

**WDET News** 

Watch for Cyclists Sep 22, 2008 Metro Desk



Biking around Detroit could be safer and easier in the years to come.

A master plan for about 400 miles of non-motorized paths on city streets has been delivered to the City of Detroit.

Scott Clein is with Giffles-Webster Engineers. He says Detroit's wide streets and lower traffic volumes offer a great opportunity for bike lanes.

"So, we can steal in a sense, the outside lanes of many of our roadways without impacting vehicular traffic and give that back to either the pedestrian in the form of wider sidewalks or on many cases by providing a dedicated bike lane."

Clein says beyond health and safety improvements... the lanes could also foster a better sense of a connected community.

"The hope is to try and provide the connectivity, provide the interaction between people so we can hope to eliminate some of the eastside/westside syndrome that the City of Detroit is famous for."

The project could cost up to \$20 million and take about ten years to complete.

If completed, Detroit would join other major cities like Chicago, Boston, Denver and Portland with similar paths on city streets.