

## 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.<sup>1</sup>
- ⇒ **96%** of people who use protected bike lanes believe they **increase safety** on the street.<sup>2</sup>
- ⇒ **56% of adults say they would like to bicycle more often**, and that better separation from motor vehicles would help them feel safer.<sup>3</sup>

### 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.<sup>4</sup>
- ⇒ **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**.<sup>5</sup>
- ⇒ The average protected bike lane sees **bike counts increase 75%** in its first year alone.<sup>2</sup>

### 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"