Bicycles and Pedestrian Travel

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation, in cooperation with the BFW has identified bicycle routes based on traffic volumes and roadway characteristics. The bicycle map route was compiled as part of the Bayfield County Land Use Plan.

As a part of the Bayfield County Comprehensive planning process the need to expand safe bicycle and pedestrian travel areas is of high-importance. The need for safe, efficient and maintained trails and bike lanes are very important to the long-term health of the County. Several suggested areas of improvement have been identified as a part of this planning process. It is the hope that these elements can be supported both politically and financially through grants and capital improvement funds.

- Need for a bike path within the right-of-way of Highway 13 from Ashland to Red Cliff
- Enhance bike lanes throughout Bayfield County
- Incorporate bicycle trails along ATV trails throughout the County.
- With the assistance of towns and municipalities within Bayfield County, develop and update a pedestrian/bicycle trail plan within 2012. As part of this Plan, develop funding sources and a phasing plan
- Submit projects for TEA funding in 2010
Goal: The future transportation system should be flexible and multi-modal and provide for the needs of citizens and businesses in Bayfield County.

- Objective: Support efforts to expand walking, bicycling, transit, and other modes of transportation.
  - Encourage bicycle trails throughout the County.
  - Develop a comprehensive trail plan and develop funding sources.

Assessment of Future Needs
In general, the local and regional transportation system throughout Bayfield County is presumed to be adequate to serve projected traffic volumes over the next ten years. Ongoing maintenance and minor safety improvements are expected on local, county, and state roadways.

Transportation Policies
The County has a policy of doing road maintenance and repair on an as needed basis. On rural or heavy traffic roads, the pea gravel and sealer method is commonly used, which remains durable on roads with heavy load or higher speed traffic. This system works well in significantly extending the life of existing roads. Towns will consider such a method to ensure the life of their roadways are extended in a cost-effective manner.