# Bicycle Facility Design Guide



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# INTRODUCTION

In the year 2000, Mayor Anthony A. Williams called for making the District of Columbia the most bicycle friendly city in the nation. Since that time, DDOT has reestablished the Bicycle Program office, striped 28 miles of bicycle lanes, updated the City's Bicycle Master Plan, installed over 650 bicycle parking racks and 250 bicycle route signs, and initiated design and construction of several major trails.

Based on this experience, and on the experience of other cities and transportation agencies, DDOT has developed this Design Guide to assist with the planning, design, and implementation of bicycle facilities for the years to come.

The specifications are based on the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices and the AASHTO Guide for the Development of Bicycle Facilities, together with input from DDOT staff.

The Design Guide includes specifications for bicycle lanes, bicycle-related signs, bicycle parking racks, and bicycle friendly sewer grates. The following questions and answers are intended to help with the use and interpretation of the Design Guide.

### Who should use the Design Guide?

The guide is intended for DDOT staff undertaking resurfacing and reconstruction projects, and DDOT consultants preparing road reconstruction plans. It will also be useful for developers, planners, advocates and the public in general.

### Where will bicycle lanes be installed?

Streets to receive bicycle lanes are identified in the 2005 Bicycle Master Plan, also available on the web site or at the Bicycle Program office. The blue dashes on the plan indicate bike lane streets. If you know about plans to resurface or reconstruct streets identified in the Bicycle Master Plan, please contact the Bicycle Program Office. Other streets also may be appropriate for bicycle lanes, so check with the Bicycle Program for any street work of 3 blocks or longer.

### Where should bicycle route signs be installed?

The green bicycle route signs have been in use in the District since the 1970s. We have recently updated the sign (see Sheet 28) and the planned network of signed bicycle routes (see Bicycle Master Plan). Bicycle route signs should not necessarily be placed on bicycle lane streets. Bicycle route signs should be installed by the Traffic Operations Administration or by contractors as part of road reconstruction projects at the direction of the Bicycle Program Office.





# INTRODUCTION

### How wide is a bike lane?

All of the specifications, including width, are contained in this guide. The DDOT and AASHTO minimum is 5 feet next to a 7-foot parking lane. The preferred configuration is a 5-foot bike lane next to an 8 or 9-foot parking lane to minimize the risk of a cyclist being hit by a car door.

### What is a bicycle-safe sewer grate?

A bicycle-safe grate is one in which the bars run perpendicular to the direction of traffic or that has a grid pattern so that bicycle tires can not get caught. If the bars are parallel to traffic, the bicycle wheel may get stuck in the grate, throwing the cyclist off the bike. Perpendicular bars do not necessarily mean lower flow. For areas with high flow, use the vane grate depicted in drawing number 25. Two of the three grates in the DDOT Standard Drawings are not bicycle safe. DDOT is working to correct this.

### Where do I get additional copies of this Design Guide?

The design guide is available on the DDOT web site and www.ddot.dc.gov/bike or from the Bicycle Program Office at (202) 671-2730.

**Can I add bicycle parking to a road project? Where should the racks be placed?** Yes, you can add bike parking to any project. The Bicycle Program Office can provide you with advice and specifications (see Sheets 26 and 27).

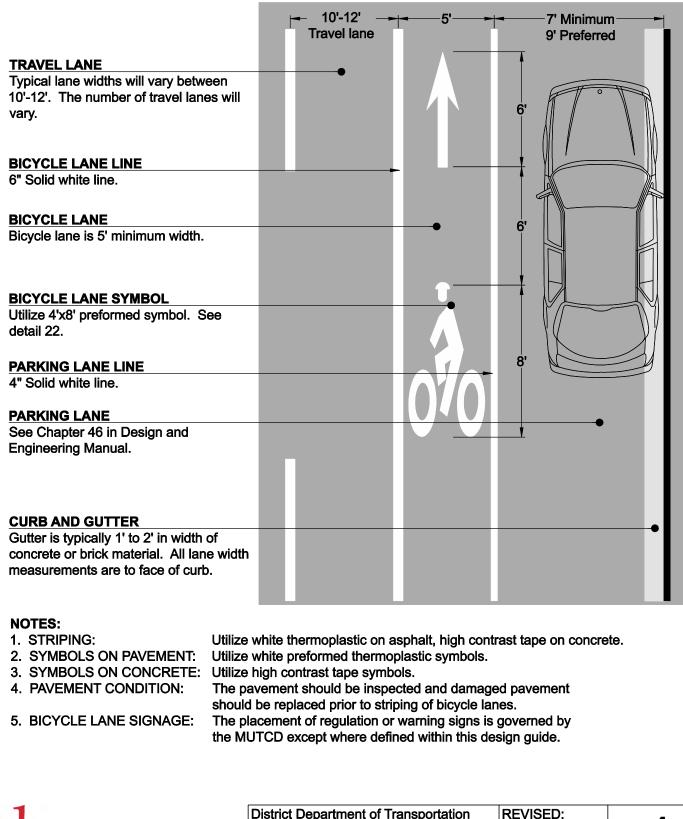
### What if I see a mistake in the Design Guide?

This is DDOT's first bicycle design guide in 30 years. Staff in all DDOT administrations and staff at the Federal Highway Administration have reviewed the guide. However, as people use the guide over the years, necessary changes will inevitably arise. Please send your comments and questions for future versions to the Bicycle Program Office.





# MID-BLOCK BICYCLE LANE STRIPING ADJACENT TO PARKING



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# MID-BLOCK BICYCLE LANE STRIPING ADJACENT TO CURB

TRAVEL LANE Typical lane widths will vary between 10'-12'. Number of travel lanes will vary. BICYCLE LANE LINE 6" Solid white line.	10'-12'	6'
BICYCLE LANE	• • • •	
5' minimum width with including gutter pan.		T
RIDEABLE SURFACE		
A rideable surface must be a 3' minimum smooth		6'
surface. The gutter pan does not count as a ridable		
surface. If the joint between the rideable surface and		
the gutter pan is not smooth, provide 4' minimum		4
rideable surface to the left or right of the joint.		
BICYCLE LANE SYMBOL		
Utilize 4'x8' preformed bicycle symbol. See		 8'
detail 22. Center symbol within lane.		8
CURB AND GUTTER		
Gutter is typically 1' to 2' in width of concrete or		
brick material. Rideable surface measurements		
are to edge of gutter line. Bike lane		
measurements are to face of curb.		

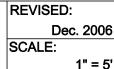
#### NOTES:

- 1. STRIPING:
- 2. SYMBOLS ON PAVEMENT:
- 3. SYMBOLS ON CONCRETE:
- 4. PAVEMENT CONDITION:
- 5. BICYCLE LANE SIGNAGE:

Utilize white thermoplastic on asphalt, high contrast tape on concrete.

- NT: Utilize white thermoplastic preformed symbols.
- TE: Utilize high contrast tape symbols.
- TON: The pavement should be inspected and damaged pavement should be replaced prior to striping of bicycle lanes.
  - The placement of regulation or warning signs is governed by the MUTCD except where defined within this design guide.



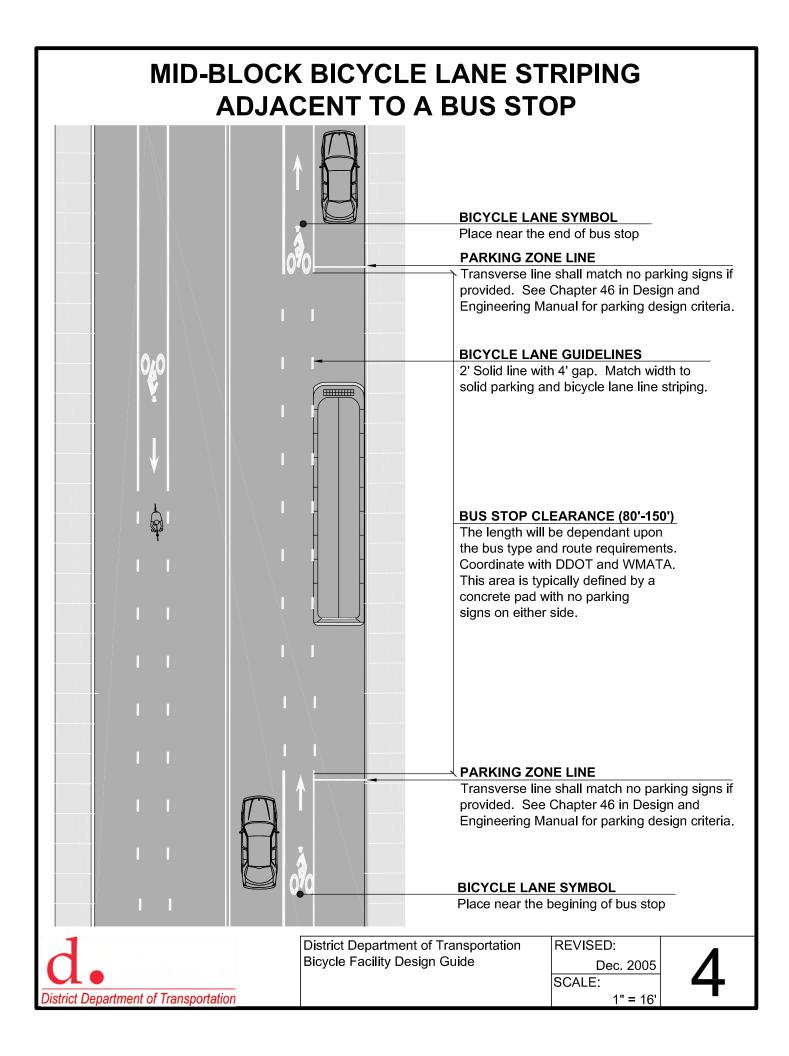


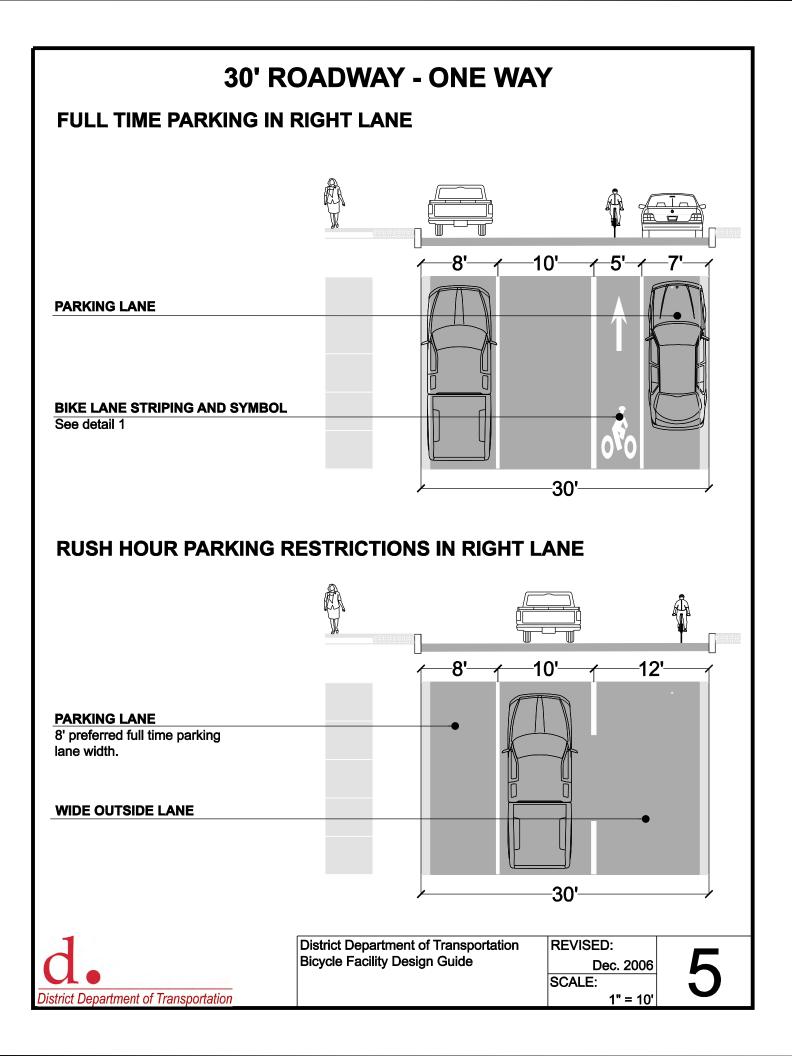


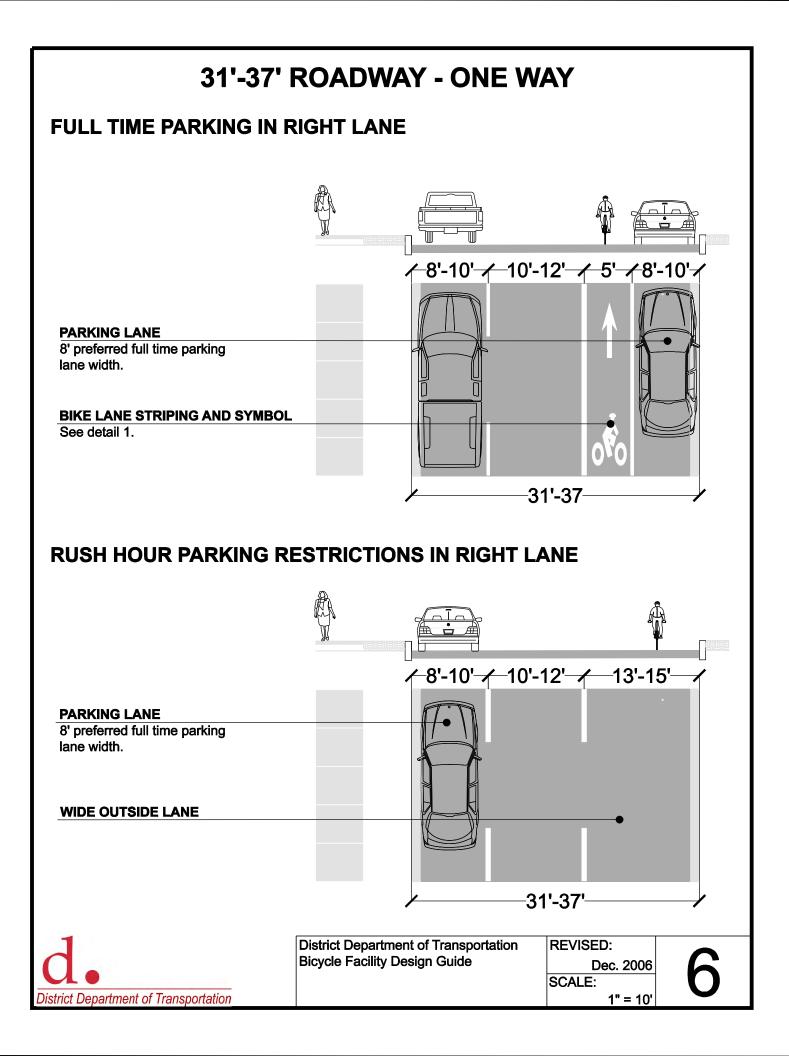
# MID-BLOCK BICYCLE LANE STRIPING ADJACENT TO ALLEY OR MAJOR DRIVEWAY

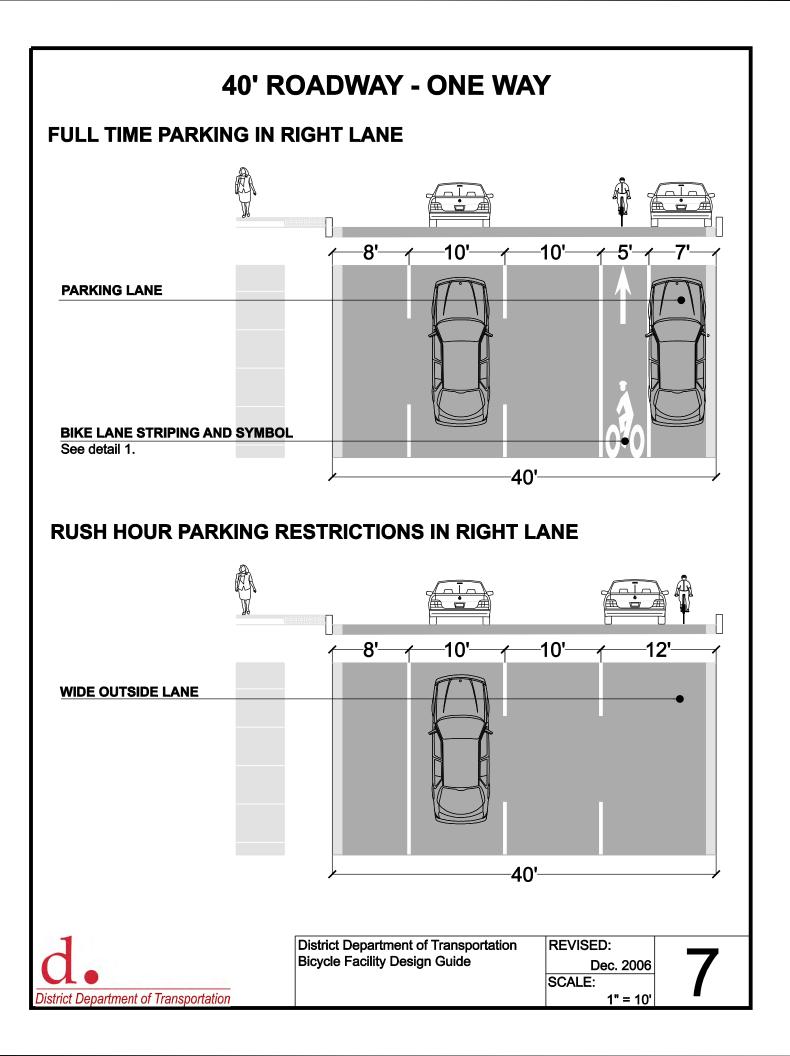
BICYCLE LANE ADJACENT TO PARI See detail 1. BICYCLE LANE ADJACENT TO CURI See detail 2.	в	• Parking Zone
<b>BICYCLE LANE SYMBOL</b> Place near end of parking zone outside turning vehicle wheel track.	of	
<b>PARKING ZONE LINE</b> Transverse line shall match no parking Chapter 46 in Design and Engineering design criteria.		
ALLEY OR MAJOR ENTRANCE/EXIT	DRIVEWAY*	
<b>BICYCLE LANE GUIDELINES</b> 2' solid line with 4' gap. Match width to bicycle lane line striping.	solid parking and	
PARKING ZONE LINETransverse line shall match no parking provided. See Chapter 46 in Design an Manual for parking design criteria.BICYCLE LANE SYMBOLPlace near beginning of parking zone o turning vehicle wheel track.NOTE:	utside of	
A major driveway shall have a vehicula greater than 5 vehicles.	r storage capacity	0,0
d strict Department of Transportation	District Department of Transportation Bicycle Facility Design Guide	REVISED: Dec. 2005 SCALE: 1" = 16'

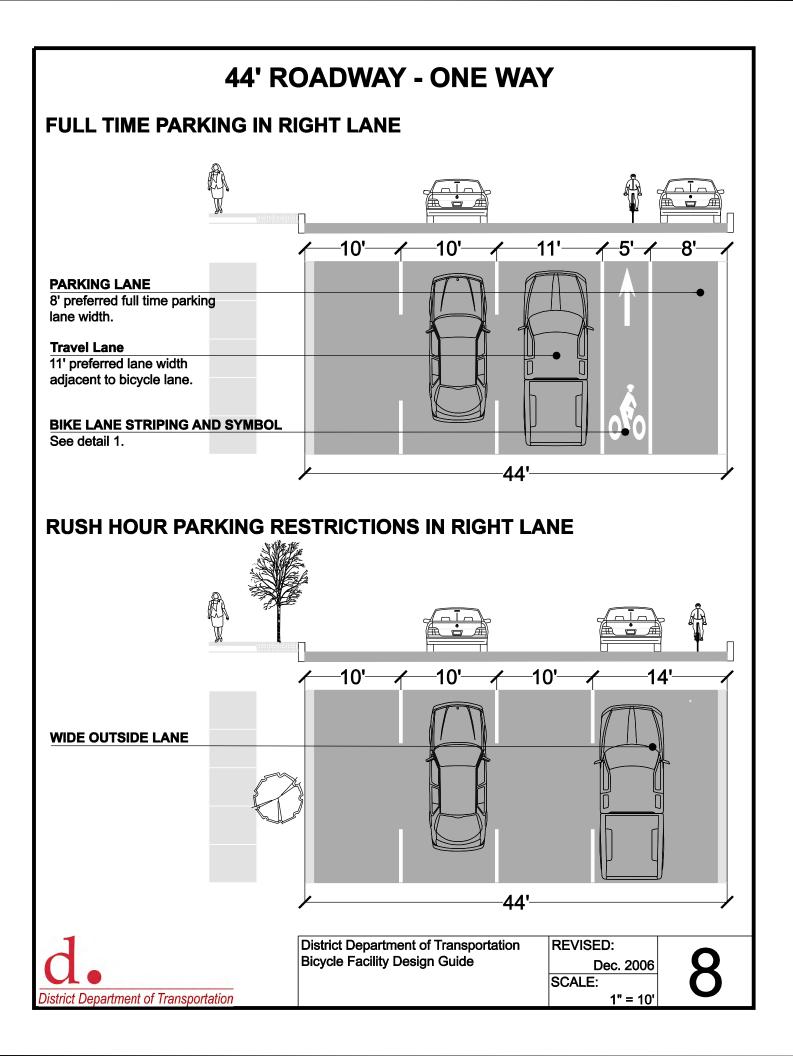
Di

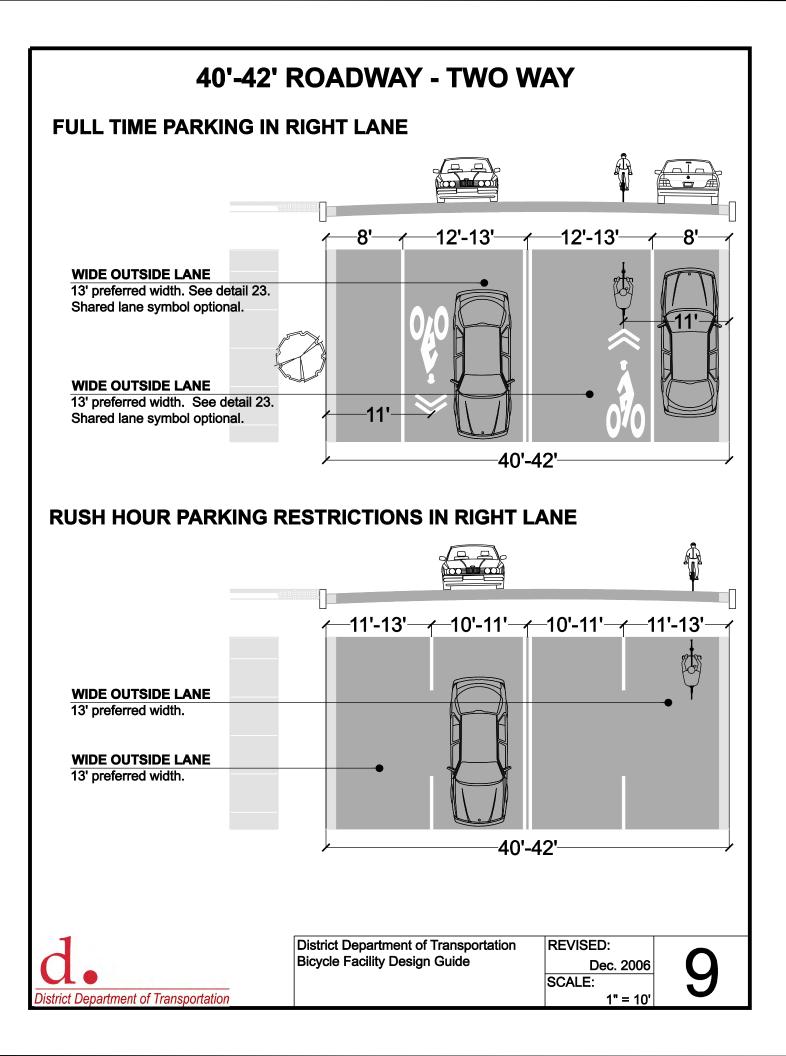


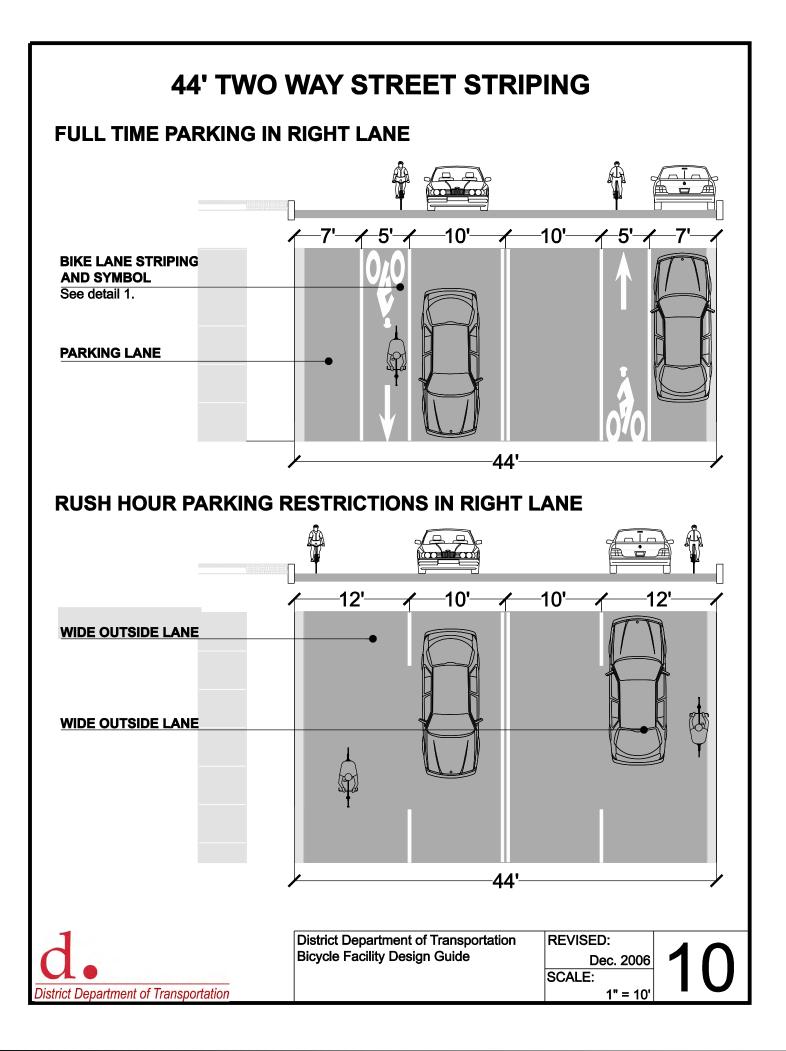










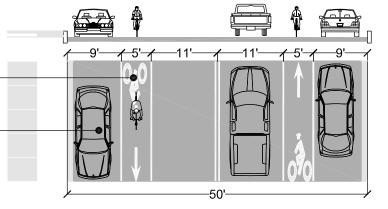


# **50' TWO WAY STREET STRIPING**

### FULL TIME PARKING IN RIGHT LANE

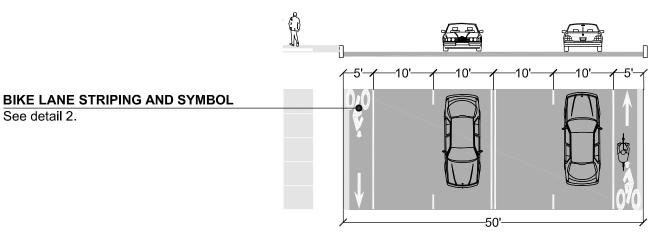
**BIKE LANE STRIPING AND SYMBOL** See detail 1.

PARKING LANE 9' preferred parking lane width.

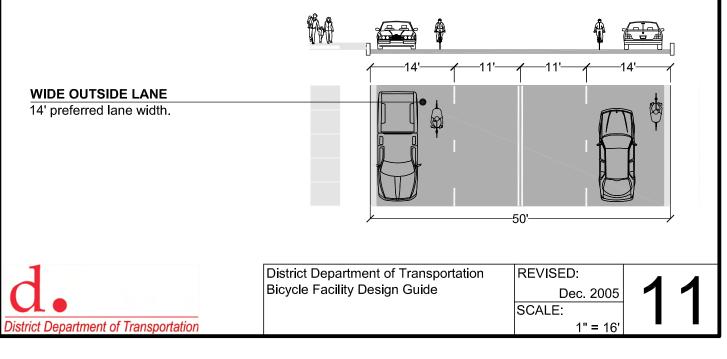


### **NO PARKING**

See detail 2.

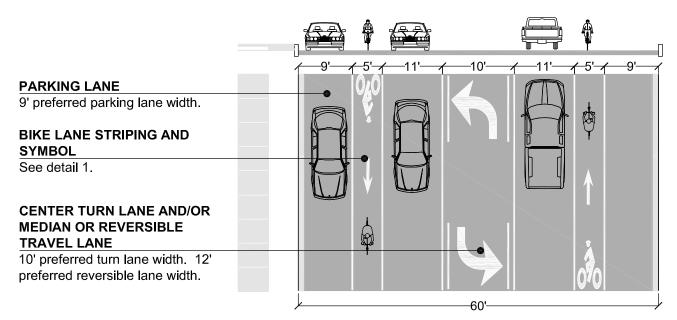


### **RUSH HOUR PARKING RESTRICTIONS IN RIGHT LANE**

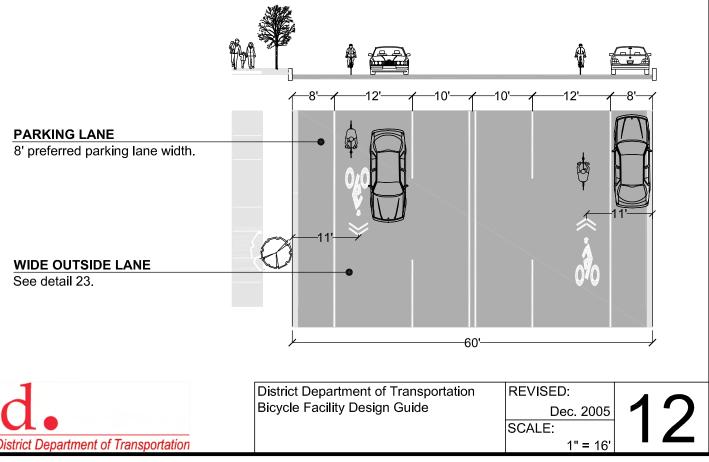


## **60' TWO WAY STREET STRIPING**

# FULL TIME PARKING IN RIGHT LANE WITH CENTER TURN LANE



### FULL TIME PARKING IN RIGHT LANE



# BICYCLE LANE STRIPING NEAR SIDE OF INTERSECTION

STOP LINE

See Chapter 43 in Design and Engineering Manual.

#### **BICYCLE LANE GUIDELINE**

Use dash line when vehicular right turns are allowed, otherwise utilize solid line.

6" wide, white, 30' minimum dashed bike lane stripe - 2' solid line with 4' gap.

#### **BICYCLE DETECTION ZONE**

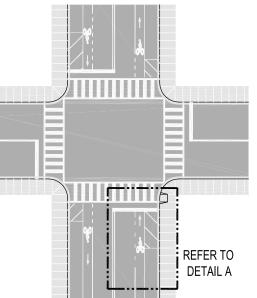
See detail 24 for detector and pavement marking requirements.

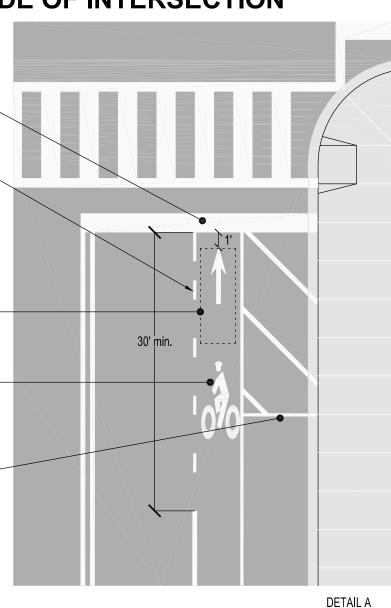
#### **BICYCLE LANE SYMBOL**

See detail 22. Locate arrow 1' from stop line if no detector is present. See detail 24 if detector is present.

#### PARKING ZONE LINE

See note 3 below.





SCALE 1" = 10'

13

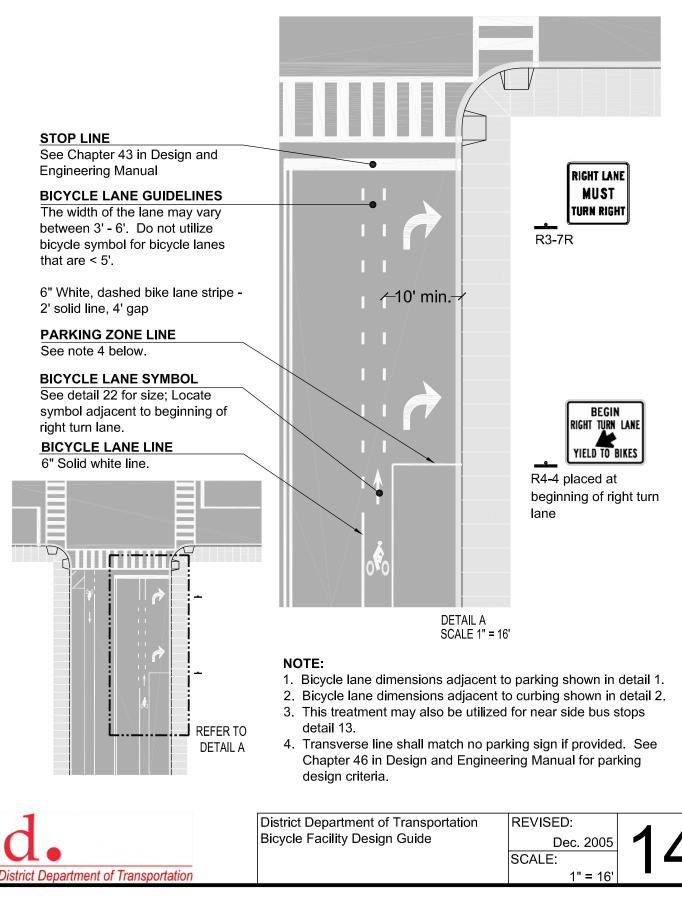
#### NOTE:

- 1. Bicycle lane dimensions adjacent to parking shown in detail 01.
- 2. Bicycle lane dimensions adjacent to curbing shown in detail 02.
- 3. Transverse line shall match no parking signs if provided. See Chapter 46 in Design and Engineering Manual for parking design criteria. Hatching the no parking zone is optional.



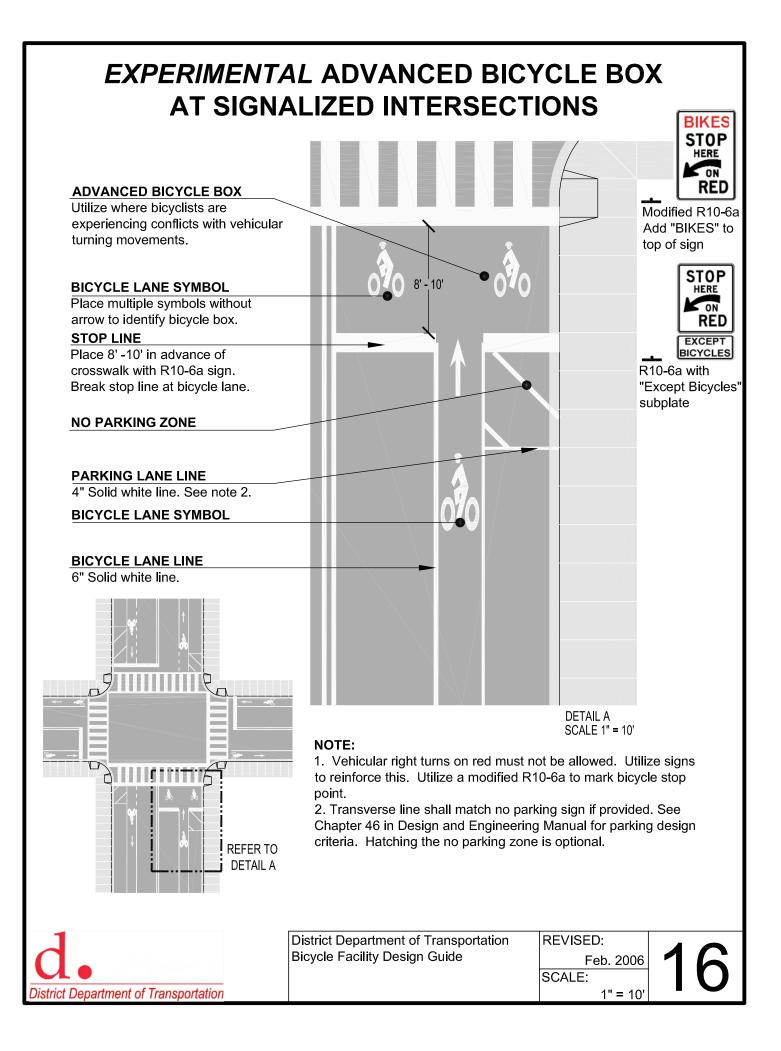
District Department of Transportation Bicycle Facility Design Guide REVISED: Feb. 2006 SCALE: 1" = 10'

# BICYCLE LANE STRIPING ADJACENT TO SEPARATE RIGHT TURN LANE

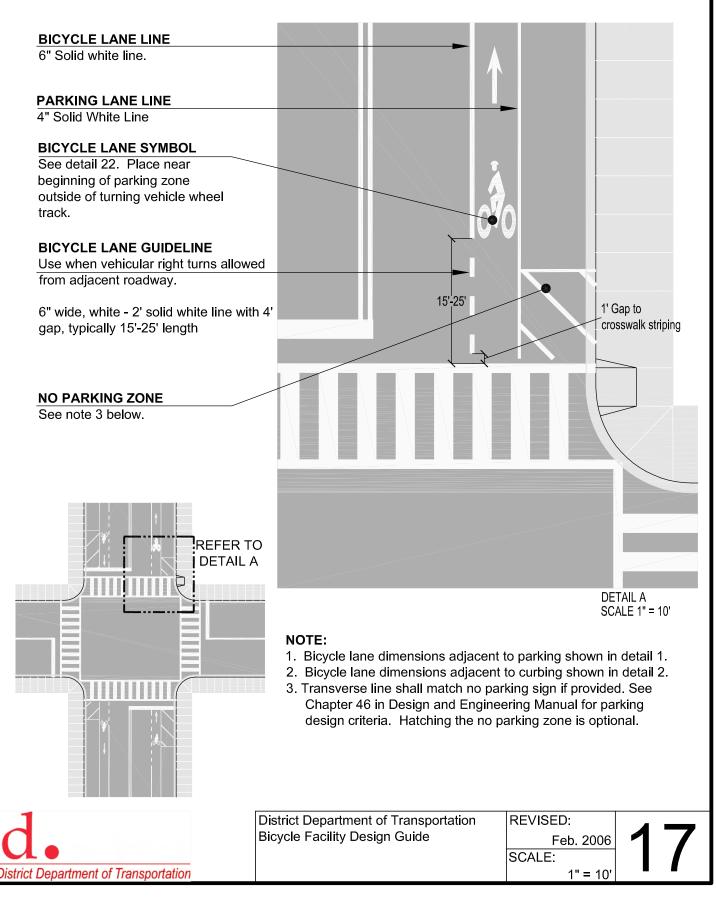


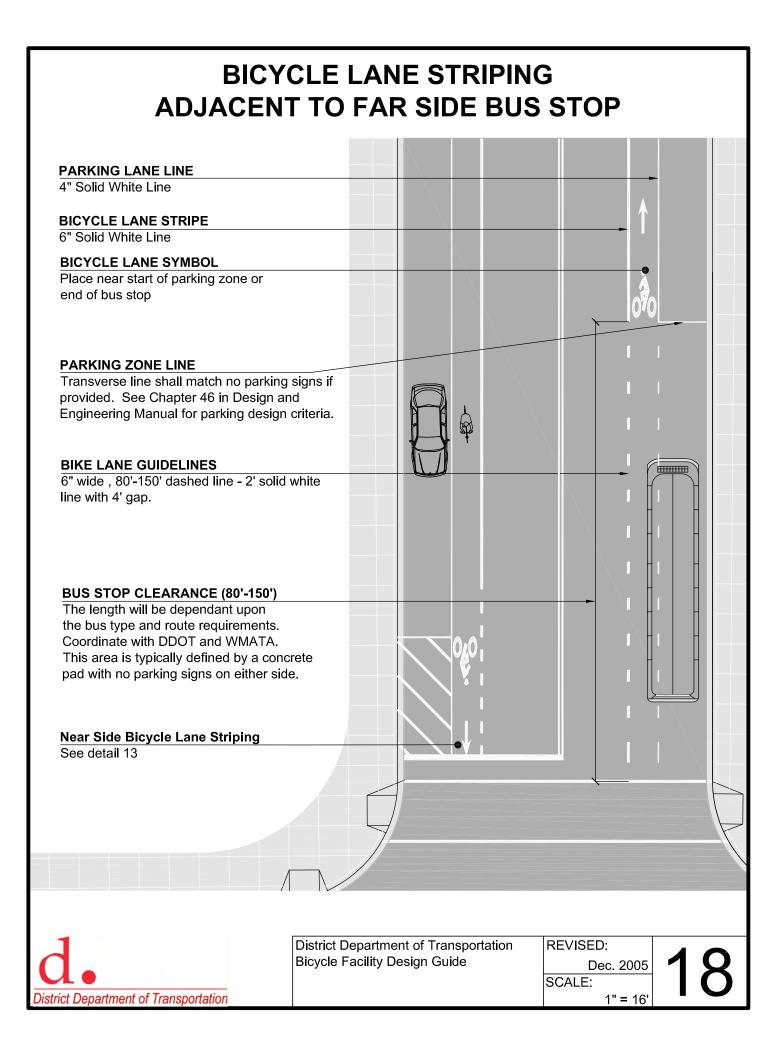
## BICYCLE LANE STRIPING ADJACENT TO NEAR SIDE BUS STOP

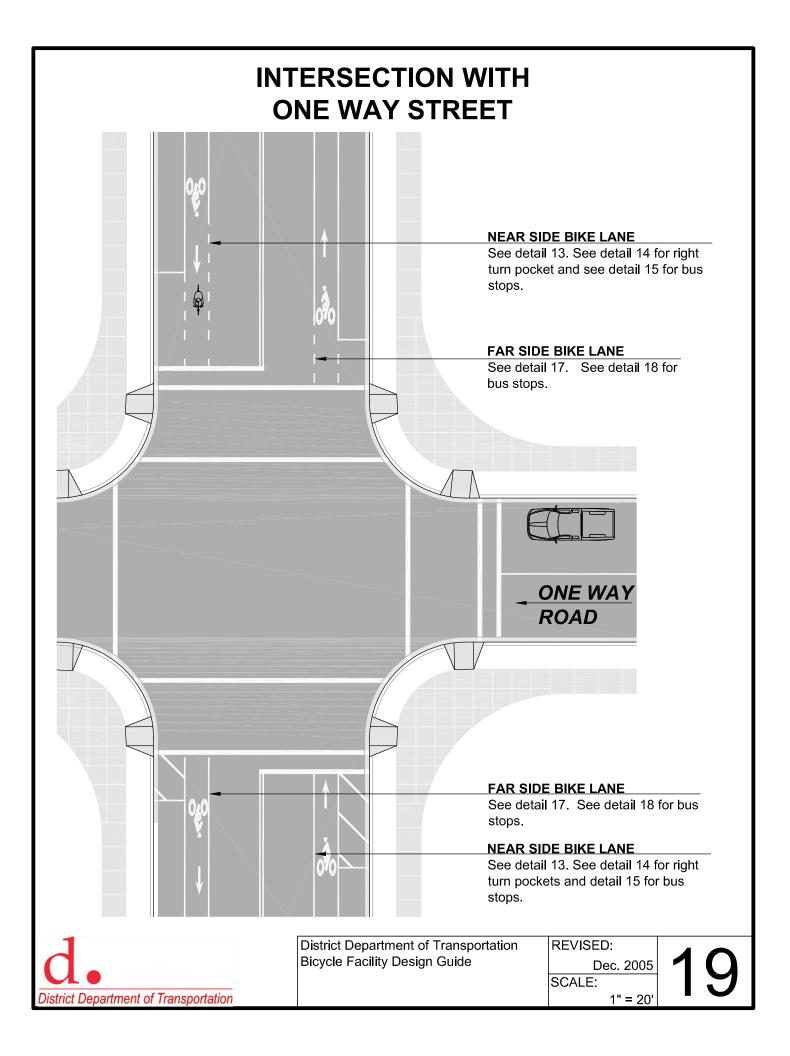
FAR SIDE BICYCLE LANE STRIPIN	IG	
See detail 17	0,0'	
<b>BICYCLE LANE GUIDELINES</b> 6" wide , 80'-150' dashed line - 2' solid white line with 4' gap. OPTION: vary width of bicycle lane between 3'-5' if right turns allowed from bus stop. See detail 14 for details on narrow bicycle lane.		
BUS STOP CLEARANCE (80'-150')		
The length will be dependant upon the bus type and route requirements. Coordinate with DDOT and WMATA. This area is typically defined by a concrete pad with a no parking signs on either side.		
PARKING ZONE LINE		
Transverse line shall match no parking sign if provided. See Chapter 46 in Design and Engineerin Manual for parking design criteria.	g	
BICYCLE LANE STRIPE		
6" Solid White Line		
BICYCLE LANE SYMBOL		
Place at end of parking zone		
PARKING STRIPE		
4" Solid White		
4	District Department of Transportation Bicycle Facility Design Guide	REVISED:
U.		Dec. 2005 SCALE: 15
District Department of Transportation		1" = 16'

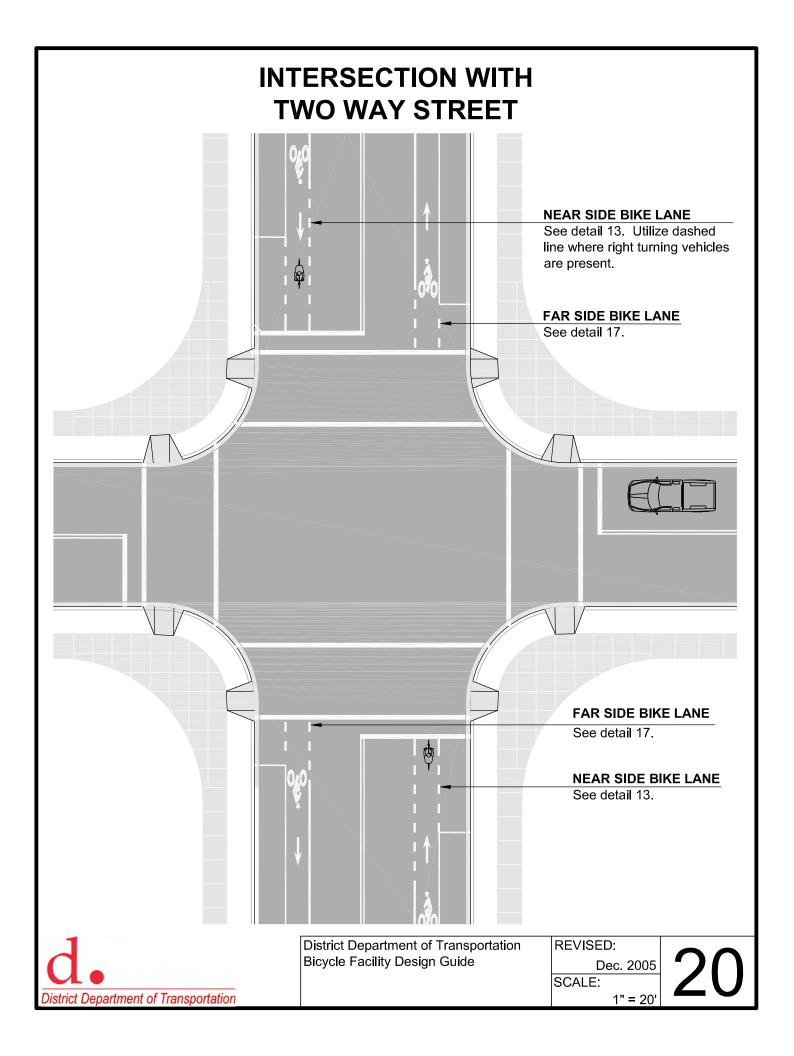


# BICYCLE LANE STRIPING FAR SIDE OF INTERSECTION

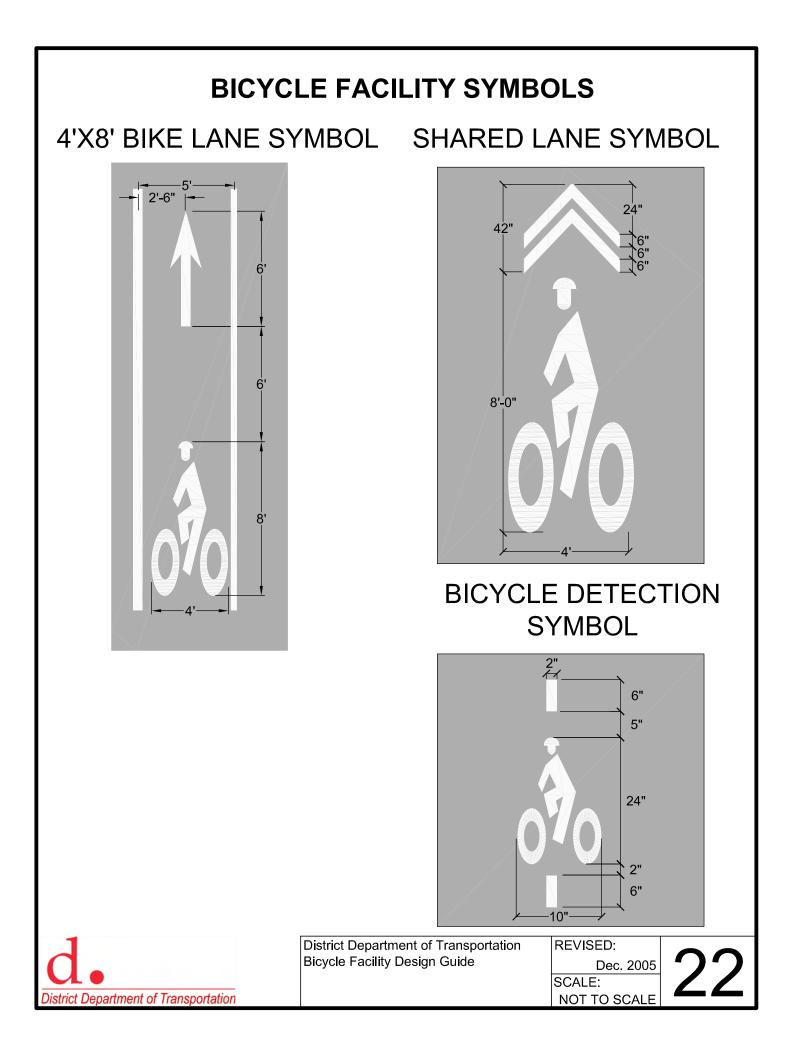




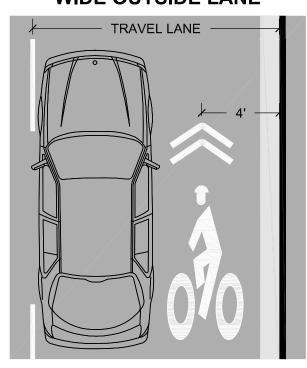




THREE WAY INTERSECTION			
		Parking Zone	
	NEAR SIDE BICYCLE LANE See detail 13.		
B P	ICYCLE LANE SYMBOL, TYP.		
<b>FAR SIDE BICYCLI</b> See detail 17.	E LANE		
Parking Zone			
Parking Zone			
NEAR SIDE BICYCLE LANE See detail 13.			
	ANE GUIDELINE ite, dashed bicycle lane stripe - with 4' gap.		
FAR SIDE BICYCLE LANE		king	
	B SIDE BIKE LANE detail 2.	Parking Zome	
District Department of Transportation	District Department of Transportation Bicycle Facility Design Guide	REVISED: Dec. 2005 SCALE: 1" = 20'	



### EXPERIMENTAL SHARED LANE SYMBOL PLACEMENT WIDE OUTSIDE LANE WIDE PARKING LANE



#### SYMBOL USE GUIDELINES:

- 1. Symbols may be used on roadways that are too narrow for bicycle lanes.
- 2. Symbols may be used on narrow roadways to connect disconnected bicycle facilities such as bicycle lanes, designated routes, and shared use paths.
- 3. Symbols may be used on roadways that have high levels of bicycle traffic.

#### SYMBOL PLACEMENT NOTES:

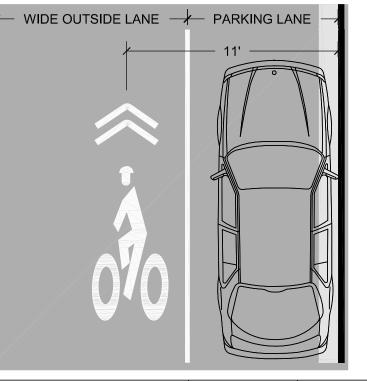
- Symbols shall be placed after each intersection. Symbols may be placed every 250' thereafter.
- 2. If used on roadways with on-street parking, symbols shall be placed so that their centers are a minimum of 11' from the adjacent curb face.
- 3. Symbols placed in a shared lane without parking shall be placed so that their centers are a minimum of 4' from the adjacent curbface.
- 4. Do not place symbols on lane lines.
- 5. See detail 22 for shared lane symbol size.



District Department of Transportation Bicycle Facility Design Guide

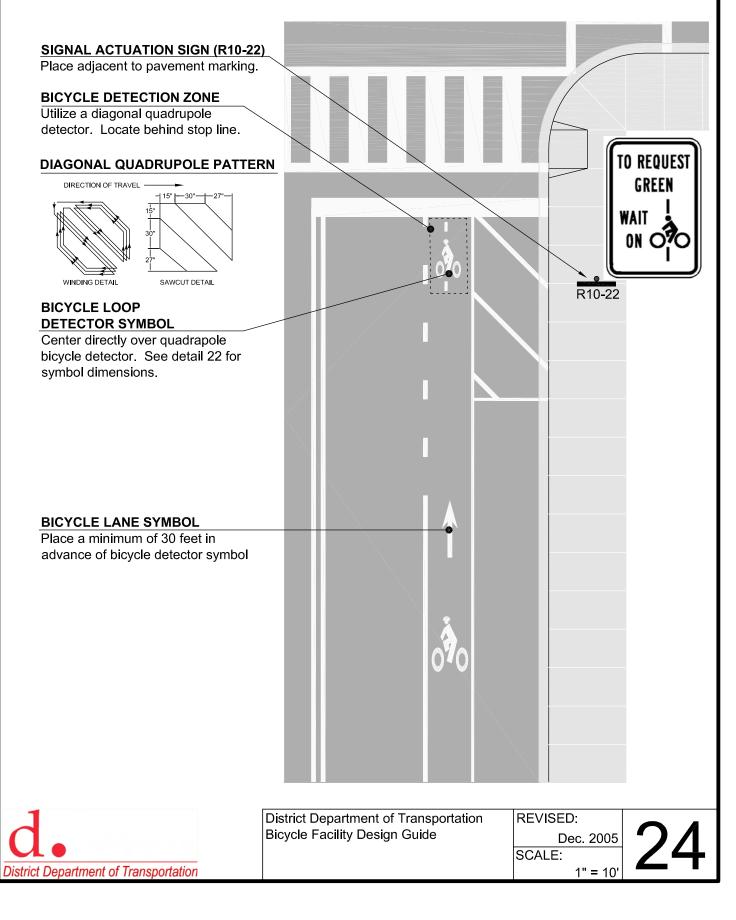
WIDE PARKING LANE

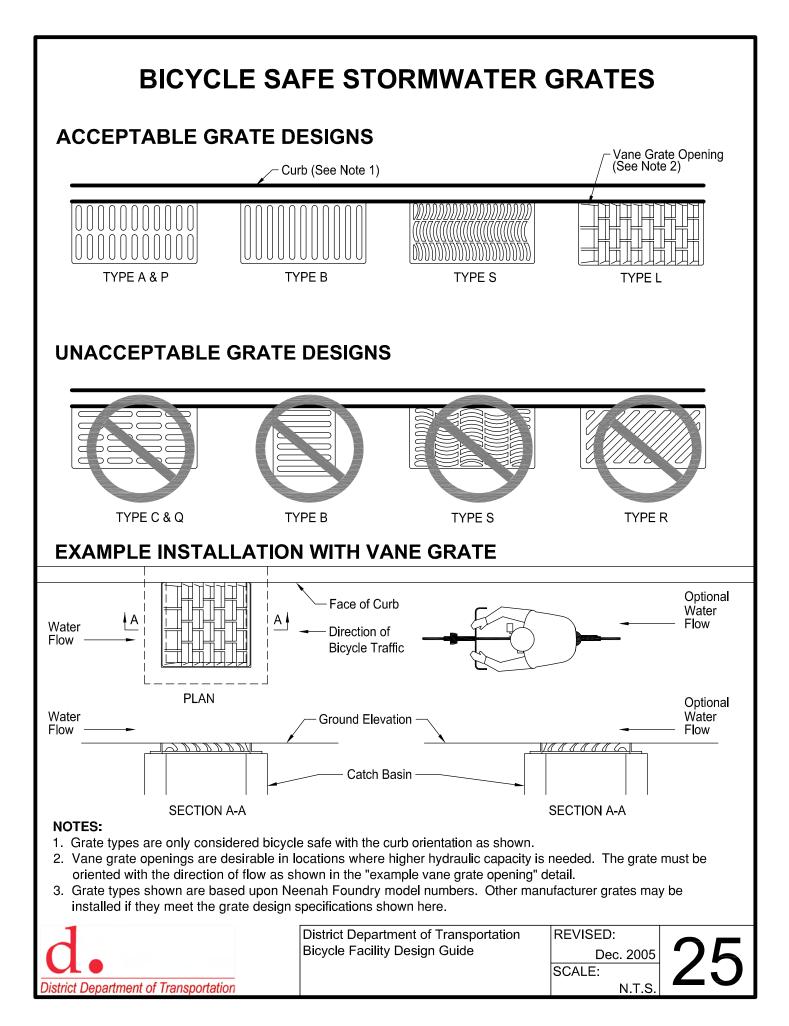
### WIDE OUTSIDE LANE ADJACENT TO PARKING



REVISED: Dec. 2005 SCALE: 1" = 5'

# BICYCLE DETECTION AT ACTUATED SIGNALIZED INTERSECTIONS



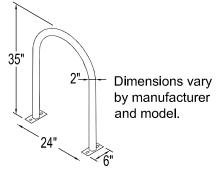


# **BICYCLE RACK DESIGNS**

### **PREFERRED "U Rack" DESIGN**







### ACCEPTABLE DESIGNS





Golden Triangle BID Style Downtown BID Style

### **UNACCEPTABLE DESIGNS**



This type of rack can bend the wheel.

#### **RACK ELEMENTS**

The rack must:

- Support the bicycle frame in at least 2 places, allowing the frame and wheel to be locked using a U-lock or cable lock.
- Prevent the wheel of the bicycle from tipping over.
- Not damage the bicycle.
- Be durable and securely anchored.
- Allow front-in or back-in parking.



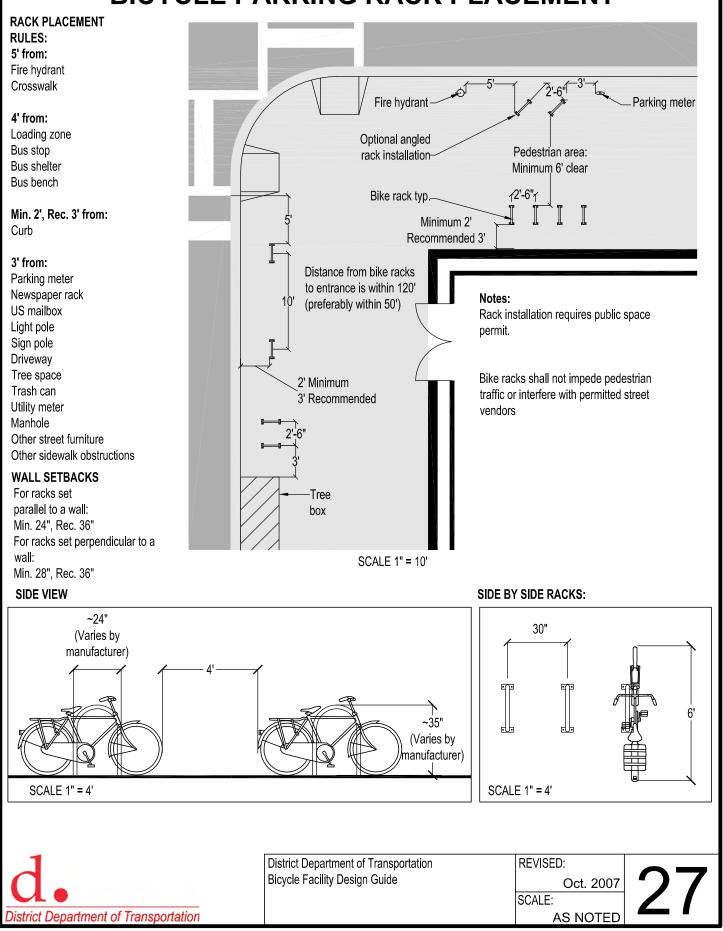
This type of rack does not support the bicycle frame in at least 2 places.

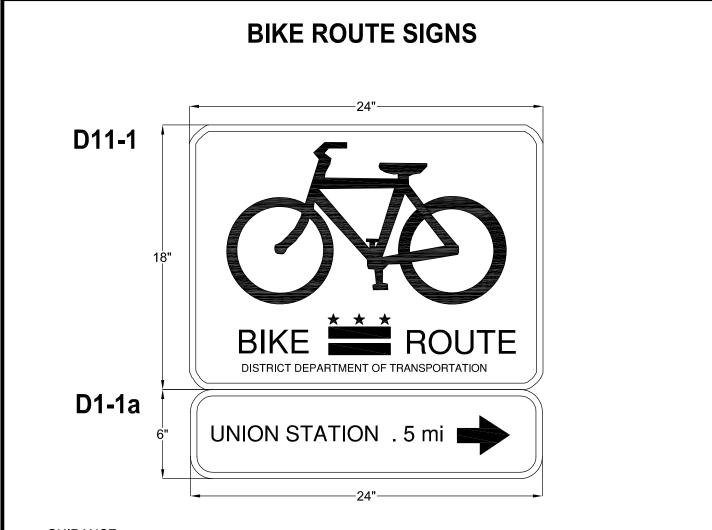


District Department of Transportation Bicycle Facility Design Guide REVISED: Dec. 2005 SCALE: 1" = 16'



### **BICYCLE PARKING RACK PLACEMENT**





#### GUIDANCE:

Bicycle route guide (D11-1) signs should be provided at decision points along designated bicycle routes, including signs to inform bicyclists of bicycle route direction changes and confirmation signs for route direction, distance, and destination.

Destination (D1-1 AND D1-1a) signs shall be mounted below bicycle route guide signs to furnish additional information such as directional changes in the route, or intermittent distance and destination information.

#### INSTALLATION:

The sign shall conform to DDOT standards for letter height, symbol size, and layout. Signs must be installed according to DDOT sign hanging standards at the approval of the Bicycle Program Manager.

Bicycle Facility Design Guide

D11-1 SIGN DESIGN: SOURCE: MODIFIED MUTCD SIZE: 18"x24" COLOR: white letters on green reflective background D1-1a and D1-1b SIGN DESIGN: SOURCE: STANDARD MUTCD SIZE: 6"x24" COLOR: white letters on green reflective background



**District Department of Transportation** Feb. 2006 SCALE: 1" = 16'

**REVISED**:



### **RIGHT TURN YIELD TO BIKES SIGN**



GUIDANCE:

If used, Begin Right Turn Lane - Yield to Bikes (R4-4) signs should be provided at the beginning of a right turn lane to inform bicyclists and motorists of the merging area. These signs should only be installed at locations where there is a dedicated right turn area (buses may be excepted). They should always be installed where there is a dedicated bicycle facility marked as a bicycle lane or shared roadway.

INSTALLATION:

The sign shall conform to DDOT standards for letter height, symbol size, and layout. Signs must be installed according to DDOT sign hanging standards at the approval of the Bicycle Program Manager.

R4-4 SIGN DESIGN:SOURCE:STANDARD MUTCDSIZE:36"x30"COLOR:black letters on<br/>white reflective background

istrict Department of Transportation

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### EXPERIMENTAL SIGN BICYCLES MAY USE FULL LANE



#### OPTION:

The bicycles may use full lane (R4-11) sign may be used on roadways with no bicycle lanes or adjacent shoulders usable by bicyclists and where travels lanes are too narrow (11 feet or less) for bicyclists and motor vehicles to operate side by side.

The bicycles may use full lane sign may be used in locations where it is important to inform road users that bicyclists may occupy the travel lane in order to prevent unsafe passing.

#### INSTALLATION:

strict Department of Transportation

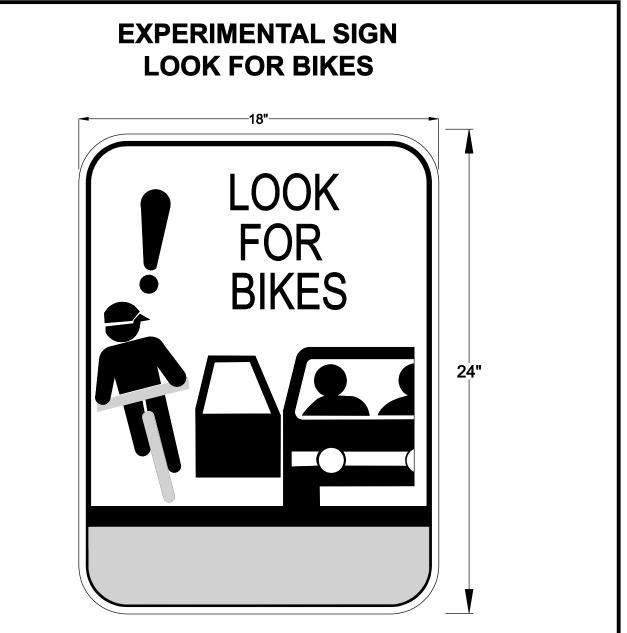
The sign shall conform to DDOT standards for letter height, symbol size, and layout. Signs must be installed according to DDOT sign hanging standards at the approval of the Bicycle Program Manager.

R4-11 SIGN DESIGN:			
SOURCE:	PROPOSED FOR MUTCD (NCUTCD COMMITTEE)		
SIZE:	30"x30"		
COLOR:	black letters on		
	white reflective background		

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SCALE:	
	Custom





#### **OPTION:**

The Look For Bikes Sign may be installed in location where there is a need to inform motorists to excercise caution when opening vehicular doors to avoid striking a bicyclists. It also serves to warn bicyclists to be cautious when passing parked motor vehicles to avoid being struck by an opening door.

The Look For Bikes Sign may be installed in locations where bicycle lanes are striped adjacent to 7' parking lanes or in locations where bicycle lanes are installed adjacent to high turnover parking lanes.

#### INSTALLATION:

The sign shall conform to DDOT standards for letter height, symbol size, and layout. Signs must be installed according to DDOT sign hanging standards at the approval of the Bicycle Program Manager. It is recommended that the signs be installed above or below existing parking regulation signs.

#### SIGN DESIGN:

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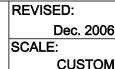
 SOURCE:
 BASED UPON A SIGN IN NEW YORK CITY

 SIZE:
 18"x24"

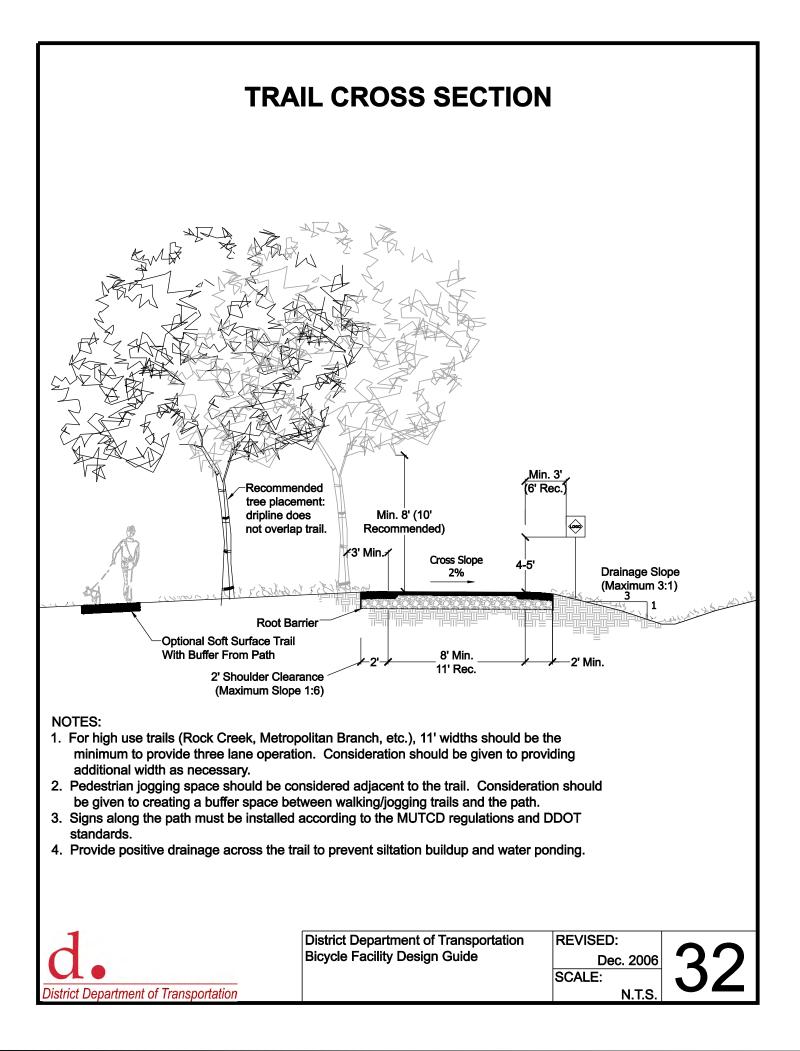
 COLOR:
 black letters on

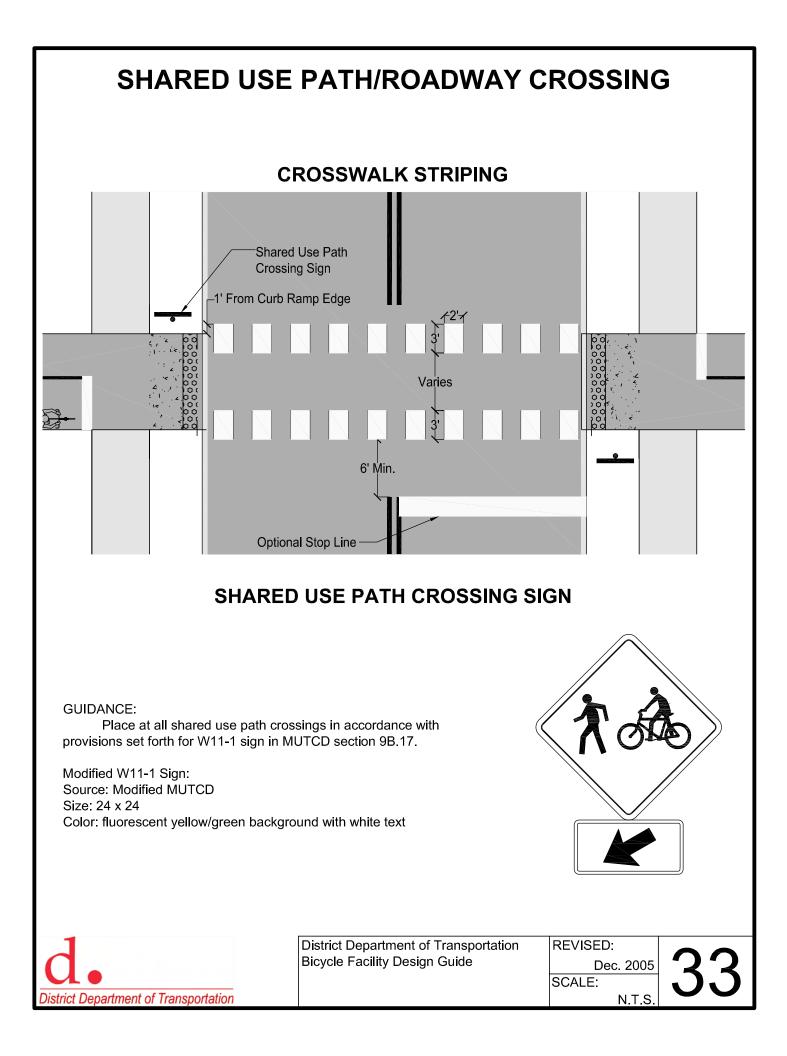
 yellow reflective background

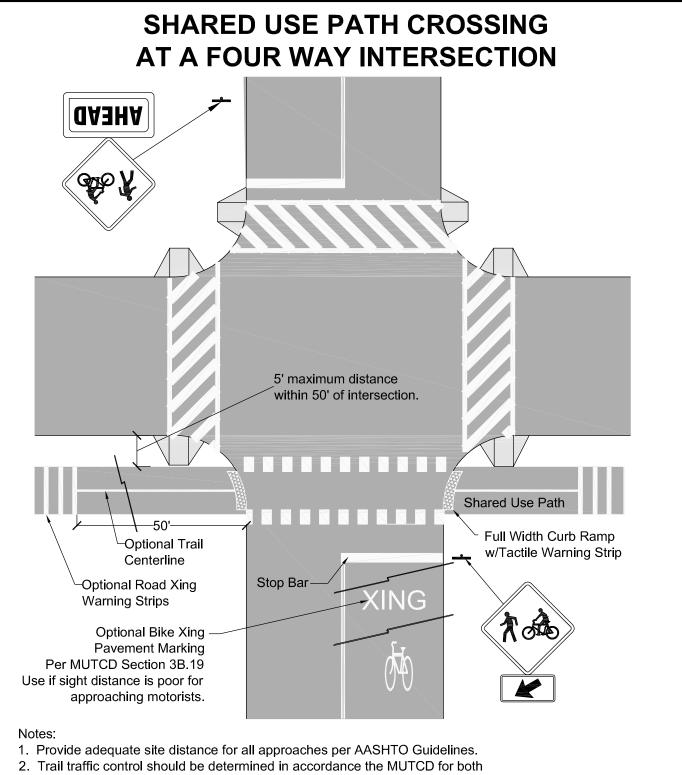
District Department of Transportation Traffic Services Administration Bicycle Facility Design Guide











- the trail and the adjoining roadway.
- 3. Roadway configuration and striping will vary.
- 4. Curb ramps shall match full width of path at intersections and meet ADA requirements.
- 5. OPTION: Utilize advanced stop here for pedestrian sign, advanced stop line, or in street stop for pedestrian sign. See MUTCD sections 3B.16, 2B.11 and 2B.12 for further explanation.

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District Department of Transportation		1" = 20'	

