

**THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION  
PRESS RELEASE**

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**M-NCPPC PLANNERS HONORED FOR COUNTYWIDE BIKEWAYS PLAN:  
NEW 'DUAL BIKEWAY' CONCEPT INTRODUCED**

**WASHINGTON, DC** – During its gala awards ceremony at the International Spy Museum in Washington, DC this week, the National Capital Area Chapter of the American Planning Association honored The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) for Montgomery County's Functional Bikeways Master Plan.

This award-winning plan introduces the "dual bikeway" concept -- a new type of bikeway that offers two options for different levels of bicycle skill. For example, a road or highway would include a bicycle-only lane in each direction for experienced bicyclists and a shared-use, off-road path for novice bicyclists. This plan recommends 117 miles of dual bikeways in the county.

Further, the plan recommends a network of nearly 200 countywide bikeways totaling more than 500 miles. The plan focuses on connections to the county's major activity centers including municipalities, central business districts, town centers, transit stations, major employment hubs, countywide park trails and regional parks.

"We're extremely pleased with this prestigious award for bikeways planning," said Derick P. Berlage, M-NCPPC Chairman. "We're striving to provide an efficient network of bikeways to make it feasible for commuters to ride their bikes to work, shop and enjoy our parks whenever they can. Every bike on a bikeway or park trail may mean one less car on the road."

Together with Montgomery College, M-NCPPC will also receive the excellent Chapter Award for Implementation for Montgomery College's Expansion into Silver Spring. In addition, M-NCPPC's Prince George's County planners received the Executive Board Honorable Mention award for the Countywide Green Infrastructure Plan.

Printed copies of the plan are available for purchase at M-NCPPC headquarters, 8787 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring, and free online at:

<http://www.mc-mncppc.org/transportation/bikeways/A&A/contents.shtm>.

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