

Denver

Rapidly Delivering High Comfort Bikeways



In 2020, Denver's population grew to over 715,000 residents to become the 19th largest city in the country. Of the 20 largest cities, Denver was the fifth fastest growing over the past decade. More residents, visitors, and businesses mean more people and goods moving within and through Denver.

To address the City's growth and future needs, Mayor Hancock established a bold vision to deliver 125 miles of new bikeways by 2023. In addition to groundbreaking transformations in transit, micromobility, and pedestrian safety projects, Denver's bike network expansion creates more safe, comfortable, and accessible options for people to get around.

125 miles
of new bikeways in
5 years ✓

Strategies to Rapidly Deliver Bikeways

Denver deployed a three-pronged approach to beat its goal of installing 125 miles of bikeways in 5 years.

1 Elevate Denver Backbone Projects

The 2017 Elevate Denver Bond funded 50 miles of high comfort bikeways across Denver that improved critical network links.



Source: Bicycle Colorado

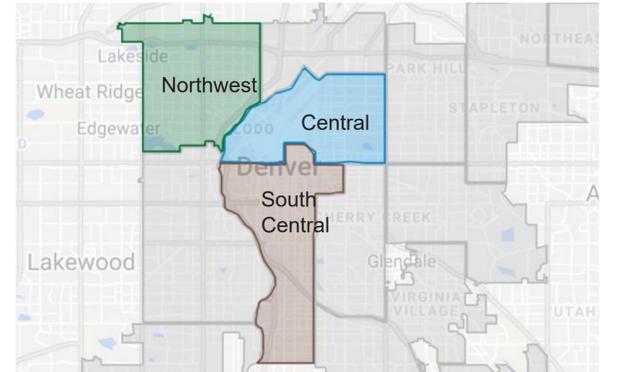
2 Coordinated Bike Lane & Street Repavings

Denver significantly scaled coordination between bikeway installation and routine street paving to efficiently expand the bike network.



3 Community Transportation Networks

Denver targeted investment in three areas of the City to rapidly deliver high comfort bikeway networks, with the goal to expand this program citywide.



Program Enhancements to Achieve Goal

Denver initiated several programmatic enhancements to support rapid bikeway delivery. The three most pivotal improvements included:

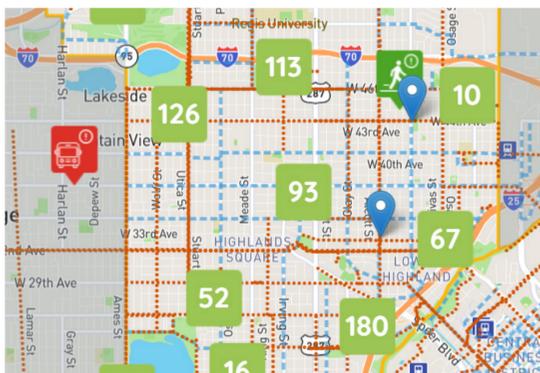
1 Design Manuals

To ensure consistent project design, Denver developed a Bikeway Design Manual as well as a Bike Wayfinding Manual. These documents proved critical to the program's success, enabling rapid designs across dozens of teams.



2 Effective Engagement

Denver's community engagement strategy focused on safety and network-building to move more people. The City facilitated grass tops, area-wide, and corridor-level engagement, in part by utilizing creative virtual engagement strategies throughout the pandemic.



3 Nimble Project Delivery

The City used a combination of implementation materials, ranging from temporary paint-and-post materials to concrete. The City is evaluating the effectiveness of the treatments installed. The results, to be published later in 2023, will influence future design modifications.

