

**ORDINANCE NO.: 2015-029**

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*Amending the City of Columbia Comprehensive Plan 2018 to repeal Chapter Eight Physical Area Development, Transportation Element subsection 8.2.3 Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities and adopt the Walk Bike Columbia plan as the Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities component of the Comprehensive Plan*

WHEREAS, the City of Columbia and community at large recognize the value of planning for future development and growth; and,

WHEREAS, City Council approved Ordinance 2008-085 on October 1, 2008, adopting the City of Columbia Comprehensive Plan 2018 in accordance with the South Carolina Comprehensive Planning Act of 1994 (Title 6, Chapter 29 of the SC Code); and;

WHEREAS, the demand analysis revealed that Columbia residents are already walking, biking, and accessing transit with a combined total of 40 million trips annually. This equates to a total of 30 million miles traveled by bike or on foot each year and about 9 million hours of moderate intensity physical activity; and,

WHEREAS, the analysis revealed that Columbia is already realizing over \$14 million in community-wide benefits from existing walking activity, and over \$1 million in community-wide benefits from existing bicycling activity. Columbia could realize an estimated \$27.7 million in economic benefits resulting from walking and bicycling activity, nearly doubling the current estimated benefits; and,

WHEREAS, a total of 529 pedestrian collisions and 162 bicycle collisions were reported in Richland County from January 1, 2010 through May 9, 2014; and,

WHEREAS, the plan uses the concept of "8 to 80" cities with specific routes where the vast majority of the population has the option of either walking or biking because it's a safe, convenient and pleasant transportation option; and,

WHEREAS, the Walk Bike Columbia plan envisions an expanded and ADA-accessible network of transit, sidewalks, greenways, trails and on-street bicycle connections linking people to jobs, schools, destinations, adjacent communities and one another; and,

WHEREAS, the Walk Bike Columbia plan provides for a future network that will serve residents, commuters, students and visitors alike; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Columbia undertook an extensive public participation process including residents, civic groups, business leaders, and environmental leaders, to review and revise the Walk Bike Columbia plan, and;

WHEREAS, the City of Columbia Planning Commission has reviewed the plan and provided input and recommendations in response to the public input. NOW, THEREFORE;

