

Designing Streets for Bicyclists

Cheyenne WY– December 6, 2010



Creating walkable/bikeable communities part 1 planning 1

Self Introductions

Please tell us:

1. Who you are
2. Who you work for and what you do
3. How your work relates to bicycle issues:
 - What would you like to know more about?

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Instructor:

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michaelronkin@gmail.com



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Part 1:

Planning issues that affect biking

- Land use
- Street connectivity
- Access management
- Site design
- LOS standards

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Land Use

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Why do we have cities?



To *minimize* travel & *maximize* exchange (to be closer together)

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How have we built our urban roadway system?



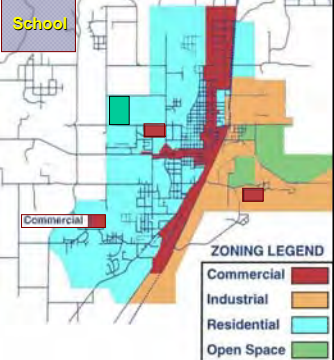
To facilitate travel over longer distances

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Reducing travel demand is best achieved changing Land Use policies that bring destinations closer together

The problem:

- Commercial activities concentrated in auto-dominated corridors.
- Segregated land uses
- Result: long travel distances, not conducive to walking



Potential solutions?

1. Allow small-scale retail in neighborhoods
2. Create neighborhood parks
3. Site smaller schools close to residences & parks

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Neo-traditional, new urbanist, smart growth...



...create walkability by bringing destinations closer together

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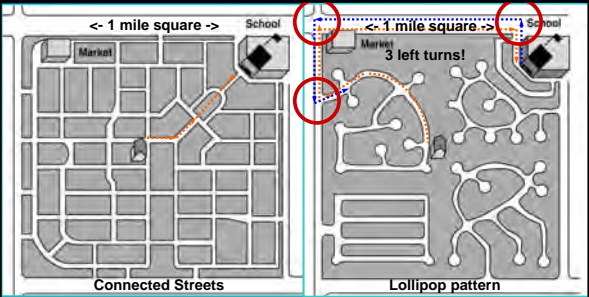


Neo-traditional development: destinations are close to residential areas

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Street Connectivity

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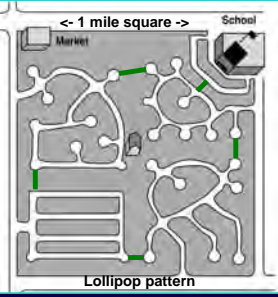
Connectivity creates a walkable street system by:

- Reducing walking distances;
- Offering more route choices on quiet local streets;
- Dispersing traffic – reducing reliance on arterials for all trips

Creating walkable/bikeable communities part 1 planning 12

Can you increase connectivity with paths, greenways?

- Reduces wbiking distances:
 - YES
- Offers more route choices:
 - YES
- Reduces traffic:
 - YES
- Disperses traffic:
 - NO
- Politically feasible?
 - What's been your experience?







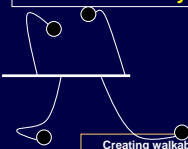

Lollipop pattern

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1. Imagine giving directions in this environment
2. Think about emergency responders

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<p>High Connectivity</p> 	<p>Travel Lanes Required</p> 
<p>Moderate Connectivity</p> 	
<p>Low Connectivity</p> 	

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Disconnected streets result in very wide thoroughfares


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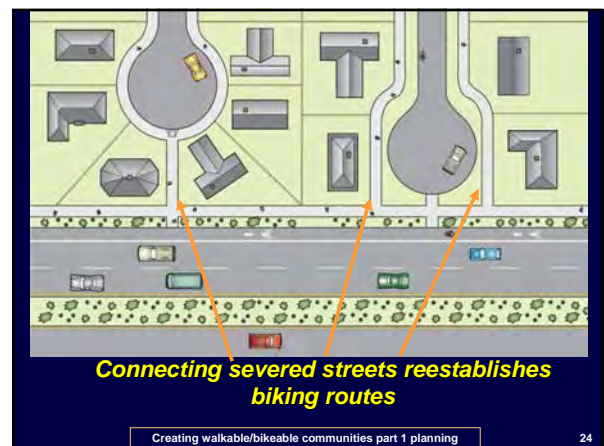
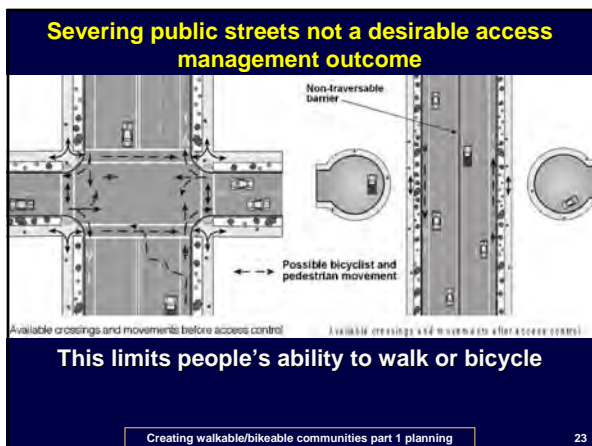
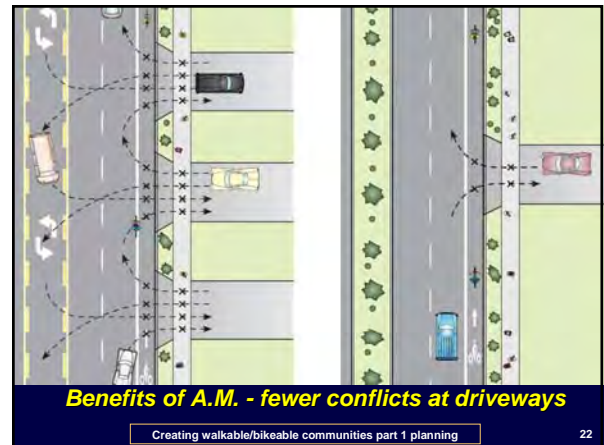
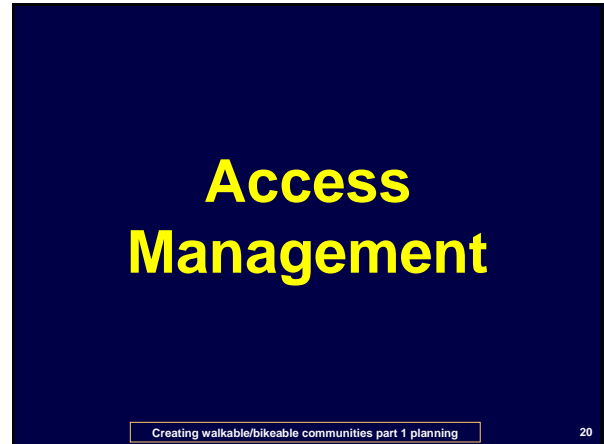
Disconnected streets result in very large intersections

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How connected are streets in Cheyenne? 1. Older



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Alleys create connections

Madison WI

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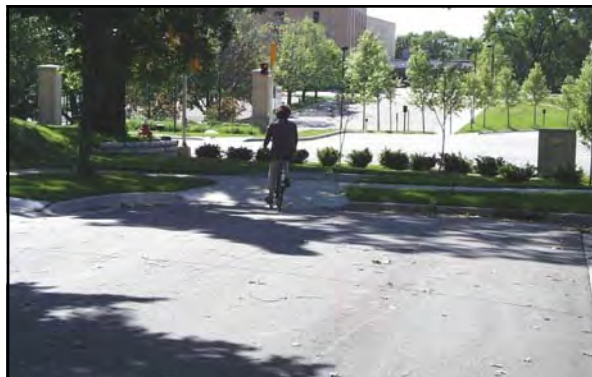


Whoops! Design details matter...

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Severed intersection salvaged for bicyclists & pedestrians

Madison WI

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Severed intersection salvaged for bicyclists & pedestrians

Madison WI

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Davis CA

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Rethinking the role of urban streets

Level of Service (LOS) standards
Street design and bikeability

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Aiming for high LOS => large intersections

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HCM says LOS = A; little traffic, no impediments
Result: very wide roads, poor bicyclist access & safety

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Auto-oriented street: high risk

Las Vegas NV

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Why are bicyclists at low risk on this street?
Narrow roadway, low speeds, busy

Vancouver BC

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Reinventing the roadway:
Transform a 5-lane commercial strip to ...

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...a safer road for everyone

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The basic principles of on-road cycling

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Who are these bicyclists?

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Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Bicycling Principles 2-3

H.G. Wells: "When I see an adult on a bicycle, I realize there is hope for civilization."
Corvallis OR Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Bicycling Principles 2-4

Bicyclists come in all skill levels

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Bicycling Principles 2-5

Bicyclists come from all walks of life

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Is weather a factor?

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2-7

For Whom Are You Building A Bikeway Network?

1. Four Types of Cyclists
 - Strong & Fearless
 - Confident & Enthused
 - Interested but Concerned
 - No Way, No How
2. Different Needs & Concerns for Each
3. Mix of Design & Strategic Issues

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Different Riders and Their Needs



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2-9

PRINCIPLES OF DESIGN

1. Allow cyclists to use the road
 - Provide a smooth riding surface
 - Make room for cyclists
2. Make road inviting to cyclists
 - Slow traffic down
 - Reallocate roadway space
3. Make drivers aware of bicycle presence
 - Stripe or mark or sign *when needed*
4. Build paths where appropriate
 - To supplement to the street system

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Bicycling Principles

2-10



An adult bicyclist on a sidewalk is not a good sign

Washington DC

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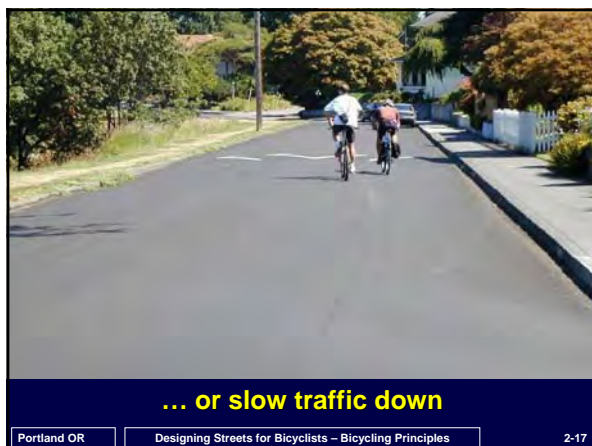
2-11

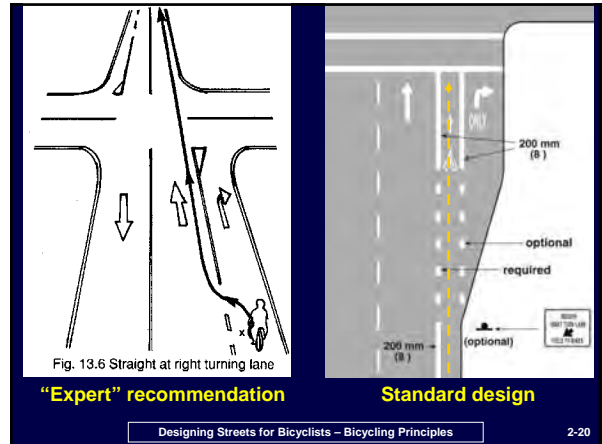


A cyclist on a sidewalk interferes with pedestrians

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2-12

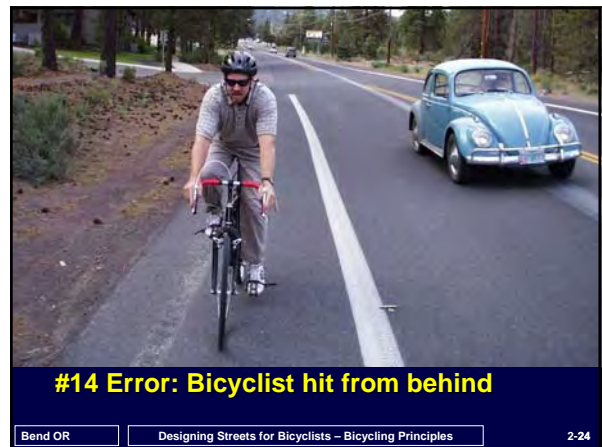
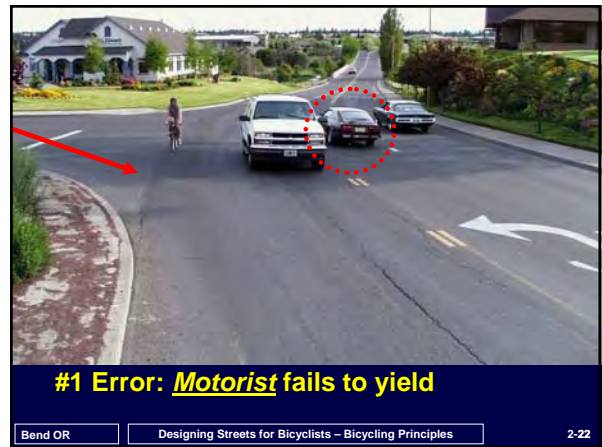




OR Bicyclist-Motor Vehicle Crashes Contributing Errors (Urban)

27	MV Improper Maneuvers
30	Bicycle Passing Maneuvers
41	Bicycle Improper Maneuvers
54	Bicycle Turning Errors
64	MV Misc Maneuvers (inc dooring)
86	MV Disregard stop sign/light
115	MV Turning Error
214	Bike Misc Maneuver (incl wrong-way)
273	Bike Disregard stop sign/light
374	Bike Right of Way Errors
891	MV Right of Way Errors

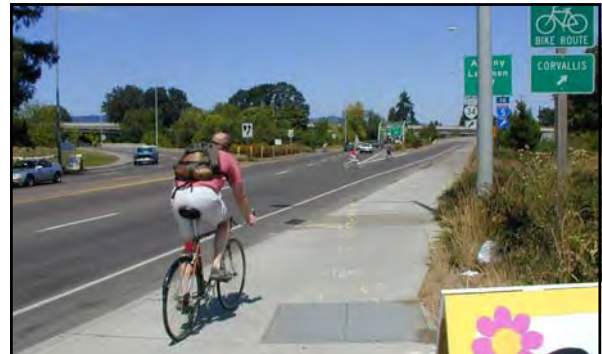
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If it doesn't work for cyclists, it's poor design

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If it doesn't work for cyclists, it's poor design

Corvallis OR Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Bicycling Principles 2-26



Don't ask: "where should we put cyclists?"

Bend OR Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Bicycling Principles 2-27



Don't ask: "where should we put cyclists?"

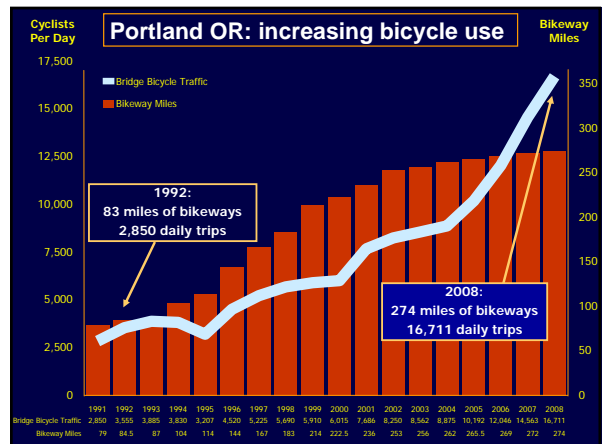
Ask: "how can we design the road to better accommodate bicyclists?"

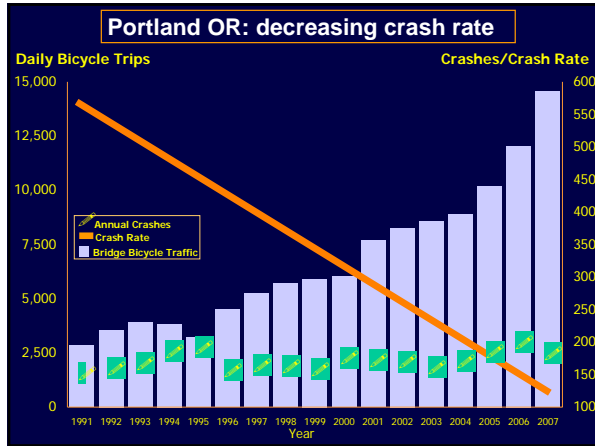
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Do bikeways make a difference in ridership?

Portland OR Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Basics of Bikeway Design





BASICS OF BIKEWAY DESIGN

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Types of Bikeways *

- **Shared Roadways**
 - Wide outside lanes
 - Bike boulevards
- **Paved Shoulders**
- **Bike Lanes**
- **Shared-Use Paths**

* In increasing order of complexity, not preference – not all are intentionally created as bicycle facilities.

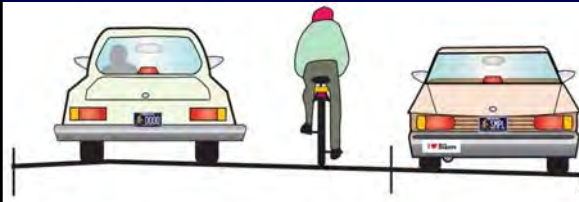
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Older Bikeway Types

- “Bike Route”
- “Bike Path”
- Neither term is very clear

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SHARED ROADWAY




Most common type of bikeway:

- Roads as they are - *no specific dimensions*
- Appropriate on low-volume or low-speed streets
- ✓ 85% or more of streets in a well-connected grid

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Shared Roadway

- Work well on local streets *in a well-connected grid*
- Great for getting around neighborhoods
- Not as practical for longer distances
- Intersections stop controlled the “wrong way”



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Appropriate on low-volume/low-speed streets

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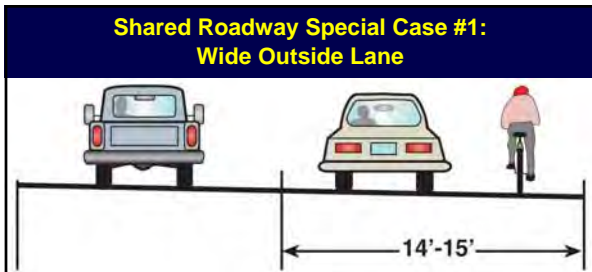
Shared roadway common and appropriate on rural back roads

Benton Co. OR Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Basics of Bikeway Design 3-7



As traffic speeds or volumes increase, shared roadways become less acceptable

Salem OR Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Basics of Bikeway Design 3-8



Shared Roadway Special Case #1: Wide Outside Lane

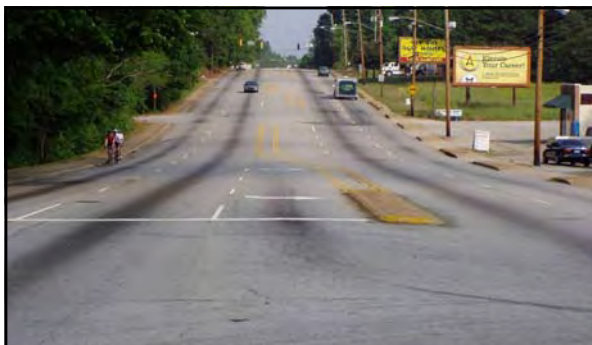
- Used on retrofits of busy streets with insufficient room for bike lanes
- 14' allows cars & bikes to share the lane side-by-side
- Any wider should be striped - wide lanes don't improve safety: *anti-traffic-calming?*

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Basics of Bikeway Design 3-9



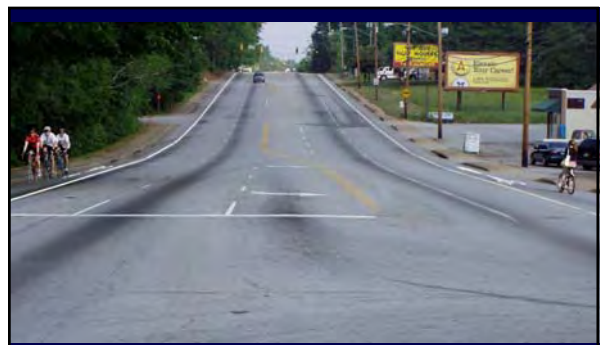
WIDE OUTSIDE LANE Drivers can pass cyclists in same lane

Bend OR Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Basics of Bikeway Design 3-10



Experienced cyclists are comfortable with wide lanes

Spartanburg SC Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Basics of Bikeway Design 3-11



Less experienced cyclists prefer bike lanes

Spartanburg SC Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Basics of Bikeway Design 3-12



Very wide lane can be striped with bike lane

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Shared Roadway Signing and Marking

- Generic “Bike Route” signs not recommended
- Routes should be designated with a name or number.
- Directional and destination signs are useful for cyclists
- Bike warning signs have little value
- Shared lane markings and/or signs can encourage better behavior

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Use numbered, lettered or named routes instead of generic “bike route” signs

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Directional and destination signs are being added to the MUTCD

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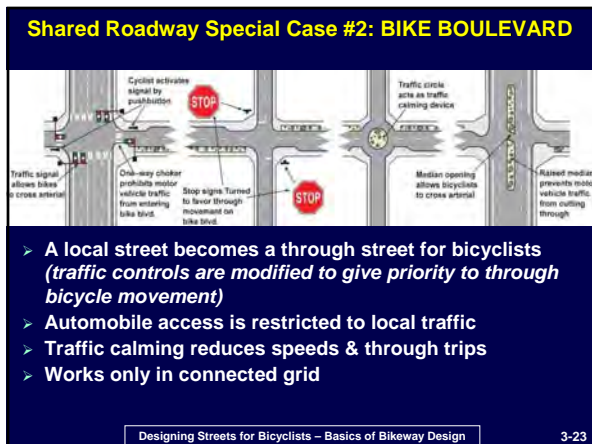
- Primarily for narrow shared roadways
- Encourages bicyclists to ride away from parked cars and take the lane as allowed by law
- Encourages drivers not to pass cyclists too closely
- Useful to provide continuity on constrained blocks
- Inclusion in the draft MUTCD for 2009

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Basics of Bikeway Design 3-17



- If parallel parking, 11’ minimum from the curb
- If no parking, 4’ minimum from the curb or pavement edge
- Place immediately after each intersection and not more than 250 feet apart
- Not recommended on roads with speed limits of 40 mph and above

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ADVANTAGES of BB

1. Opportunity - convert local streets to bike boulevards



Eugene OR Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Basics of Bikeway Design 3-31

ADVANTAGES of BB

2. Attract cyclists who prefer low traffic streets



Portland OR Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Basics of Bikeway Design 3-32

ADVANTAGES of BB

3. Residents favor traffic calming



Portland OR Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Basics of Bikeway Design 3-33

ADVANTAGES of BB

4. Traffic calming & crossings good for pedestrians



Eugene OR Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Basics of Bikeway Design 3-34

DISADVANTAGES of BB

- May be located on streets that don't provide direct access to destinations: *Cyclists may have to ride on a busy street to complete their trip*
- May be difficult to find local street long enough to provide continuity
- May cause traffic diversion onto other streets
- May not be acceptable to turn stop signs and/or add traffic signals
- May be difficult & expensive to retrofit arterial crossings to create safe bicycling conditions

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Are bike boulevards doable in Cheyenne? 1. Older



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Are bike boulevards doable in Orem? 2. Newer

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**Bike Boulevards:
Not "Diversionary Bike Routes"**

- Thoroughfares offer most direct routes
- Destinations located on thoroughfares
- Local streets are slow & discontinuous
- Arterials can be difficult to cross
- Reentering thoroughfare can be difficult (especially left turns)
- Some cyclists choose thoroughfares anyway, even without treatment

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If you're a local cyclist, where do you go?

Lincoln City OR Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Basics of Bikeway Design 3-39

STOP BIKE ROUTE?

Salem OR Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Basics of Bikeway Design 3-40

Paved Shoulders

Min: 5' against curb, parking or guardrail, 4' open shoulder
Travel lane dimensions per relevant standards

Use AASHTO shoulder standards; 6' desirable for bicycles

No special markings

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Shoulders common practice on rural highways

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Why Shoulders?

SAFETY:

- Room to avoid crashes
- A place to pull over
- Room for pedestrians

Washington Co. OR

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Why Shoulders?

SAFETY:

- Room to avoid crashes
- A place to pull over
- Room for pedestrians

MAINTENANCE:

- Better drainage
- Structural support to pavement

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Adding shoulders – tip:

- Add shoulders prior to overlay – *seamless!*

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Adding shoulders – why it matters:

Rough joint makes shoulder unridable

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Bike Lanes: shoulders dedicated to bikes

Min: 5' against curb, parking or guardrail; 4' on open shoulder
Travel and parking lane dimensions per context

Oregon standard: 6'
AASHTO Guide for the development of bicycle facilities: 5'
AASHTO Green Book: Shoulders are desirable on <...> urban arterials <...> the shoulder width should be <...> at least 6' wide

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When measuring for bike lanes, the gutter pan matters

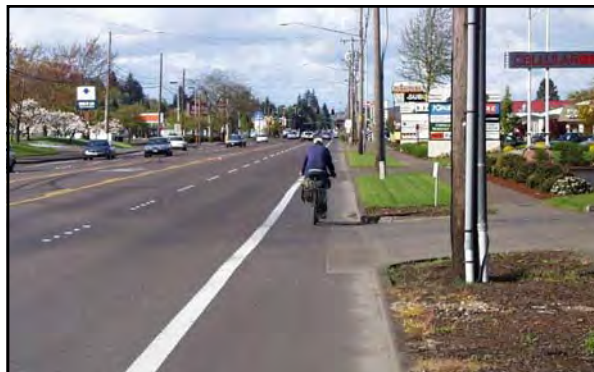
4' preferred, 3' minimum in retrofits



Tallahassee FL Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Basics of Bikeway Design 3-49



Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Basics of Bikeway Design 3-50



Urban arterials: shoulders? Or bike lanes?

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Advantages of bike lanes

- Create a lane so cyclists can travel at their own pace (*can pass stopped motor vehicles*)



Geneva CH Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Basics of Bikeway Design 3-52

Advantages of bike lanes

- Create a lane so cyclists can travel at their own pace (*can pass stopped motor vehicles*)
- Guide cyclists in a manner consistent with good operation (*close to traffic, where they're visible: drivers can predict their movements*)



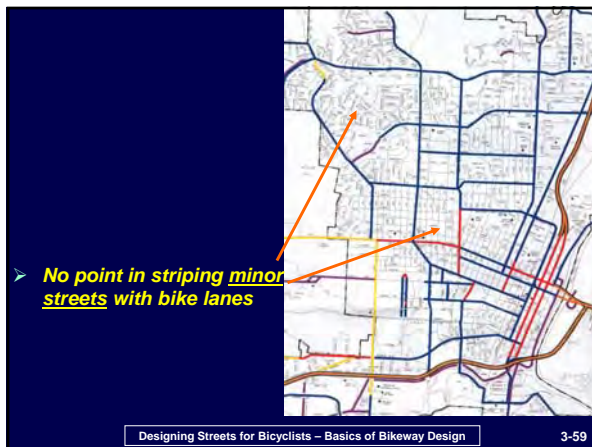
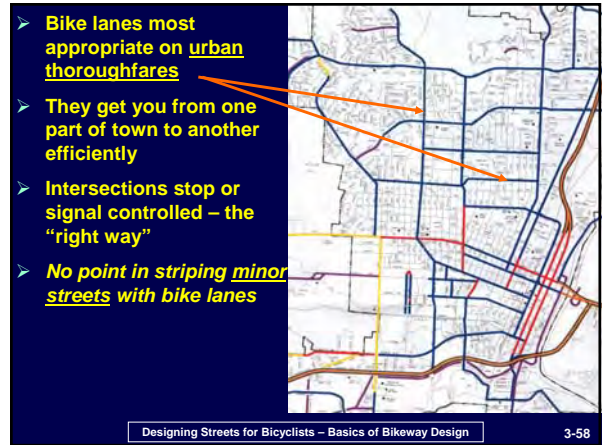
Salem OR Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Basics of Bikeway Design 3-53

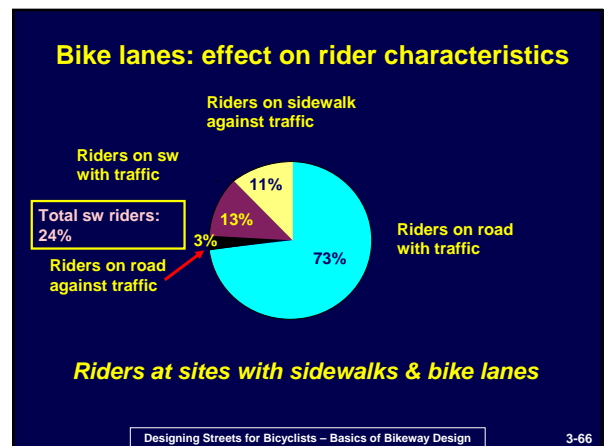
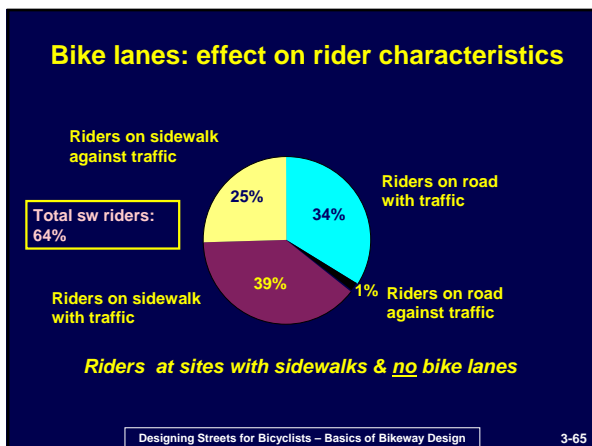
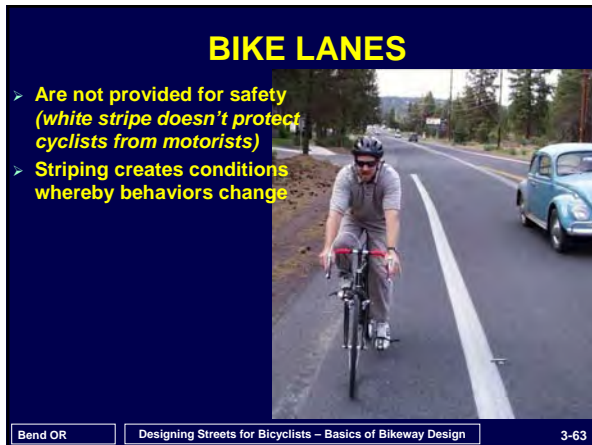
Advantages of bike lanes

- Create a lane so cyclists can travel at their own pace (*can pass stopped motor vehicles*)
- Guide cyclists in a manner consistent with good operation (*close to traffic, where they're visible: drivers can predict their movements*)
- Reduce bicycle/pedestrian conflicts (*cyclists no longer ride on sidewalks*)



Washington DC Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Basics of Bikeway Design 3-54





RELATIVE DANGER INDEX Of various types of facilities

- Major Streets w/o bike lanes 1.28
- Minor Streets w/o bike lanes * 1.04
- Streets with bike lanes 0.5
- Mixed-use paths 0.67
- Sidewalks 5.32

(* = shared roadway)

1.00 = median

Source: William Moritz, U.W. - "Accident Rates for Various Bicycle Facilities" - based on 2374 riders, 4.4 million miles

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Place bike lanes on both sides of 2-way streets

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**Exception: uphill bike lane
None needed in downhill direction**

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**Add shared lane marking downhill for continuity
and to discourage wrong way riding**

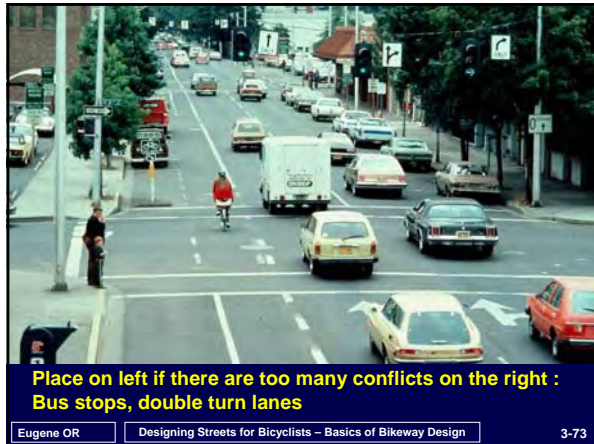
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Place bike lane between parking and travel lanes

Orlando FL Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Basics of Bikeway Design 3-71

In general, place bike lane on right of one-way street

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Bike Lane Signing and Marking

- Pavement markings (line and symbol) are required*
- Signs should supplement pavement markings*
- Solid white line between bike lane and motor vehicle lanes
- Line encouraged between bike lane and parking lane

*Forthcoming change to MUTCD

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R3-17 Standard Bike Lane Sign

1988 2000 2009? MUTCD

“Bicycle Lane signs ... should be used in advance of the beginning of a marked bicycle lane, at the end of the bicycle lane, and at periodic intervals.”
Proposed 2009? MUTCD

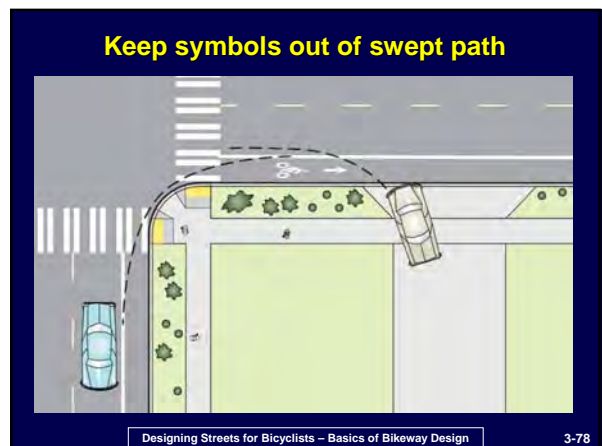
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Bike Lane Markings

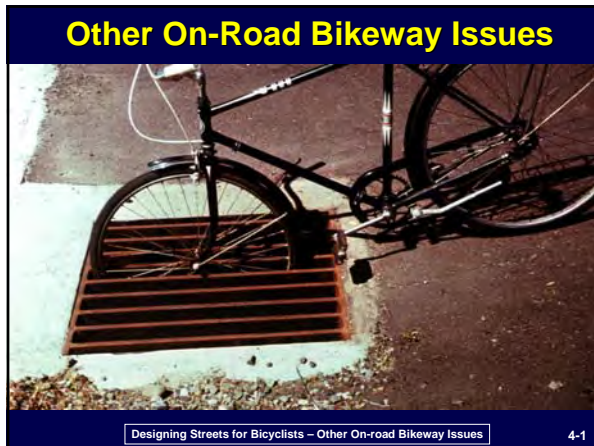
- 6” solid white line
- The bicycle lane symbol marking should be placed immediately after an intersection and at other locations as needed.
- Either of the bike symbols shown or the words BIKE LANE may be used
- Diamond symbol no longer used

Preferred

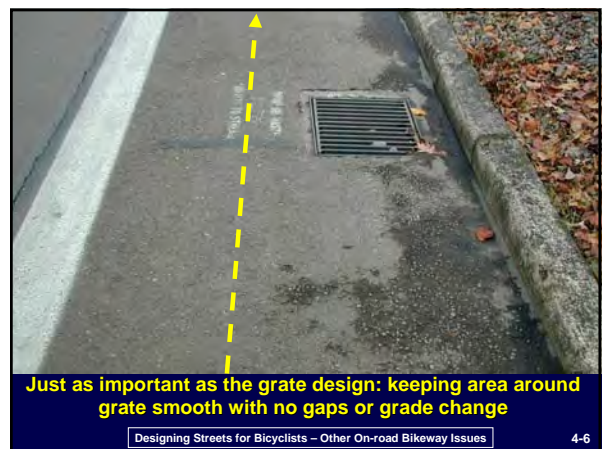
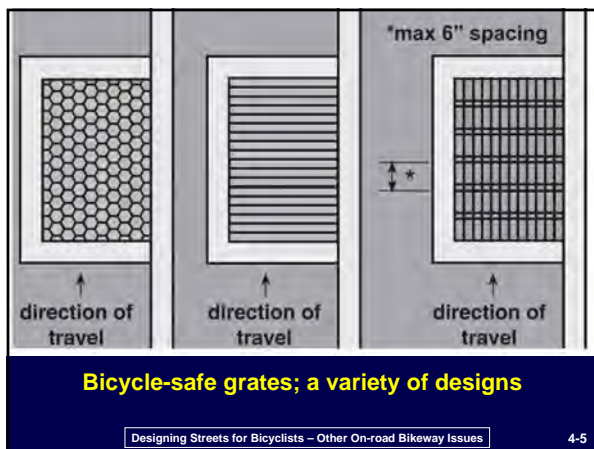
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- ### What we will look at
- Drainage grates
 - Railroad crossings
 - Rumble strips
 - Chip seal
 - Maintenance
- Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Other On-road Bikeway Issues 4-3





All concrete best

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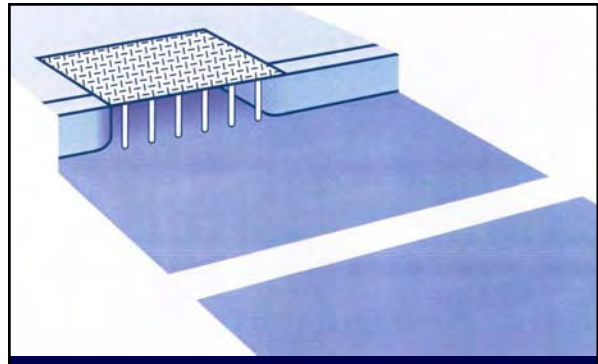
Bad example

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Retrofit – weld straps transverse to bicycle travel

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Best design – curb inlet only

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Other On-road Bikeway Issues 4-10



Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Other On-road Bikeway Issues 4-11



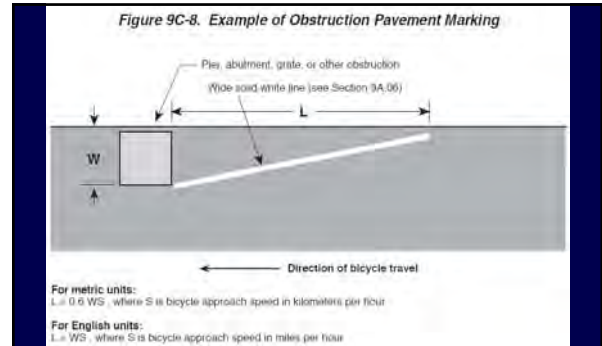
Drainage grates are often wider than the normal gutter – one solution is to expand the gutter width

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Other On-road Bikeway Issues 4-12



Better solution: indent grates into the planter strip

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Other On-road Bikeway Issues 4-13



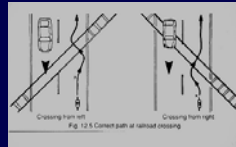
MUTCD Marking for obstructions including drainage grates

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Other On-road Bikeway Issues 4-14

RAILROAD CROSSINGS

3 IMPORTANT FACTORS:

- **Smoothness:** Concrete *best* (even when wet); rubber *2nd best* (but slippery when wet); asphalt *OK if maintained*; timber *OK if maintained*
- **Flange opening:** keep to a minimum
- **Angle:** best is 90°. Less than 45° should be improved (to 60° or greater)
- The *combination* of smoothness, flange opening and angle interrelate



Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Other On-road Bikeway Issues 4-15



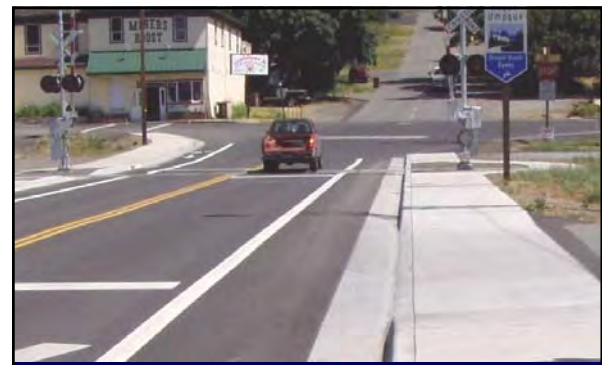
Not bad...

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Other On-road Bikeway Issues 4-16



Not good...

Gold Hill OR Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Other On-road Bikeway Issues 4-17



Fixed!

Gold Hill OR Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Other On-road Bikeway Issues 4-18



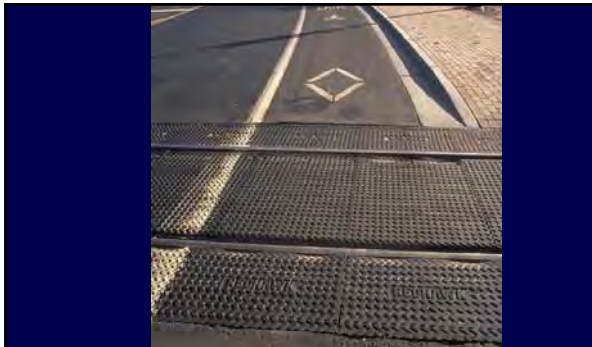
**Crossing materials:
Asphalt – OK at first ,but must be maintained**

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Other On-road Bikeway Issues 4-19



**Crossing Materials:
Timber – a bit better, but still requires maintenance**

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Other On-road Bikeway Issues 4-20



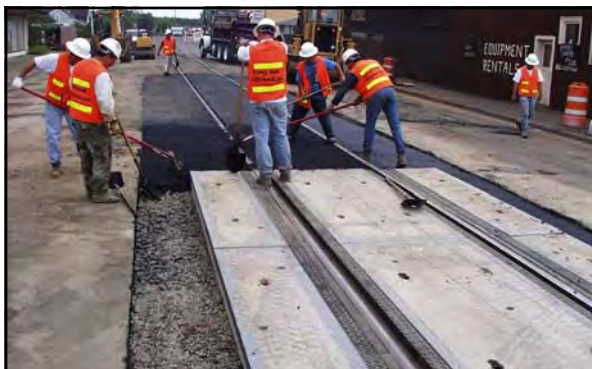
Crossing Materials: Rubber works when new, but is slippery when wet and deteriorates rapidly

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Other On-road Bikeway Issues 4-21



Crossing Materials: Concrete – best

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Other On-road Bikeway Issues 4-22



The best is expensive

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Other On-road Bikeway Issues 4-23

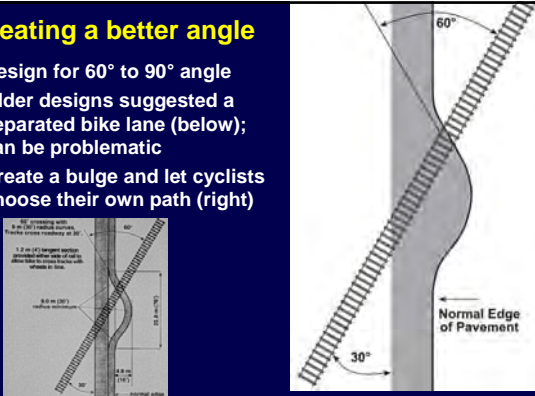


Wide flange opening can trap wheels

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Other On-road Bikeway Issues 4-24

Creating a better angle

- Design for 60° to 90° angle
- Older designs suggested a separated bike lane (below); can be problematic
- Create a bulge and let cyclists choose their own path (right)




Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Other On-road Bikeway Issues 4-25



Good example; each cyclist can choose their line

Madison WI Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Other On-road Bikeway Issues 4-26



Poor example – curves are too sharp; the concrete area is an obstacle; poorly placed grate

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Other On-road Bikeway Issues 4-27

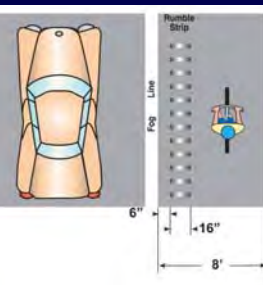


Triple whammy: sharp angle, rough surface, and wide flange opening (gravel thrown in for good measure)

La Pine OR Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Other On-road Bikeway Issues 4-28

RUMBLE STRIPS

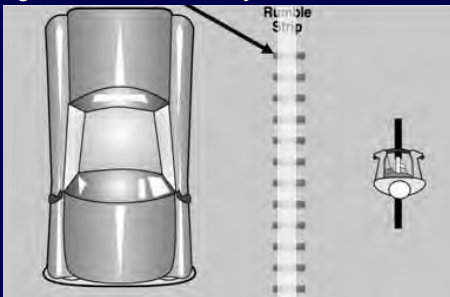
- Provided to alert motorists on long straight rural roadways – most important on freeways
- Bumps/grooves across the entire shoulder are bad for cyclists
- On roads open to cyclists, be sure to leave 4' clear shoulder width for bicyclists
- More bicycle-friendly design: grooves cut within a few inches of the fog line, leaving usable shoulder for bicyclists



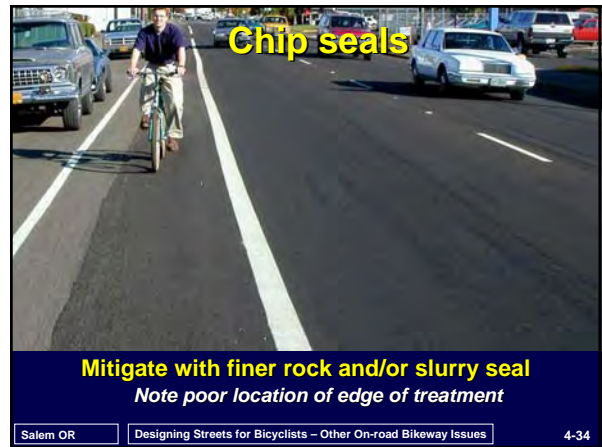
Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Other On-road Bikeway Issues 4-29

RUMBLE STRIPS

- Most bicycle-friendly design: grooves in the fog line, leaving entire shoulder for bicyclists



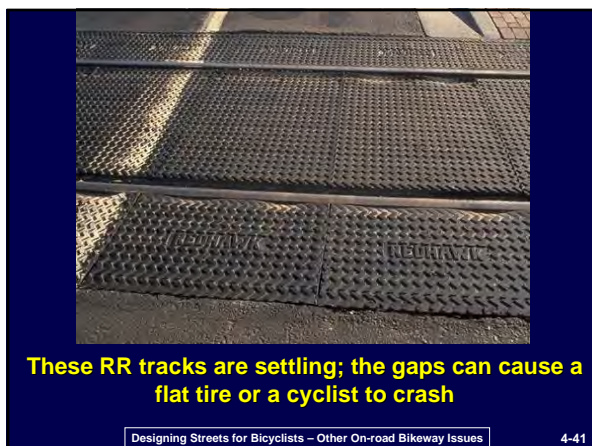
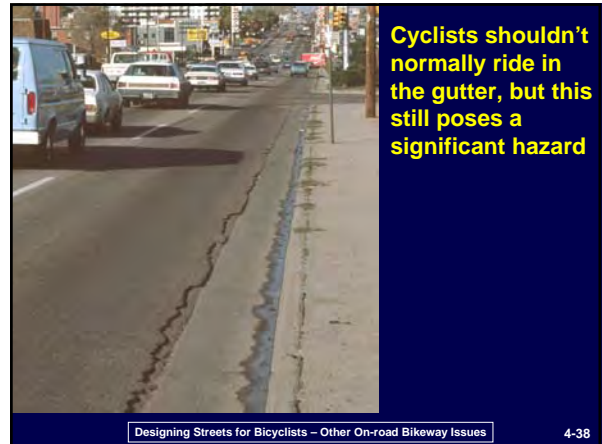
Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Other On-road Bikeway Issues 4-30



Maintenance

- Bike lanes and shared roadways must be maintained
- If the surface is broken up or uneven, cyclists are more likely to lose control

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Other On-road Bikeway Issues 4-36





Shoulder surfacing must be as smooth as the adjacent roadway or cyclists won't use them

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Other On-road Bikeway Issues

4-43



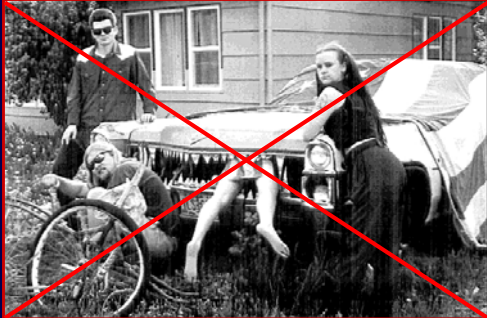
Bike Route... Where?

Deschutes Co. OR

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Other On-road Bikeway Issues

4-44

Intersections



Two bodies can't occupy the same space at the same time

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Intersections 5-1

Intersections

- Avoid unusual conflicts
- Provide direct path for cyclists, close to that of motor vehicles
- Bicyclists should be visible; their movements should be predictable
- Simple right angles best for bicyclists

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Intersections 5-2



Bigger isn't always better...

Albuquerque NM Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Intersections 5-3



Albuquerque NM Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Intersections 5-4

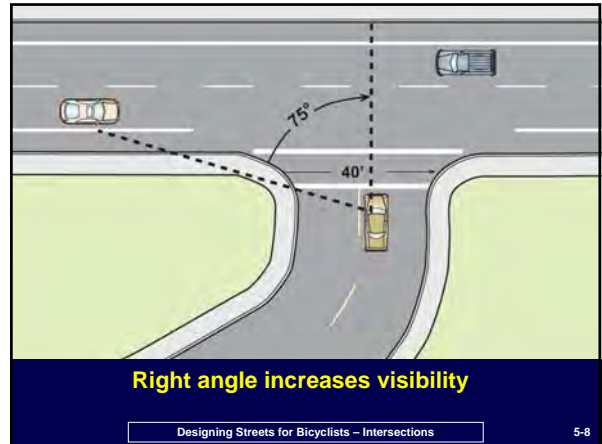
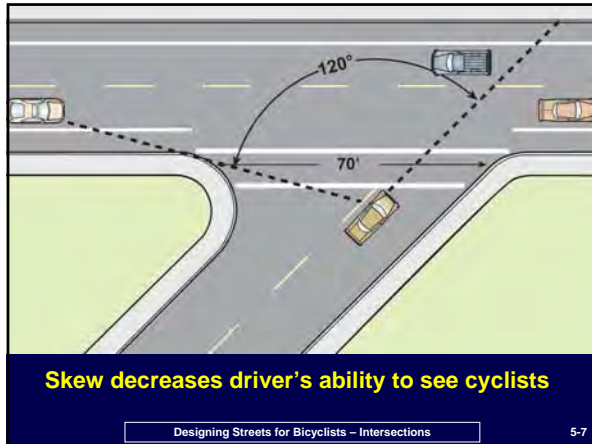


Albuquerque NM Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Intersections 5-5



Compact urban intersections are better

Philadelphia PA Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Intersections 5-6



Bicycle Detection at Signals

Square
Quadrupole
Diamond
Diag. Quadrupole

Direction of Travel

This figure indicates where cyclists should wait in order to actuate the signal
Signal technicians should use a bike wheel to test loop detector sensitivity

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Intersections
5-13

Loop detector in bike lane detects cyclists

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Intersections
5-14

Advance loop detector extends green time for cyclists

Corvallis OR
Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Intersections
5-15

Loop detector in travel lane with cyclist stencil

Optional
MUTCD sign

MUTCD standard

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Intersections
5-16

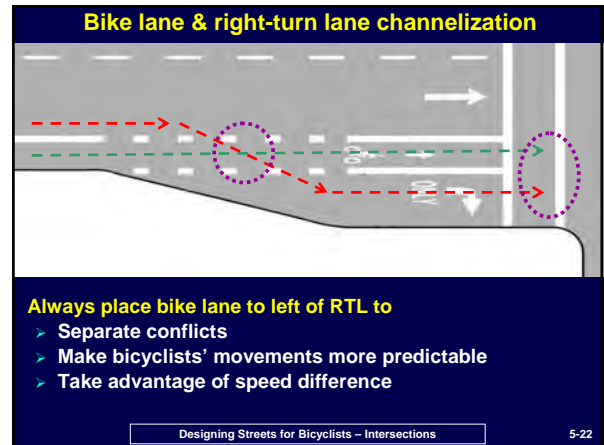
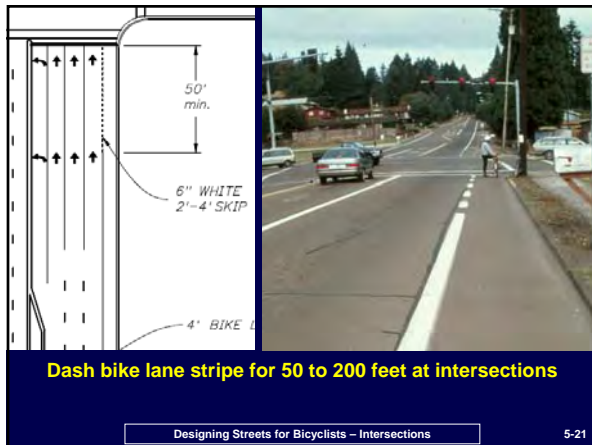
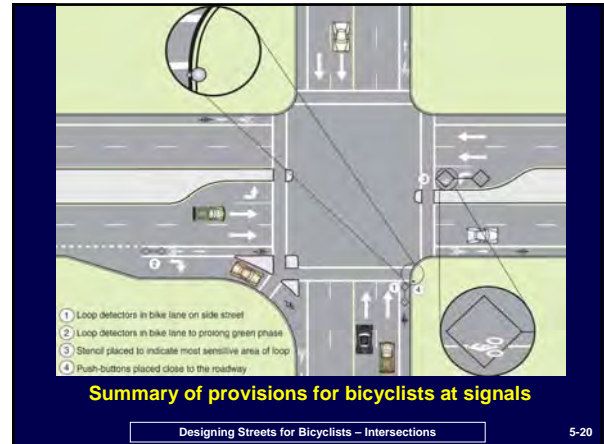
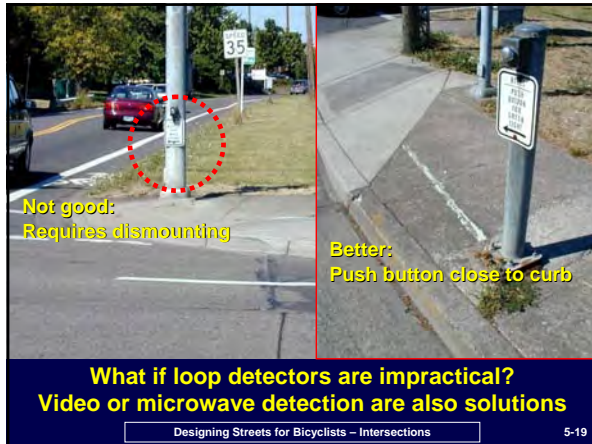
Loop detector sensitive to cyclists: it works!

Corvallis OR
Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Intersections
5-17

Good advice: “Lean for the green”

Lean your bike to trigger light

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Intersections
5-18





Before: where the cyclist wants to be

Bend OR Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Intersections 5-25



After: where the cyclist should be

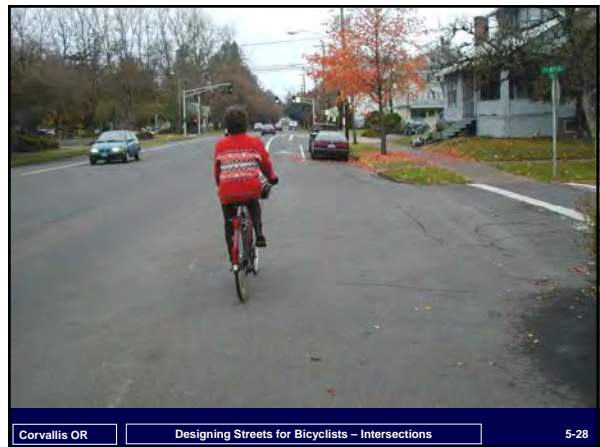
Bend OR Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Intersections 5-26

Other scenario

1. RTL created by dropping parking

L = Storage length required for right turns
 T = Taper length needed for motorists to merge right (to be calculated based on standard right-turn configuration)

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Intersections 5-27



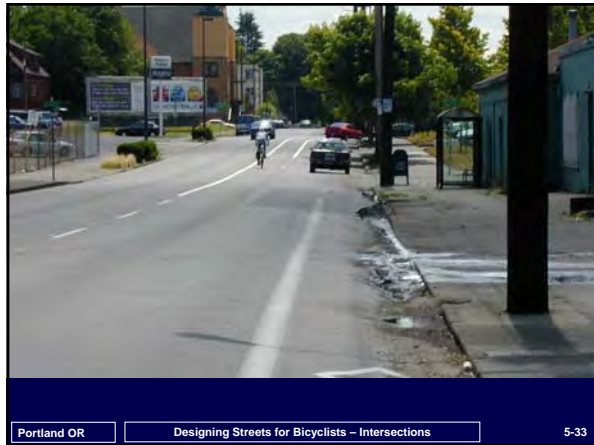
Other scenario

2. RTL created by dropping through lane

In this case, bicyclists must move over across a lane to reach through bike lane


L = Storage length required for right turns
 D1, D2, D3 = Distance needed for bicyclists to merge left (to be field-determined for each case)

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Intersections 5-30



Roundabouts

- Roundabouts slow motorists to speeds compatible with bicyclists (bicycle speeds: 10-20 mph)
- Bicyclists have wide range of skills and comfort levels
 - Experienced cyclists (e.g. frequent commuter, utility, and recreational cyclists)
 - Inexperienced cyclists (e.g. children and occasional utility or recreational cyclists)



5-1



A roundabout is a type of intersection control

Clearwater FL

5-2



A roundabout is not:
1. A New England style rotary, with large size & high speeds

Augusta ME

5-3



A roundabout is not:
2. A Washington DC style circle, with traffic signal controls

Washington DC

5-4



A roundabout is not:
3. A traffic-calming mini circle

5-5



A roundabout is not:
4. Paris

Paris FR

5-6

Why roundabouts are safer for all users:

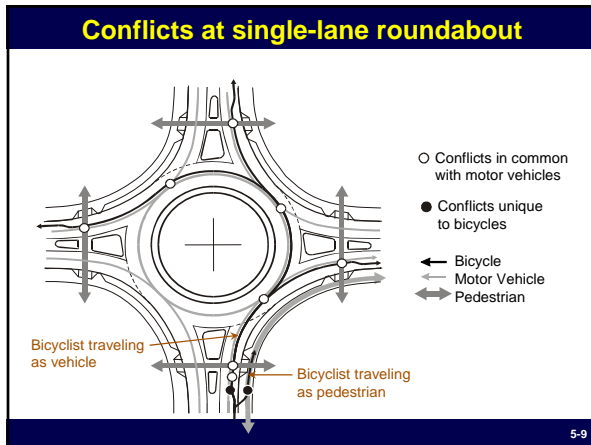
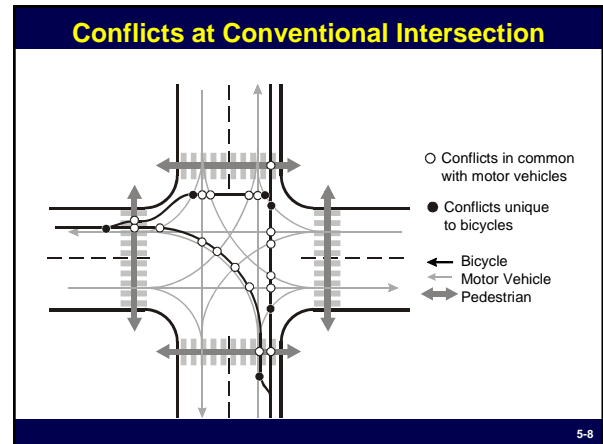
- **Slow speed:**
 - Deflection, truck apron, splitter islands, "reverse super"
- **Reduced conflicts**
- **No left turns**
- **Yield on entry**



Crash Reduction (all users):

- About 54% overall
- 27% pedestrian crashes
- Up to 76% fatalities and serious injuries

5-7



General Principles for Bicyclists

- **No bike lanes within the circulatory roadway** (through cyclist is to right of exiting traffic)
- **Low-volume:**
 - Bicyclists can generally circulate with other vehicles
- **High-volume:**
 - Give bicyclists option of traversing like a vehicle or like a pedestrian

5-10

Designing for Bicyclists to Traverse Roundabouts Like Other Vehicles

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Intersections

5-11





End bike lane to encourage cyclist to enter roadway

Bend OR

5-13



Circulating: "Take the lane" in single lane

Clearwater FL

5-14



Slow speed allows cyclists to share roadway

Bend OR

5-15



No bike lane on circulatory roadway

Bend OR

5-16



Upon exiting, cyclist moves out of the travel lane

De Pere WI

5-17



Resume bike lane on exit, after crosswalk

Bend OR

5-18

Summary – Roundabout Design for Bicyclists to Travel Like Vehicles

- Drop bike lane on entry with appropriate taper and dashes, (indicates that merging is expected)
- Resume bike lane on exit, after crosswalk
- No bike lane on the circulatory roadway

5-19

What if a cyclist doesn't want to enter the roundabout?
Provide a ramp at multi-lane roundabouts

5-20

Using the splitter island like a pedestrian

5-21

Bicycle Ramps at Roundabouts

5-22

Bicycle Ramp Options

Landscape buffer provided on approach to roundabout	
Wide curb-tight sidewalk on approach to roundabout	 8 ft (2.4 m) min. 5 ft (1.5 m) min.
Narrow curb-tight sidewalk on approach to roundabout	 8 ft (2.4 m) 7 ft (2.1 m) or less

5-23

Putting it all together

5-24

BIKE LANE RESTRIPING

WHY?

Because the roads are there

Salem OR Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Restriping for Bike Lanes 6-1

Why Restriping?

- Most urban roads were built without bike lanes, discouraging bicycling & causing cyclist/ motorist conflicts
- Restriping is most expedient way to provide bike lanes where road widening is unlikely

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Restriping for Bike Lanes 6-2

3 TECHNIQUES

1. Narrow Travel Lanes
2. Remove/reallocate/rearrange parking
3. Remove Travel Lanes

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Restriping for Bike Lanes 6-3

1. Narrow Travel Lanes

10' - 11' just as safe as 12' lanes on urban arterials with speeds < 45 MPH *. AASHTO allows narrow lanes:

- 9' on local residential streets
- 10' on low speed arterials & collectors
- 11' for streets with trucks

* "Relationship of Lane Width to Safety for Urban and Suburban Arterials": Study by Potts, Harwood, and Richard

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Restriping for Bike Lanes 6-4

1. Narrow Travel Lanes

As is: wide CTL

Spartanburg SC Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Restriping for Bike Lanes 6-5

1. Narrow Travel Lanes

Restriped for bike lanes

Spartanburg SC Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Restriping for Bike Lanes 6-6



**Reinventing the roadway:
Transform a 5-lane commercial strip to ...**

Portland OR

6-7



...a safer road for everyone

6-8

2. Remove Parking

BEFORE:

AFTER:

- Remove from one side only (*leave on one side*)
- Removal is a negative for pedestrians & businesses
 - Do not consider in CBD or on local residential streets; speeds should be slow enough for shared roadway

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Restriping for Bike Lanes

6-9



Remove from one side only (*leave on one side*)

Corvallis OR

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Restriping for Bike Lanes

6-10

Provide parking bays where parking is critical

BEFORE:

AFTER:

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Restriping for Bike Lanes

6-11



Only possible with planter strip/furniture zone

Corvallis OR

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Restriping for Bike Lanes

6-12

3. Remove travel lanes

- Restriping 2-way street with 4 travel lanes to a CTL, 2 travel lanes & 2 bike lanes can improve safety & traffic flow
- Many one-way couplets have more travel lanes than needed
- Always conduct a traffic study to determine if traffic can be handled with fewer lanes

BEFORE:

12 ft | 12 ft | 12 ft | 12 ft

AFTER:

6 ft | 12 ft | 12 ft | 12 ft | 8 ft

48 ft

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Restriping for Bike Lanes

6-13

Removing travel lanes and Safety

“Classic” 4-3 lanes

San Antonio TX
Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Restriping for Bike Lanes
6-14

3 crash types can be reduced by going from 4 to 3 lanes: which ones?

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Restriping for Bike Lanes
6-15

3 crash types can be reduced by going from 4 to 3 lanes: 1 – rear enders

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Restriping for Bike Lanes
6-16

3 crash types can be reduced by going from 4 to 3 lanes: 2 – side swipes

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Restriping for Bike Lanes
6-17

3 crash types can be reduced by going from 4 to 3 lanes: 3 – left turn/broadside

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Restriping for Bike Lanes
6-18

➤ Which road carries the most traffic?

➤ Which road produces the highest speed?

- ✓ With a 4-lane road a fast driver can pass others
- ✓ With a 2-lane road the slower driver sets the speed

➤ Which road produces the highest crash rate?

➤ Which is better for bicyclists, pedestrians, businesses?

San Antonio TX Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Restriping for Bike Lanes 6-19

Case study 1: Iowa DOT results

25% reduction in total crashes/mile
19% reduction in crash rate

Based on 15 road diet projects with 15 control sites over 23 years

San Antonio TX Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Restriping for Bike Lanes 6-20

Case study 2: Valencia St San Francisco)

Before After

San Francisco CA Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Restriping for Bike Lanes 6-21

Traffic counts (ADT): virtually no diversion

Street	1998 - before bike lanes	2000 - after bike lanes
Dolores	~14,000	~14,500
Guerrero	~22,000	~23,000
Valencia	~22,000	~20,000
Mission	~16,000	~17,000
S. Van Ness	~17,000	~18,000

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Restriping for Bike Lanes 6-22

Valencia Street Bicycle Volumes PM peak hour counts

Time	before bike lanes	after bike lanes
PM peak hour	88 bikes/hr	215 bikes/hr

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Restriping for Bike Lanes 6-23

Case study 3: Edgewater Drive (Orlando FL) Resurfacing Project

- \$589,000 project scheduled in FDOT 5-year work plan
- FDOT open to 3-lane option if City takes over jurisdiction
- Changes must be accepted by neighborhood and business associations; before/after studies

Before After

Orlando FL Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Restriping for Bike Lanes 6-24

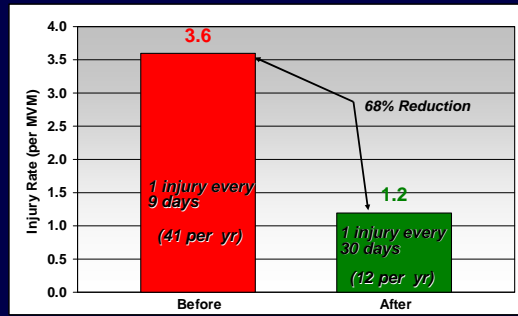
Before/after studies: 1. Crash rate



Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Restriping for Bike Lanes

6-25

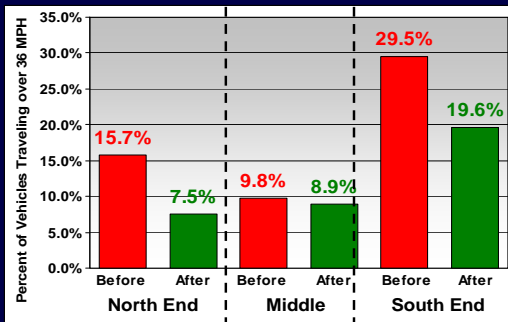
Before/after studies: 2. Injury rate



Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Restriping for Bike Lanes

6-26

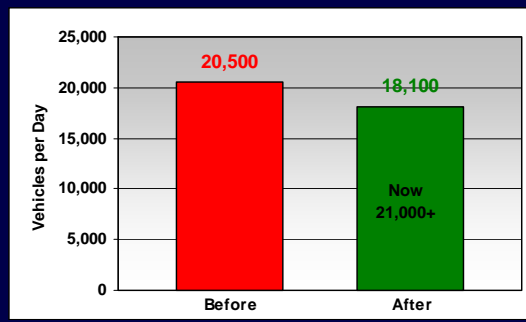
Before/after studies: 3. Speeding analysis



Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Restriping for Bike Lanes

6-27

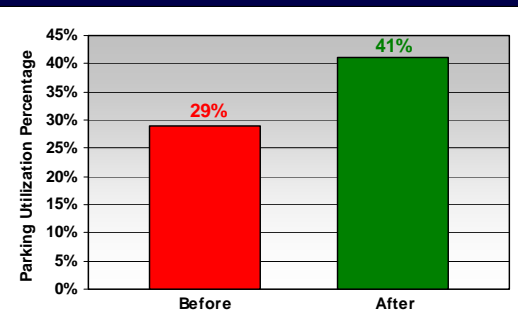
Before/after studies: 4. Traffic volumes



Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Restriping for Bike Lanes

6-28

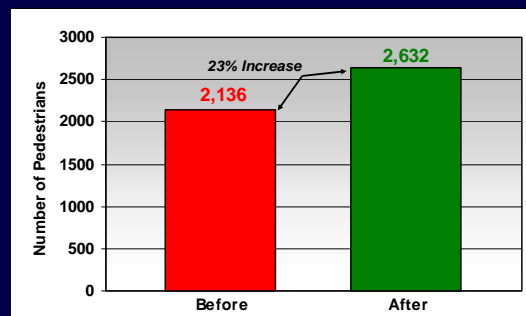
Before/after studies: 5. On-street parking utilization



Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Restriping for Bike Lanes

6-29

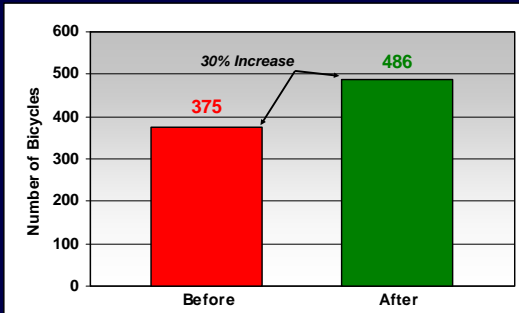
Before/after studies: 6. Pedestrian volumes



Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Restriping for Bike Lanes

6-30

Before/after studies: 7. Bicyclist volumes



Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Restriping for Bike Lanes

6-31

Alternatives

There are many other potential types

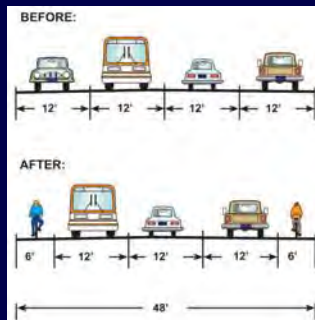
Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Restriping for Bike Lanes

6-32

Uneven traffic flows

In some corridors, there is more traffic in one direction than the other:

- Alternate routes
- Uneven am/pm peak



Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Restriping for Bike Lanes

6-33

Uneven traffic flows



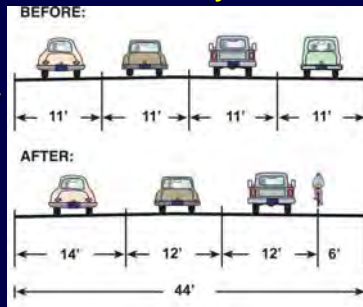
Washington DC

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Restriping for Bike Lanes

6-34

Remove a lane from a one-way street

- In many cases, 2-way streets were converted to 1-way with no traffic study
- Existing streets were simply "filled"
- 1-way carries more traffic per lane, so fewer lanes are needed



Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Restriping for Bike Lanes

6-35

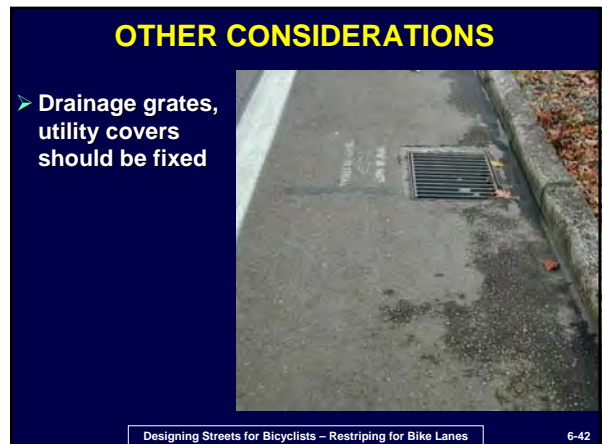
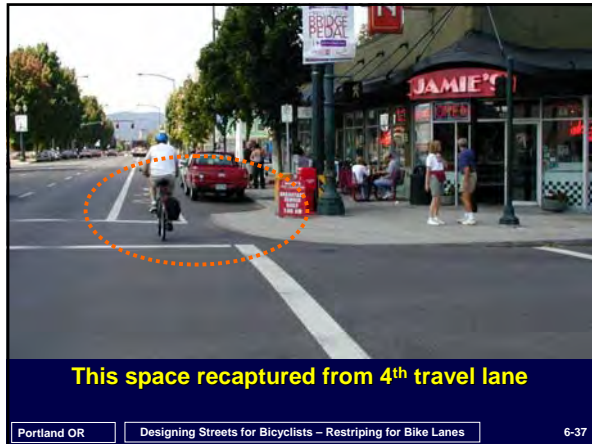


Is this road operating at capacity?

Boise ID

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Restriping for Bike Lanes

6-36





INNOVATIVE BIKEWAY DESIGNS

- Raised Bike Lanes
- Colored Bike Lanes
- Separated Bike Lanes (cycle tracks)
- Innovative Intersection Designs


1

Colored bike lanes

- Ride on the street
- Psychological separation
- Novice cyclists more likely to ride in bike lane, not on sidewalk
- Street appears narrower; motorists drive slower



2



- Colored bike lanes can be a traffic-calming technique: roadway appears narrower
- Other elements also add "friction"

3



Technique 1: dye

4



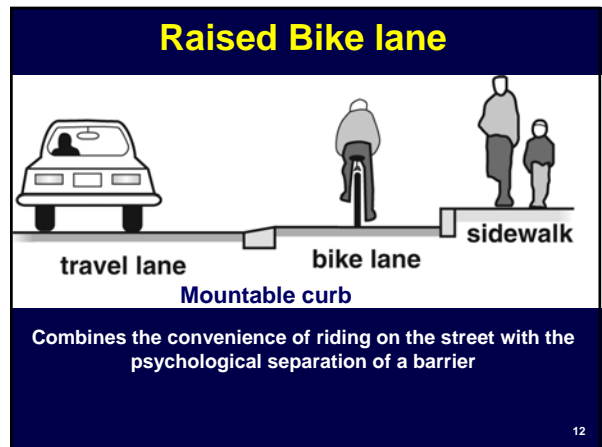
Before

5




After (stamping not needed)

6



Raised Bike lane

- Convenience of riding on the street + psychological separation of a barrier




Raised Bike lane

- Convenience of riding on the street + psychological separation of a barrier
- Mountable curb allows cyclists to leave bike lane for turning or overtaking





Raised Bike lane

- Convenience of riding on the street + psychological separation of a barrier
- Mountable curb allows cyclists to leave bike lane for turning or overtaking
- Motorists feel bump when they stray into curb



Raised Bike lane

- Convenience of riding on the street + psychological separation of a barrier
- Mountable curb allows cyclists to leave bike lane for turning or overtaking
- Motorists feel bump when they stray into curb
- Novice bicyclists more likely to ride in bike lane than on sidewalk



Swiss example



Drainage grates in roadway



US example: Bend OR (raised and dyed)

19



Transition

20

Separated bike lanes (cycle tracks)

- Physical separation
- Novice cyclists more likely to ride in bike lane, not on sidewalk
- Street appears narrower; motorists drive slower



21



Bollards: San Francisco

22



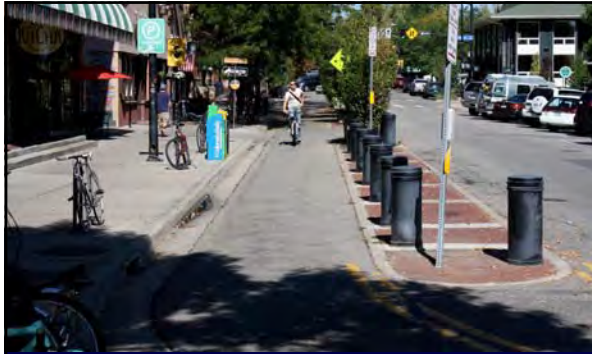
Bollards: NYC

23



Curb: Missoula MT

24



Curb: Boulder CO

Separated bike lanes challenges

- Maintenance
- Bicyclist left-turns
- Motorist right turns
 - May require separate signal phases



Bike lanes and diagonal parking



Usually not recommended

Can be done

Bike lanes and diagonal parking



Mitigate w/ back-in parking

Better for bicyclists and others

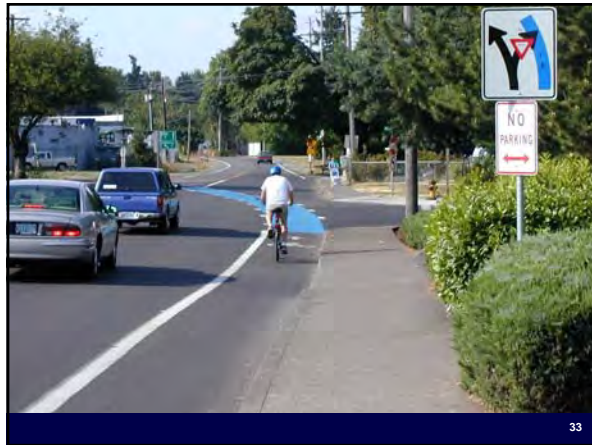
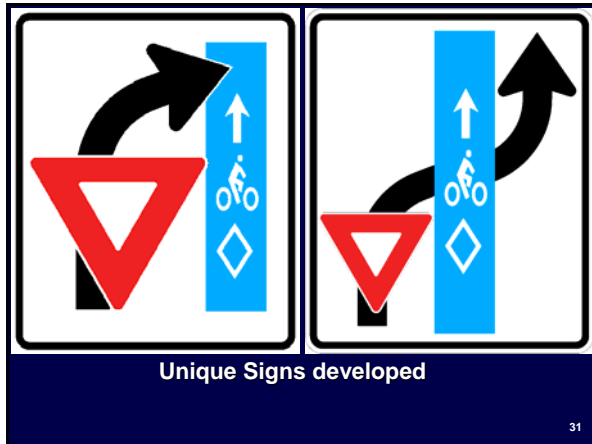
Innovative intersection designs

Unique Situations Require Creative Thinking



Blue bike lanes at intersections





Bike boxes

NAACTO Design

At signals:

- Bicyclists may pull forward when light is red
- Bicyclists may proceed before cars when light turns green
- Must ban RTOR

36



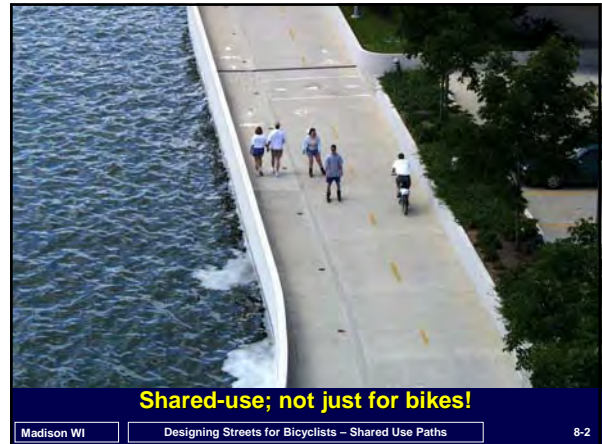
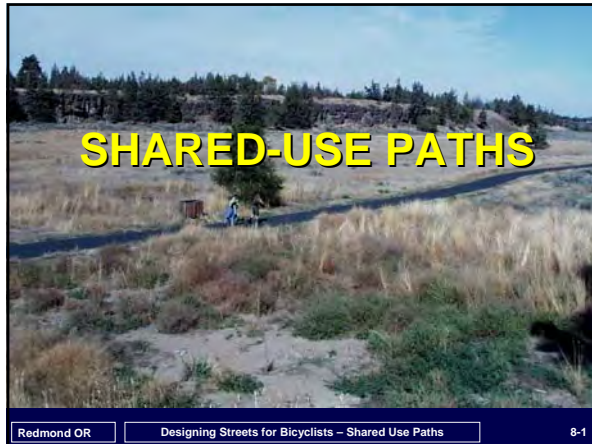
Bike boxes + color

Portland design:

- Color adds emphasis
- Sign holds drivers back
- RTOR banned

Bike Box - Colored





Keys to successful paths

1. Separate from traffic
2. Scenic qualities
3. Connect to destinations
4. Well-designed street crossings
5. Visibility
6. Good design
7. Proper maintenance

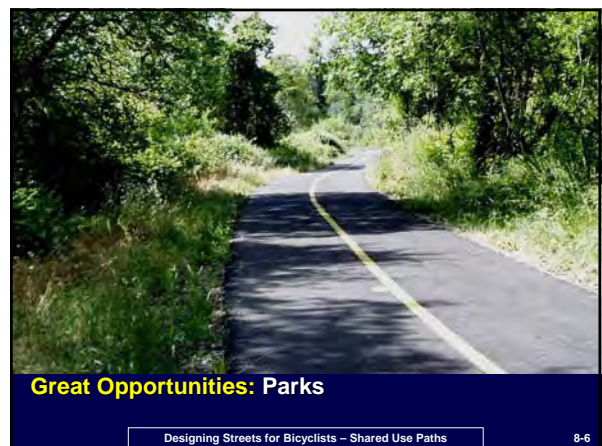
Madison WI Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Shared Use Paths 8-3

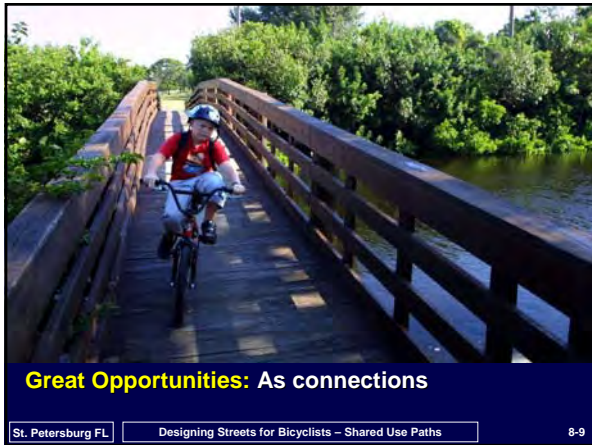
Good locations for urban path

1. Short-cuts
2. Bridge obstacles (freeways, rivers)
3. Connect cul-de-sacs & dead ends
4. Connect destinations
5. Along rivers & other corridors, linked to street system!

freeway
arterial
collector
local street
multi-use path

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Shared Use Paths 8-4





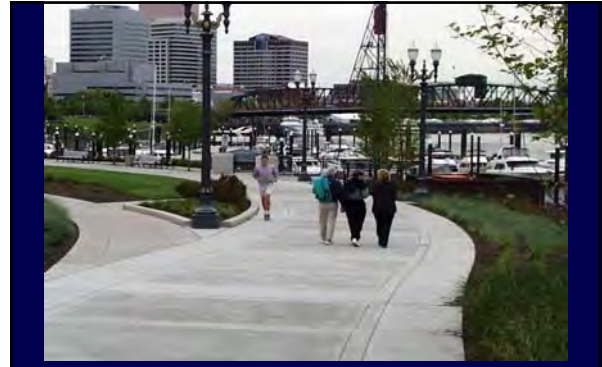


Considerations: Frequent/convenient access to local streets

Ashland OR

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Shared Use Paths

8-13



Considerations: Personal security: visibility, illumination

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Shared Use Paths

8-14

PATHS NEXT TO ROADWAYS

- Drivers don't see cyclists coming from right



Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Shared Use Paths

8-15

PATHS NEXT TO ROADWAYS

- Cyclists often required to stop or yield at cross-streets
- Stopped cars block path



Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Shared Use Paths

8-16

PATHS NEXT TO ROADWAYS

- Access to and from path can be difficult



Corvallis OR

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Shared Use Paths

8-17

PATHS NEXT TO ROADWAYS

- Maintenance is often neglected
- Barriers may be needed to separate path from roadway



Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Shared Use Paths

8-18

PATHS NEXT TO ROADWAYS

- Older paths: remove path designation – it's a sidewalk



Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Shared Use Paths

8-19

Consider path next to roadway if:

- High-traffic, high-speed road (*bike lanes & sidewalks inappropriate*)
- Good separation from traffic
- Path provides continuity
- Few conflicts with side streets
- No alternatives on nearby parallel streets
- Access to local cross-streets along the path



Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Shared Use Paths

8-20



The Department of Redundancy Department

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Shared Use Paths

8-21

How did Davis CA successfully integrate paths into the city?

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Shared Use Paths

8-22

With planning and foresight: dedicated R.O.W. links cul-de-sacs with linear parks; connections to schools etc.



Davis CA

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Shared Use Paths

8-23

Close-up: linear parks linking cul-de-sacs



Davis CA

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Shared Use Paths

8-24



Path in park

Davis CA Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Shared Use Paths 8-25



Bridge over freeway

Davis CA Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Shared Use Paths 8-26



Linking 2 cul-de-sacs

Davis CA Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Shared Use Paths 8-27



Linking 2 cul-de-sacs

Davis CA Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Shared Use Paths 8-28

Crossing Thoroughfares

- Major source of conflicts
- Grade separation desirable for high traffic roads

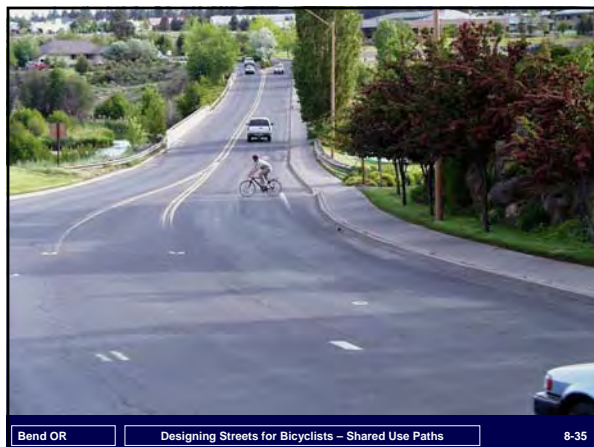
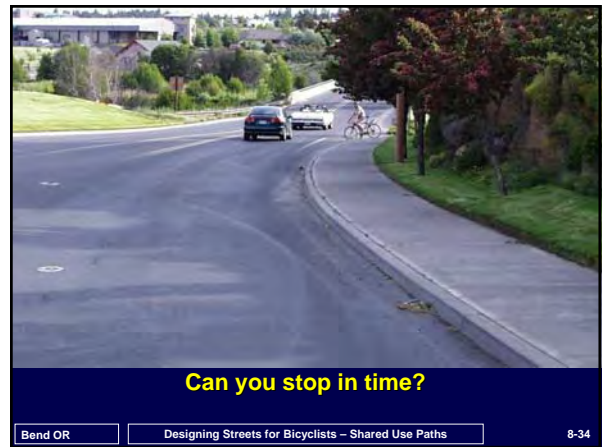
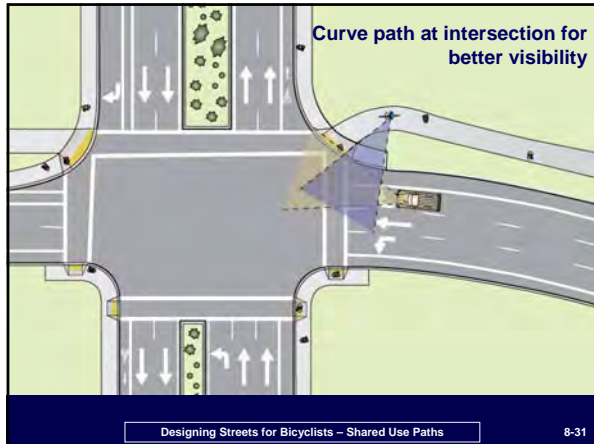
Bend OR Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Shared Use Paths 8-29

Crossing Thoroughfares

Treatments:

- \$ - Signs, pavement markings
- \$\$- Geometric design: median island; curved path
- \$\$\$ - Signal
- \$\$\$\$ - Grade separation

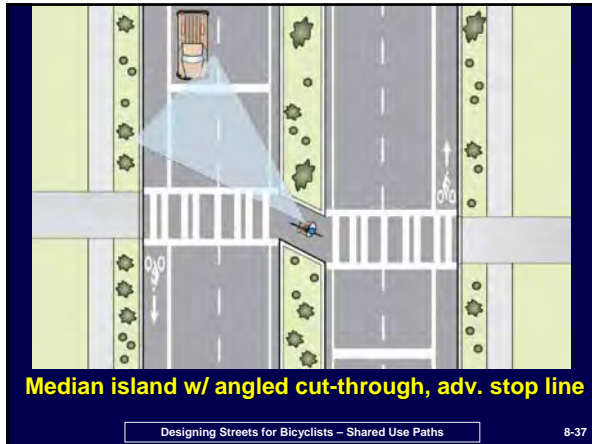
Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Shared Use Paths 8-30



Good news

Most of pedestrian crossing techniques work for trail crossings

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Shared Use Paths 8-36



Assigning the right of way

Do **NOT** just give this figure from the MUTCD to your drafter and say “do it like this”

READ THE FINE PRINT!

Figure 9B-7. Examples of Signing and Markings for Shared-Use Paths

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Shared Use Paths 8-39

Assigning the right of way

- Use sound traffic engineering principles
- Meet people’s needs:
 - Bicyclists & skaters want to stay in motion
 - Too many STOP signs breeds disrespect
 - The MUTCD states:

Priority at a path/roadway intersection should be assigned considering:

- Relative speeds of path and roadway users
- Relative volumes of path and roadway traffic
- Relative importance of path and roadway

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Shared Use Paths 8-40



Signalization: Paths users expect protection



Problem meeting warrants: how to anticipate use

Portland OR Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Shared Use Paths 8-43



Pedestrians and bicyclists respond differently: Pedestrians push button for signal

Portland OR Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Shared Use Paths 8-44



Pedestrians and bicyclists respond differently: Cyclist rides thru, makes it because of higher speed

Portland OR Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Shared Use Paths 8-45



Mixed message!

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Shared Use Paths 8-46



2-step signal for trail crossing

Bellevue WA Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Shared Use Paths 8-47



2-step signal for trail crossing Phase 1: stop traffic in one direction

Bellevue WA Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Shared Use Paths 8-48



2-step signal for trail crossing
Phase 1: users cross stopped traffic

Bellevue WA | Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Shared Use Paths | 8-49



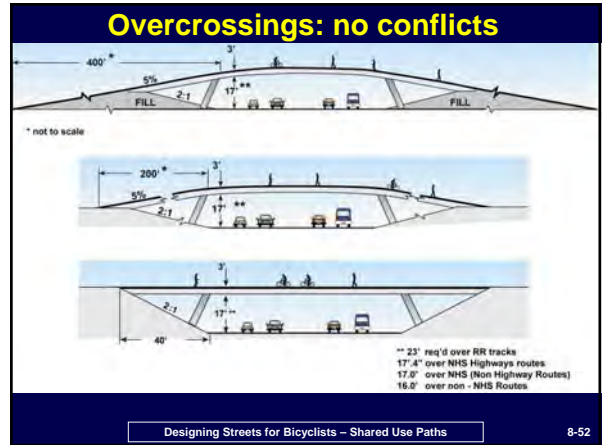
2-step signal for trail crossing
Phase 2: users cross traffic in other direction

Bellevue WA | Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Shared Use Paths | 8-50



2-step signal for trail crossing
Cycle repeats; traffic moves on

Bellevue WA | Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Shared Use Paths | 8-51



Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Shared Use Paths | 8-52



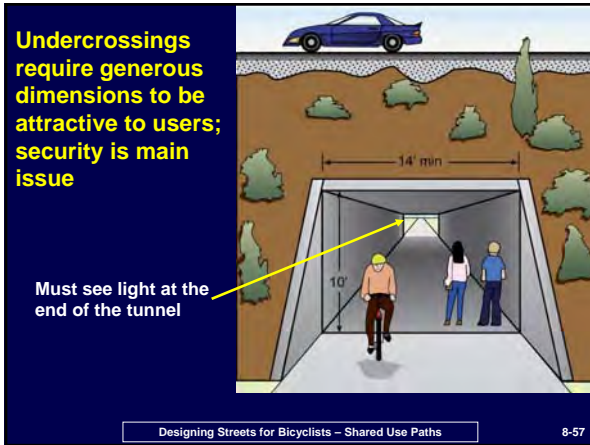
Overcrossing: long ramps can be placed in line with the trail

Pinellas Co. FL | Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Shared Use Paths | 8-53



Overcrossing: take advantage of terrain

Polk County OR | Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Shared Use Paths | 8-54





BICYCLE PARKING

Motorists expect parking; so should bicyclists

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Parking 1

BICYCLE PARKING

So easy to do well; why is it so often done poorly?

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Parking 2

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Parking 3

“On-wall parking” “In-tree parking”

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Parking 4

On-street bike parking?

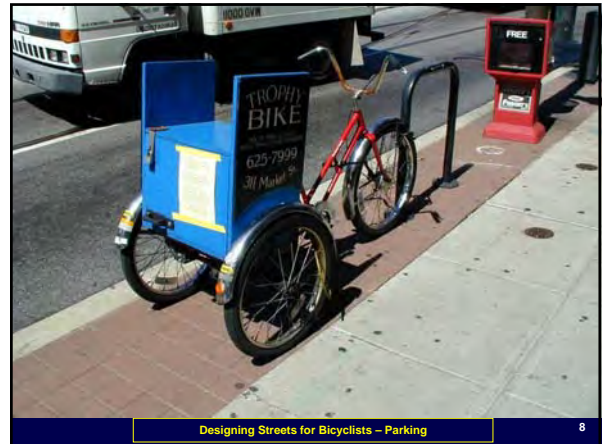
Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Parking 5

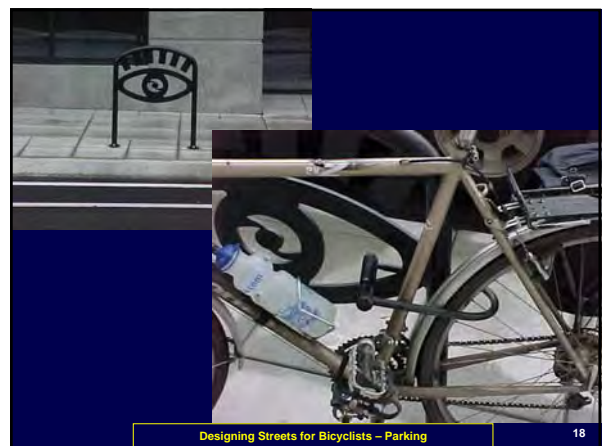
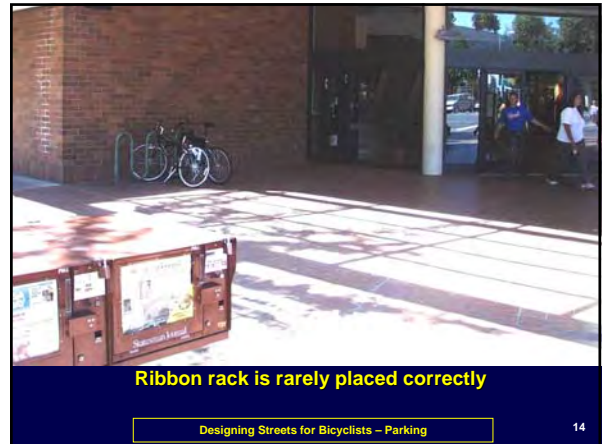
BIKE PARKING BASICS - RACKS SHOULD:

- Not bend wheels or damage bicycle parts
- Accommodate high security U-locks and secure the frame and front wheel
- Not get in the way of pedestrians

The average pole works better than a lot of “bike parking”

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Parking 6





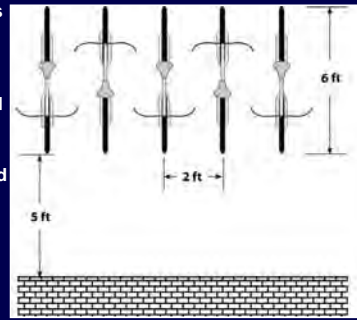
Plain old rack works best AND makes a good leaning post



Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Parking

Recommended dimensions

- Bicycle parking spaces should be at least 6' long and 2' wide
- Overhead clearance in covered spaces should be at least 7'
- A 5' maneuvering aisle should be provided and maintained beside or between each row of bicycle parking.



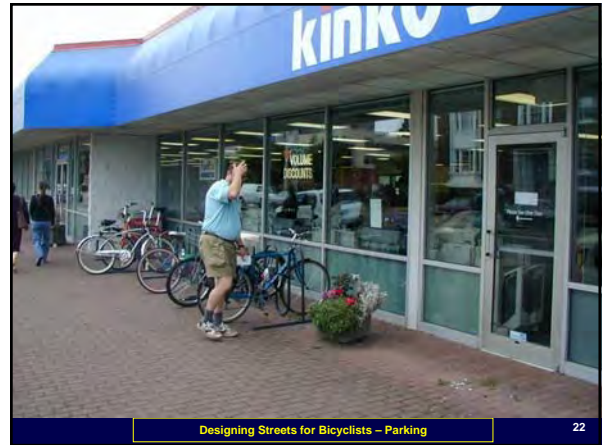
Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Parking

Bike parking location

- Well lit, secure, close to main entrance of building
- No further from entrance than closest automobile parking space
- Highly visible, with pedestrian traffic
- Should not conflict with pedestrians
- No dark corners



Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Parking



Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Parking



Cyclists will use what they find

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Parking



It takes more than good intentions

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Parking




Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Parking



Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Parking

Covered bike parking guidelines

- Primarily for residential and school uses
- Commercial & employment: if motor vehicle parking is covered, bike parking should also be covered



Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Parking



Employee & institutional (county gov't)

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Parking



On Curb Extension Bicycle "Oasis"

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Parking



Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Parking



Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Parking

31



Transit

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Parking

32



Train station (Netherlands)

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Parking

33



School (Switzerland)

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Parking

34



How can you tell when there isn't enough parking?
When it overflows...



Bike parking is full during events

Too much bike parking?

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Parking

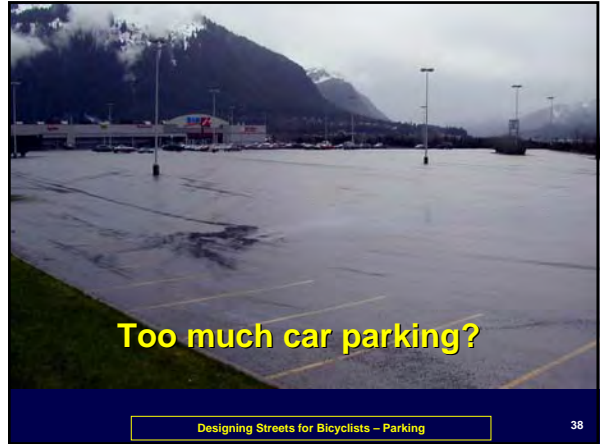
36



On-Street Bicycle "Corrals"

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Parking

37



Too much car parking?

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Parking

38

Secure bike parking guidelines

- Bike parking inside a building in secure and accessible location
- Dedicated room with card locks are best
- Locate room close to changing and showering facilities


 A photograph showing a person in a green shirt and dark pants using a card lock to enter a room. A bicycle is parked inside the room. The room has white walls and a green panel above the door.

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Parking

39



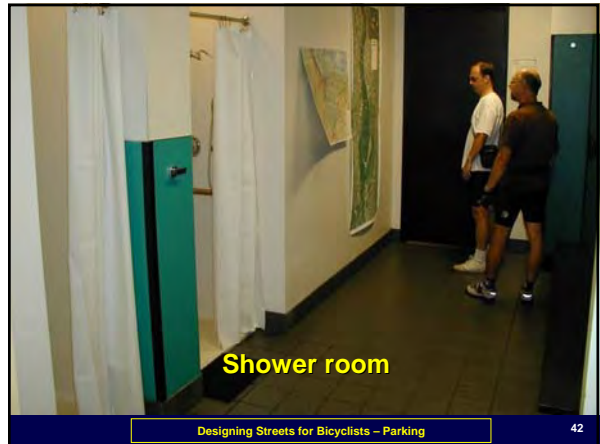
Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Parking

40



Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Parking

41



Shower room

Designing Streets for Bicyclists – Parking

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An excellent resource:

APBP Bicycle Parking Guidelines
<http://www.bicyclinginfo.org/pdf/bikepark.pdf>



**Bike parking:
It's what bike-friendly communities do**