



5.2 Pedestrian and Bicyclist Access

There are no bicycle or pedestrian trails impacted by any of the proposed alternatives. The proposed highway is designated as a freeway. The roadside shoulders for roadways crossing US 31 will be wide enough to accommodate pedestrian and bicycle traffic access at interchanges and grade separations (overpass/underpass). This will allow non-motorized traffic to maintain connectivity across the highway.

Various resources were used to investigate pedestrian and bicyclists paths. They were the IDNR Outdoor Recreation Indiana Bicycling Facilities (Indiana Department of Natural Resources, 2002); *Indiana Outdoor Recreation* (Indiana Department of Natural Resources, 1989), the Hoosier Rails to Trails website, the MACOG website and *Mountain Bike America-Indiana* (Cameron, 2000). GIS data on the trails came from the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Outdoor Recreation. The data included the routes taken by existing trails and classified if they were county roads, natural trails or single lane paved trails. The information was then compared with the proposed alternatives to determine if any of these trails would be impacted by the proposed US 31 Plymouth to South Bend project. The evaluation concluded that there would be no impact to bicycle and pedestrian trails.