

WHY PROTECTED BIKE LANES?

Protected Bike Lanes place a physical barrier between bicycles and motor vehicles, creating a more comfortable environment for people on bikes, people driving cars and pedestrians.

Good For Safety

- ⇒ When protected bike lanes are installed, **injury crashes** for ALL road users (drivers, bicyclists and pedestrians) typically **drop** by more than **40%** and by more than **50%** in some locations.¹
- ⇒ **96%** of people who use protected bike lanes believe they **increase safety** on the street.²
- ⇒ **56% of adults say they would like to bicycle more often**, and that better separation from motor vehicles would help them feel safer.³

Good For Business

- ⇒ Customers who arrive by bicycle at retail stores **spend the same amount** per month as those who arrive by car — they tend to make smaller purchases, but return more frequently.⁴
- ⇒ **A 2013 survey of 74 downtown Duluth businesses** reported that 45% thought that bike amenities such as a protected bike lane would result in the same number of customers, and 34% thought they would result in **an increased number of customers**.⁵
- ⇒ The average protected bike lane sees **bike counts increase 75%** in its first year alone.²

Good For Everyone

- ⇒ Each bike on the road is one less car in traffic. This means **less pollution** and **less wear** on the road and **lower maintenance costs**.
- ⇒ **Drivers** don't have to worry about unexpected bike maneuvers, and **pedestrians** won't encounter bike riders on the sidewalks.
- ⇒ Protected bike lanes **encourage people of all ages and abilities** to ride bicycles and support a **healthier, more active community**.



Illustration of a two-way Protected Bike Lane

Protected Bike Lanes:

Space on the road for bicyclists

Protected Bike Lanes are located on the street and are meant specifically for people riding bikes.

Separated from traffic

Protected Bike Lanes are separated from both vehicles and pedestrians by bollard posts, curbs, planters, public artwork, or by parked cars.

Best practice in design

Protected Bike Lanes are recognized nationally and internationally as the 'best practice' for on-street bicycle facility design.

Encourage bicycling

Protected Bike Lanes create a safer and more comfortable environment that encourages people to bicycle more often as part of their daily activity.

- 1 Wolfson, H., 2011 –Memorandum on Bike Lanes, City of New York, Office of the Mayor, 21 March 2011
- 2 Monsere, C., et al., 2014 –"Lessons from the Green Lanes" (National Institute for Transportation and Communities)
- 3 Dill, J. and McNeil, N., 2016 – "Revisiting the Four Types of Cyclists: Findings from a National Survey" (Transportation Research Record: Journal of the Transportation Research Board #2587)
- 4 Clifton, K., et al., 2012 – "Consumer Behavior and Travel Mode Choices"
- 5 Healthy Duluth Area Coalition, 2013 –"Bicycles and Pedestrians - Downtown Business Survey Report"