



July 18, 2011

Janette Sadik-Khan, President
National Association of City Transportation Officials
55 Water Street, Floor 9
New York, NY 10041

RE: Letter of Endorsement for the NACTO Urban Bikeway Design Guide

Dear Ms. Sadik-Khan,

The National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO) Urban Bikeway Design Guide offers cities 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 City of Rochester, having recently completed the Rochester Bicycle Master Plan, is aggressively pursuing more bicycle-friendly conditions throughout the city. Given the often unique challenges involved in safely and properly accommodating bicyclists on city streets, and given the limited resources available, the NACTO Urban Bikeway Design Guide is a timely and highly valuable tool that our designers, engineers, and planners may utilize to improve the safety, viability, and attractiveness of cycling in our city.

In recognition of the above, we the undersigned endorse the NACTO Urban Bikeway Design Guide for use in projects that accommodate bicyclists of all ages and abilities on streets in the United States.

Thomas S. Richards
Mayor

Paul Holahan
Commissioner, DES

James R. McIntosh, PE
City Engineer