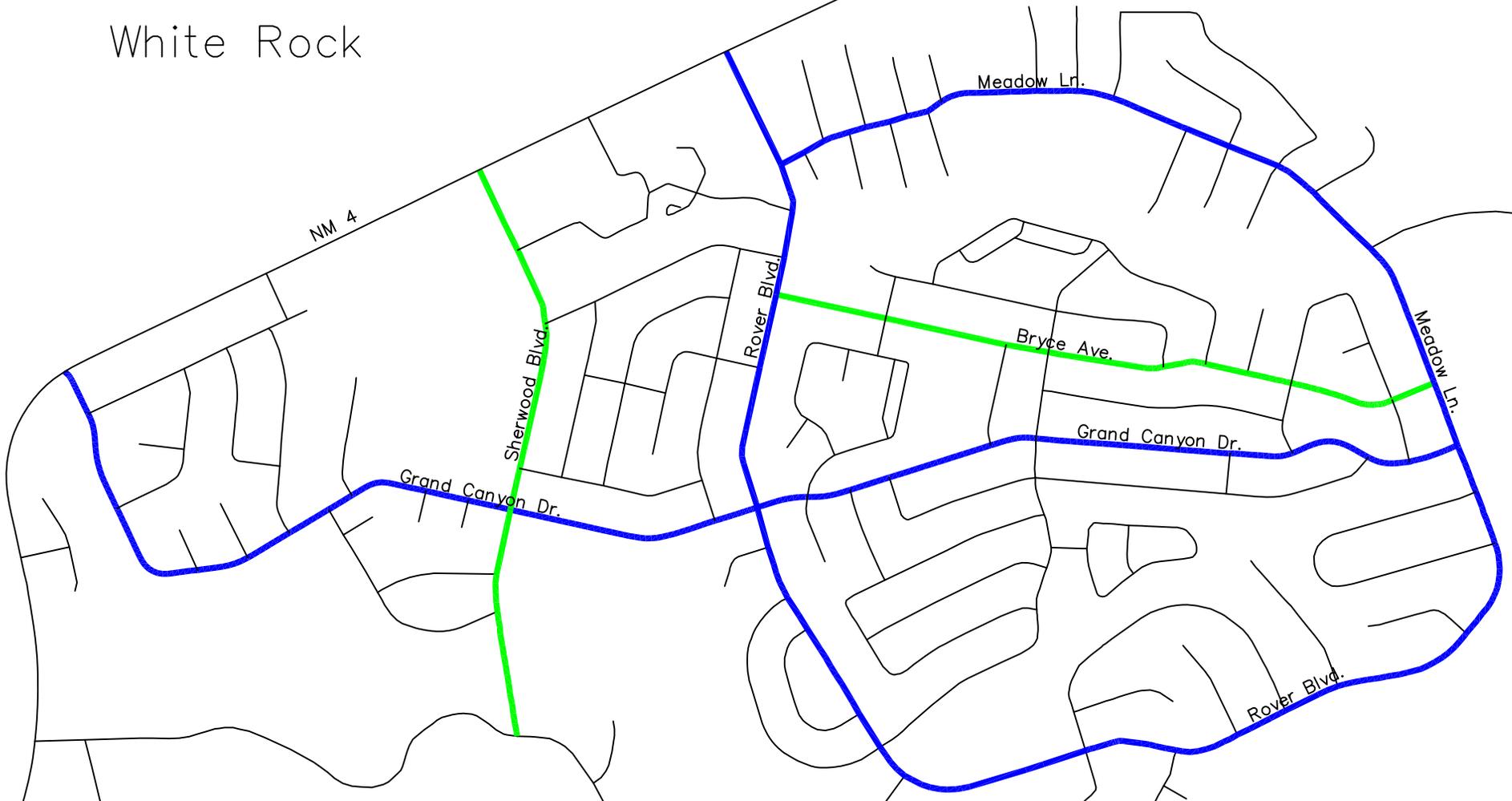
from 1000 questionnaire responses from households representing all age and neighborhood groups, the Bike Survey found that there is a strong desire for safe and favorable bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure throughout Los Alamos County. Over two-thirds of the respondents favor some combination of on-road and off-road bicycling improvements. Safety concerns were by far the greatest response noted by both recreational and commuter bikers with Diamond Drive, Trinity Drive, and Pajarito Road being cited as particularly dangerous routes.

Drawing on these polls, numerous public meetings and internal deliberations regarding the best match of Los Alamos' infrastructure with our desire to provide safe and efficient *bicycling as transportation*, the Bicycle Subcommittee submitted its recommendations, unanimously, to the full Transportation Board for consideration at its April 2005 meeting. The above motion is the Transportation Board's motion regarding bicycle routings. Our mission is simple: that our transportation system should connect cyclists from their homes to their destinations (schools, downtown, place of employment) in a bicycling friendly manner. Therefore, these routes were chosen to connect residential communities to destinations. Particular attention was taken to improving collectors and arterials (and to the extent possible, encourage regional connectivity on State and LANL routes) since these often have high traffic flows and sometimes lack shoulders or bike lanes. Equally important, we focused on roads surrounding our schools (approximately within a one mile radius for non-bused children) in order to address "Safe Routes to School" concerns.

A more comprehensive vision statement ([Creating a Bike and Walk Friendly Los Alamos](http://www.labikes.org/bsc/labikeplan.asp)) from the Bicycling Subcommittee can be found online at the following location: <http://www.labikes.org/bsc/labikeplan.asp> .



White Rock



Los Alamos County
Bicycle Transportation System
as adopted by the
Los Alamos County Council
July 26, 2005

Legend	
	Priority I Route
	Priority II Route
	Priority III Route



Los Alamos

West Rd.

NM501

Bikini Atoll/Mercury Rd.

Pajarito Rd.

E. Jemez Rd.

NM 502

NM 4

To Santa Fe

NM 4

NM501

NM 4

To Jemez

Pajarito Rd.

NM 4

White Rock

NM 4

Bandelier National Monument



Regional Connectors for Los Alamos County Bicycle Transportation System July 2005