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Letter of Endorsement for the NACTO Urban Bikeway Design Guide

Background

The *National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO) Urban Bikeway Design Guide* offers communities across America a state-of-the-practice tool for designing safer, more attractive, and sustainable streets that accommodate and encourage bicycling. The guide details the design of traditional bicycle lanes, with and without buffers, and provides extensive guidance for protected on-street bikeways. The designs presented in the guide have demonstrated success in the cities that have been piloting them. They are fostering safer and more comfortable riding conditions which attract unprecedented numbers of bicyclists diverse in age, gender, and skill level. Perhaps most importantly, the designs are proving effective in reducing car-bicycle conflicts and crashes, lowering both crash-related injury and death rates.

The NACTO guide was written by an experienced team of national and international experts and guided by the transportation, streets, and public works departments of fifteen of the largest cities in the United States. The guide drew on a range of U.S. and international bikeway design standards and practices, and assured that all of the designs were tailored to the codes and conditions of the American streetscape. In addition to plan drawings and visualizations, the guide provides U.S. cities with the design specifications and engineering logic to support these design concepts. Based on the most up-to-date data and designs across the country, the NACTO guide is a unique, flexible document that will be frequently updated to reflect the state of the practice.

The NACTO Urban Bikeway Design Guide is a crucial and integral tool for practitioners to improve the safety, viability, and attractiveness of cycling in our communities.

Endorsement

In recognition of the above, the City of Manhattan Bicycle Advisory Committee will use the NACTO Urban Bikeway Design Guide as a guiding document in designing bicycle-related projects in the City. Where cost, space, and other constraints permit, the Bicycle Advisory Committee will encourage City staff to use this guide, along with other guides and manuals and professional engineering judgment, in the design of future projects.

The City of Manhattan Bicycle Advisory Committee endorses the NACTO Urban Bikeway Design Guide for use in projects that accommodate all bicyclists on streets in the United States.

Brian Hardeman, Chair
Bicycle Advisory Committee