

# BICYCLE MASTER PLAN

February 2009



## SEATTLE IMPLEMENTS BICYCLE MASTER PLAN

1980



The Seattle Department of Transportation made substantial progress toward implementing the Bicycle Master Plan during 2007 and 2008. This is an investment of more than six million dollars and is a major step forward in making Seattle the most bike-friendly city in the country.

The Seattle Bicycle Master Plan envisions a 450 mile network of on-and off-street bicycle facilities that connect all parts of Seattle, providing residents and visitors with convenient access to transit stations, workplaces, parks, commercial areas and many other destinations throughout the city. Its goals are to increase the number of bicycle trips while reducing the number of crashes involving bicyclists.

2000



2009 will be a repeat performance with plans to install another 35 miles of new bike lanes and sharrows and 20 miles of new signed bike routes.

### ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Installed 56 miles of new bike lanes and sharrows
- Installed 15 miles of bicycle route signs
- Built 4 new signals specifically for bicyclists
- Installed green bike lanes at 16 locations
- Improved trail crossings at 3 locations
- Made on-street asphalt improvements at 5 locations
- Replaced 18 sections of pavement along the Burke-Gilman Trail
- Trimmed vegetation at 26 trail locations
- Installed 429 new bike racks
- Built Seattle's first bicycle boulevard (Interurban Bikeway - 2.5 miles)
- Completed 1.7 miles of new, multi-purpose trail
- Distributed more than 30,000 **Bicycling Guide Maps**
- Funded the Bike Smart education/encouragement program which responded to more than 4,000 requests for information on bicycle commuting

2009



Trails, Bike Lanes and Sharrows

The Seattle Bicycle Master Plan defines a set of actions, to be completed within 10 years, to make Seattle the best community for bicycling in the United States. Through the leadership of Mayor Nickels, the plan was completed in 2007 after a one-year development and public involvement process. Implementation began that same year.

PRSRST STD  
US Postage  
PAID  
Seattle, WA  
Permit No. 2871

City of Seattle  
Seattle Department of Transportation  
PO Box 34996  
Seattle, WA 98124-4996



CONTACT

For all bicycle-related inquiries, please contact:

Seattle Bicycle Program  
(206) 684-7583  
walkandbike@seattle.gov



Check out our website at  
<http://www.seattle.gov/transportation/bikeprogram.htm>

## GREEN BIKE LANES HAVE ARRIVED



SDOT has installed green bike lanes at 16 locations in Seattle, with more planned for 2009. Green bicycle lanes highlight conflict areas - where bicycles and cars cross paths. **When you see a green bicycle lane, pay extra attention all around.** Bicyclists and motorists should follow the rules of the road as if there were a bicycle lane with no green coloring. They are intended to reinforce good behavior for all road users.

## SHARROWS - A NEW KIND OF BICYCLE FACILITY

Shared lane pavement markings or "sharrows," are bicycle symbols that are placed in the travel lane. Unlike bicycle lanes, they do not designate a particular part of the roadway for the exclusive use of bicyclists. They are simply a marking to help motorists expect to see and share the lane with bicyclists. Sharrows are carefully placed to guide bicyclists to the best place to ride. Sharrows are often installed in the opposite direction of an uphill climbing lane where there is not enough room to install bike lanes on both sides of the street. More than 30 miles of sharrows have been installed over the past two years.



**Did You Know?** Sharrows guide bicyclists to the best place to ride within the lane.

## SEATTLE RECEIVES BICYCLE FRIENDLY COMMUNITY AWARD



In September, the League of American Bicyclists presented Mayor Greg Nickels the Bicycle Friendly Community award. This award recognizes municipalities that actively support bicycling. Executive Director Andy Clarke presented the award in front of an audience of 800 people at the international Pro-Walk Pro-Bike conference in downtown Seattle.

Seattle received a "gold" rating and joins a group of only twelve cities who have been designated as gold or platinum level recipients of the award.



### BICYCLE PARKING

Anyone desiring a bike rack should contact SDOT at [walkandbike@seattle.gov](mailto:walkandbike@seattle.gov).



## BICYCLE ROUTE SIGNS



## FINDING YOUR WAY

The Bicycle Master Plan established new guidelines for bicycle route signs. This year, SDOT installed route signs along the Arboretum bypass and Dexter Avenue from downtown to Fremont. Bicycle route signs help guide bicyclists along city streets and trails to destinations such as neighborhood shopping areas, regional parks and transit stations. The hope is that the new signs will be adopted by jurisdictions throughout the Puget Sound to create a regional system of signed routes.

## TRAIL PROJECTS MOVE FORWARD



**Burke-Gilman Trail:** Moved forward on several fronts in 2008. In May, a mile-long section between 60th Avenue NW and Golden Gardens Park was completed and opened. Design for the "missing link" between the Locks and 11th Ave NW was completed with construction to occur over a two-year period starting in 2009.

**Duwamish Trail:** After 22 years, the Duwamish Trail is almost complete. Starting in 1987, various trail segments were installed in conjunction with other projects including the SW Spokane Street bridge projects and the redevelopment of Terminal 5. The two final sections, one along W. Marginal Way (constructed by the Port of Seattle) and the other along 14th Ave S in South Park were completed this fall. In 2009, bicycle route signs will be installed from the West Seattle Low Level Bridge to South Park.

**Ship Canal Trail:** Construction of the Ship Canal Trail is scheduled to begin in 2009. Once completed, there will be a continuous trail from the Fremont Bridge to Fisherman's Terminal along the south side of the Ship Canal.