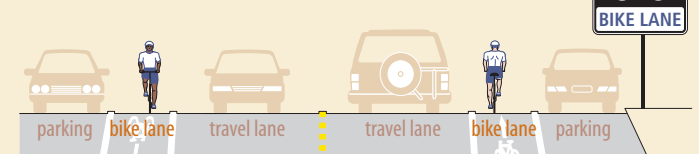


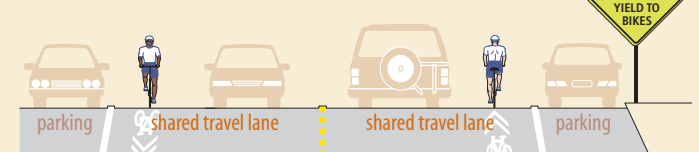
## Types of Bikeways

### Bike Lanes



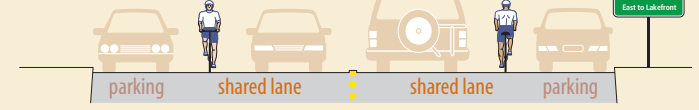
- 5' to 6' wide section on each side of the street reserved for bicycle use.
- Usually established on streets with lots of traffic.
- Special pavement markings and signs identify the lanes.

### Marked Shared Lanes



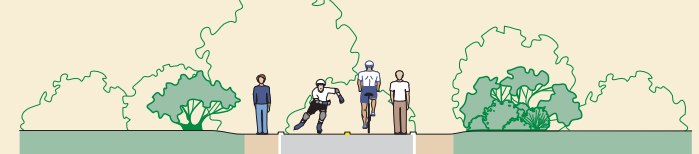
- Cars and bicycles share the street.
- Usually established on streets with lots of traffic that are too narrow for bike lanes.
- Special pavement markings direct bicyclists to ride outside the "Door Zone" (see "Door Zone" panel). Markings and signs also encourage cars to share the lane with bicyclists.

### Bike Routes



- Cars and bicycles share the lane.
- Many bike routes have signs showing the direction and distance to the destinations (e.g. the Loop, the lakefront).
- Bike routes are usually on streets that aren't wide enough for bike lanes but are good streets for biking.

### Multi-use Trails

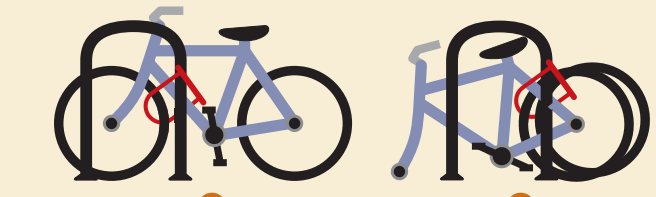


- Paved paths separated from the road for bicyclists, walkers, runners, and in-line skaters (such as the Lakefront Trail).

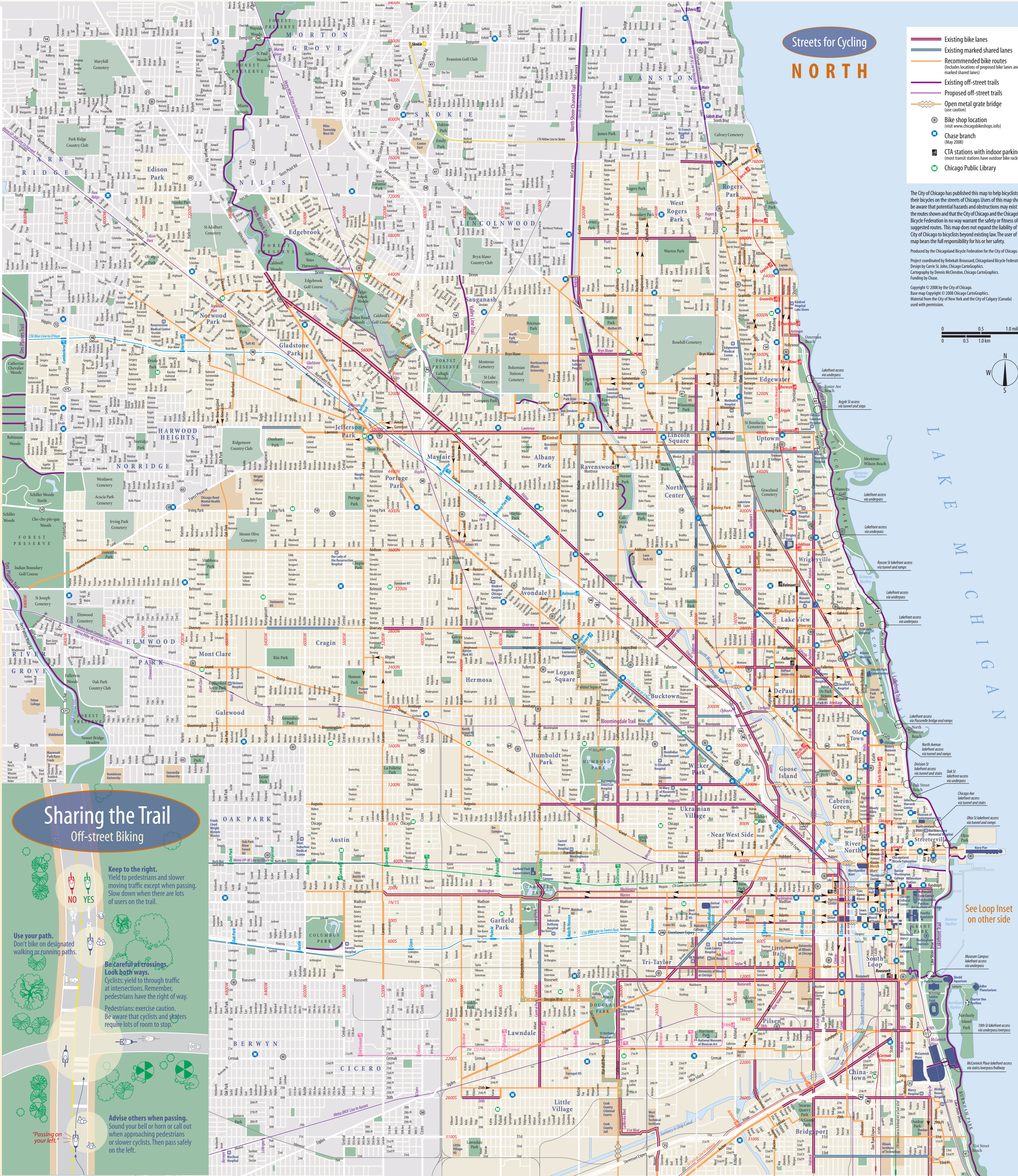
## Theft Prevention

Most bike thefts are due to unlocked or improperly locked bikes. Following these tips will help prevent your bike from being stolen:

- ⚠ Never leave your bike unlocked, not even for a second.
- ⚠ Always use a high quality U-lock or chain. For added security, use both.



- ⚠ Always lock the frame and front wheel to either a rack or pole (see illustration 1).
- ⚠ For extra security remove the front wheel and lock it with the frame and rear wheel (see illustration 2).
- ⚠ Note: Some bike locks with cylindrical keys may be opened with a pen or similar object. Check with your local bike shop to determine the need to upgrade or replace your lock.



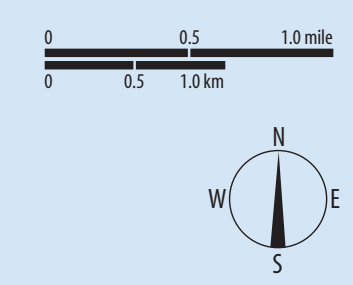
## Streets for Cycling NORTH

- Existing bike lanes
- Existing marked shared lanes
- Recommended bike routes
- Existing off-street trails
- Proposed off-street trails
- Open metal grate bridge (see caution)
- Bike shop location (includes location of approved bike lanes and marked shared lanes)
- Chase branch (May 2008)
- CTA stations with indoor parking (most transit stations have outdoor bike racks)
- Chicago Public Library

The City of Chicago has published this map to help bicyclists use their bicycles on the streets of Chicago. Users of this map should be aware that potential hazards and obstructions may exist on the routes shown and that the City of Chicago and the Chicago and the Chicago Bicycle Federation in no way warrant the safety or fitness of the suggested routes. This map does not expand the liability of the City of Chicago to bicyclists beyond existing law. The user of this map bears the full responsibility for his or her safety.

Produced by the Chicago and the Chicago Bicycle Federation for the City of Chicago.  
 Project coordinated by Ruben Boucard, Chicago and the Chicago Bicycle Federation.  
 Design by Carrie St. John, Chicago Cartographics.  
 Cartography by Dennis McClelland, Chicago Cartographics.  
 Funding by Chase.

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## Sharing the Trail

### Off-street Biking

- Keep to the right.** Yield to pedestrians and slower moving traffic except when passing. Slow down when there are lots of users on the trail.
- Be careful at crossings. Look both ways.** Cyclists yield to through traffic at intersections. Remember, pedestrians have the right of way. Pedestrians exercise caution. Be aware that cyclists and skaters require lots of room to stop.
- Advise others when passing.** Sound your bell or horn or call out when approaching pedestrians or slower cyclists. Then pass safely on the left.
- Use your path.** Don't bike on designated walking or running paths.
- Passing on your left:** (Illustration of a cyclist passing a pedestrian on the left)

## Sharing the Road

### Biking on Streets

- Obey all traffic regulations.** Riding predictably and following the law are the keys to safe bicycling on Chicago streets. Knowing and following the rules help all road users properly anticipate and react to each other.
- Ride in a straight line.** Avoid weaving between parked cars. Ride in a straight line at least 4 feet away from parked cars to avoid the Door Zone (see below).
- Never ride against traffic.** Riding against traffic is dangerous and illegal. Motorists and pedestrians are not looking for cyclists riding the wrong way down a street.
- Don't ride on the sidewalk.** Chicago law prohibits biking on a sidewalk if you are 12 years old or older, unless it is marked as a bike route.
- When necessary, use entire travel lane.** Move toward the center when the lane is too narrow for motorists to pass safely or when you're moving at the same speed as traffic.

### To cross an intersection, use the lane farthest to the right that points to where you are going.

Follow lane markings to cross an intersection. If you can't change lanes to turn left, ride across the street to the other side and align your bike with traffic.

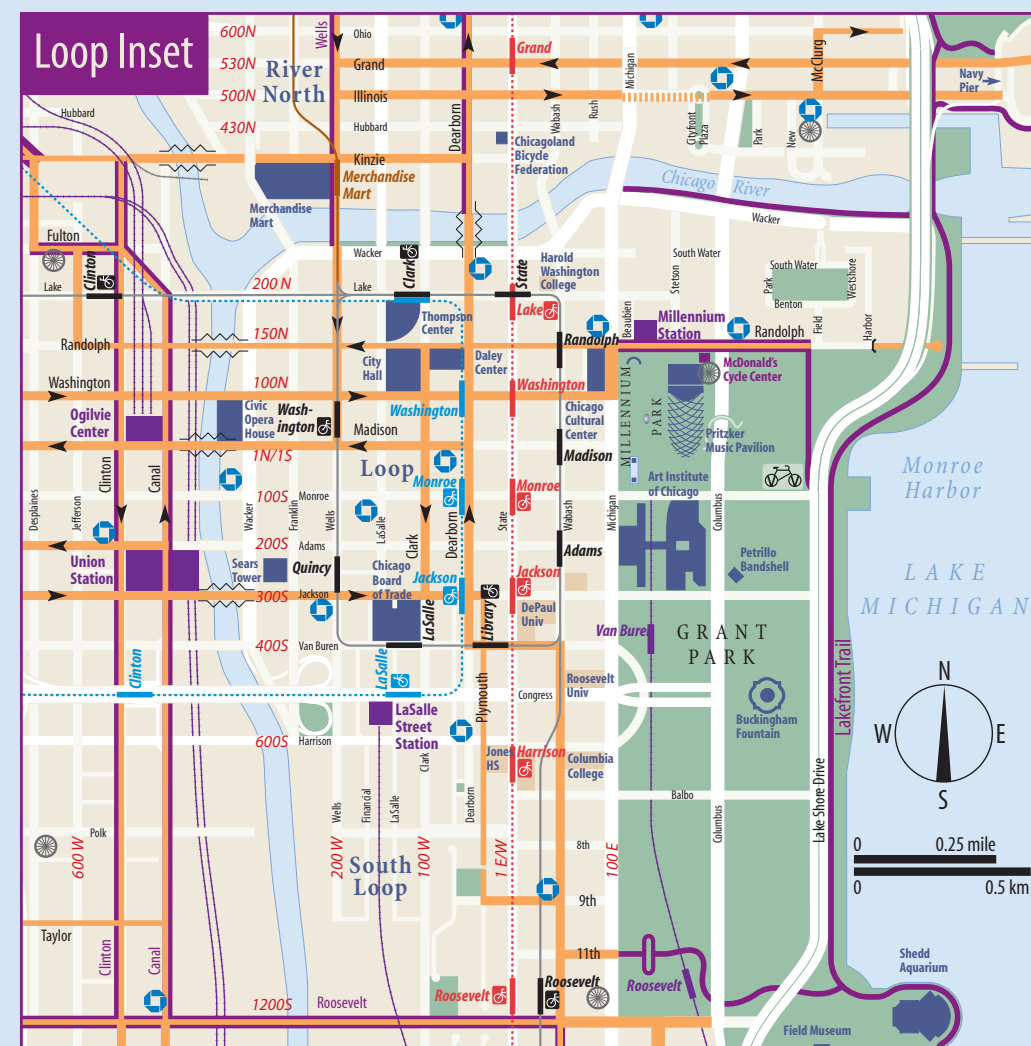
## The Door Zone

### Tips to Avoid Injuries

- The Door Zone is the 4 feet along the side of a parked car where an opening door can hit and seriously injure a cyclist.
- When riding in a bike lane, ride on the left side of the lane—at least 4 feet from parked cars.
- Look inside each parked car before you pass it. If you're unable to see someone inside or you spot someone inside, move outside the Door Zone, or slow down and pass carefully.
- Watch behind you. Keep track of traffic behind you, so you'll know whether you have enough room if you must swerve suddenly out of the Door Zone. A mirror helps you see traffic behind you as you pedal forward.



# Streets for Cycling SOUTH

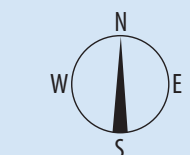
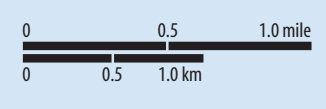


- Existing bike lanes
- Existing marked shared lanes
- Recommended bike routes
- Existing off-street trails
- Proposed off-street trails
- Open metal grate bridge (use caution)
- Bike shop location
- Chase branch
- CTA stations with indoor parking
- Chicago Public Library

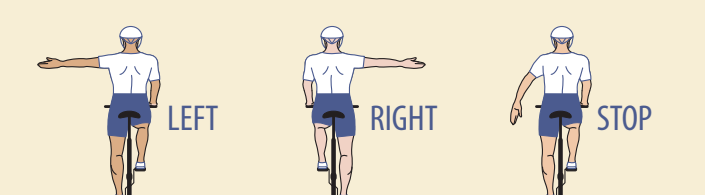
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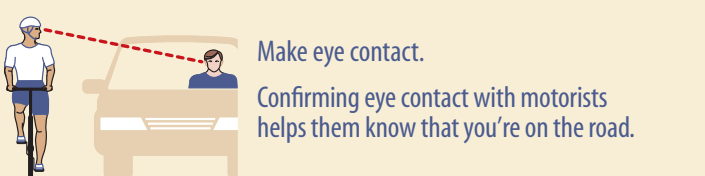
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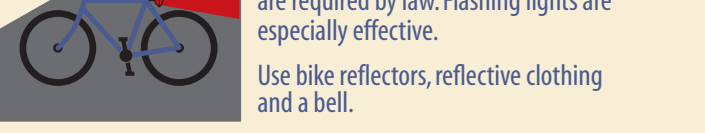
## Communicate



Use hand signals so that drivers know where you're going. Signal all your turns and stops ahead of time. Also, before turning, look over your shoulder for any traffic. Check and only move when it's safe.



Make eye contact. Confirming eye contact with motorists helps them know that you're on the road.



See. Be seen. Be heard. Use lights at night or when visibility is poor. A white headlight and rear red reflector are required by law. Flashing lights are especially effective. Use bike reflectors, reflective clothing and a bell.

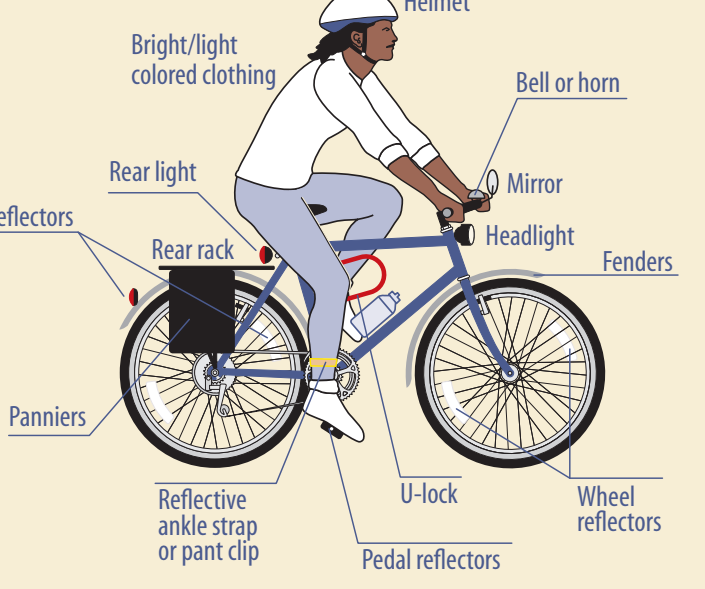


Never use earphones because you won't be able to hear what's going on around you. Using earphones is not only dangerous, it's illegal.

## Street-Smart Cyclist

Be Seen and Avoid Injury

- Always wear a bicycle helmet to reduce the risk of permanent injury or death from a crash.
- To make sure your helmet fits right, put it on then use the "eyes, ears, mouth" test. Eyes: When you look up you should see the front rim. If not, your helmet won't protect your forehead. Ears: The side straps should come to a "V" just below each ear. Mouth: When you open your mouth wide, you should feel the helmet push down on your head. If your helmet doesn't pass the test, adjust its buckles.
- Wear bright clothing, use lights, reflectors, a bell and a mirror to see, be seen and be heard.
- Consider using the other equipment illustrated below to make your ride safer and more comfortable.



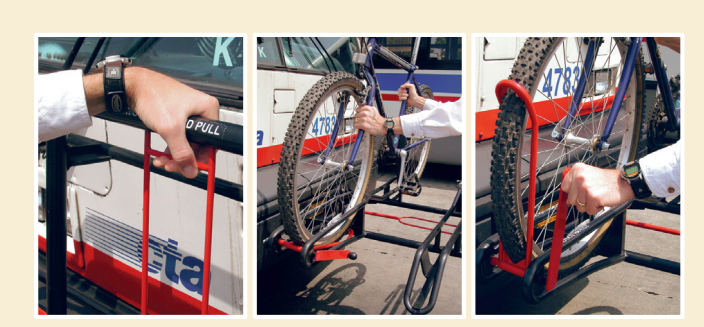
## Bikes on Transit

**CTA Buses and Trains**  
 Bring your bike on all CTA trains except weekdays 7:00-9:00 am and 4:00-6:00 pm. (Note: If trains are too crowded, bikes may be prohibited.) For more information on taking bicycles on trains or buses or for a free copy of the "Bike & Ride" brochure and route map, call 1-888-YOUR-CTA or visit [www.transitchicago.com](http://www.transitchicago.com).

**Metra Trains**  
 Bring your bike on all Metra trains except weekday trains arriving in Chicago before 9:30 am and leaving Chicago between 3:00-7:00 pm. (Note: If trains are too crowded, bikes may be prohibited. Bicycles are also prohibited on certain holidays.) For more information, including rules and regulations, schedules and fares, call 312-636-7000 or visit [www.metra.com](http://www.metra.com).

**PACE Buses**  
 For route information, call 312-836-7000 or visit [www.pacebus.com](http://www.pacebus.com).

- Alert the bus operator
- Lower the rack by squeezing the center handle.
- Load bicycle and secure front tire with support arm.
- Board the bus and pay fare.
- When exiting, alert the bus operator that you'll be removing your bicycle.
- Unload your bicycle. If no other bicycles remain, stow the rack against the bus in the upright position.



## Chicago's Streets for Cycling

This map identifies good streets for bicycling in Chicago. Hundreds of streets were considered and thousands of miles ridden to select routes that are convenient and fun for bicycling. Conditions considered in identifying the 425-mile network include whether there is enough room for cars and bikes to share the road and whether there were traffic signals or stop signs at busy intersections.

This map is designed to help you to travel throughout Chicago by bicycle. Many of the recommended routes will help you get around downtown Chicago more easily (such as expressways). While routes throughout Chicago are identified, some areas of the city have fewer choices than others. Always remember that potential hazards exist along all routes and that conditions vary depending on the time of day, day of the week, and season.

## Information & Resources

- City of Chicago's Bicycle Program**  
 Call the Chicago Department of Transportation at 312-742-BIKE (2453) to request a copy of this map or other free publications, installation of bike racks, or visit [www.chicagobikes.org](http://www.chicagobikes.org).
- Street Maintenance**  
 Call the City of Chicago's 24-hour City Services Request hotline to report city street locations with potholes, broken glass and other maintenance or repair needs.
- Lakefront Trail**  
 Call the Chicago Park District at 312-742-4244 for a free map of the Lakefront Trail. Call 312-742-5239 to report maintenance and repair needs for the Lakefront Trail, or visit [www.chicagoparkdistrict.com](http://www.chicagoparkdistrict.com).
- North Branch Trail**  
 Call the Forest Preserve District of Cook County at 708-403-7391 to report maintenance and repair needs. For a free map of the trail, visit [www.fpdcc.com](http://www.fpdcc.com).
- Bicycle Commuting**  
 Call the Chicagoland Bicycle Federation at 312-427-3325 for information on commuting by bike in Chicago, the latest on issues facing bicyclists in the region, bicycle advocacy opportunities, events, the *Chicagoland Bicycle Map*, or visit [www.bikechicago.org](http://www.bikechicago.org).
- Free Chase Summer Bike Valet**  
 Call for this year's free events with free Chase Summer Bike Valet. The safe and convenient valet station is located at the northwest corner of Monroe and Lake Shore Drive and is available during most Grant Park summer festivals. For a list of festivals offering valet, visit [www.bikechicago.org](http://www.bikechicago.org).
- McDonald's Cycle Center**  
 Located on the south side of Upper Randolph Street east of Michigan Avenue, the McDonald's Cycle Center offers free secure indoor bicycle parking, bicycle repair and rentals, and membership with benefits including showers and changing facilities. For more information on hours and services, call 1-888-BIKE-WAY or visit [www.chicagobikestation.com](http://www.chicagobikestation.com).
- Emergencies**  
 Call 911.

You can contact us and view the online map at [www.ChicagoBikes.org](http://www.ChicagoBikes.org). Information is welcome!

This map is updated and reprinted on a regular basis. An online version of this map is also available on our website. Suggestions to improve the map and accompanying information are welcome!

Richard M. Daley  
 Mayor

Dear friends,  
 Most of our effort to make Chicago the nation's most environmentally friendly big city is to promote environmentally friendly bicycling. Bicycling is a great way to get around Chicago. It's fun, easy, healthy and good for our environment.

To encourage you to bike in Chicago, we have prepared this map that identifies the city's best cycling routes. Are you looking for good streets to bike to your local stores, public library or to the Loop? Do you want to ride to the Lakefront Trail? So, I encourage you to try the routes identified on this map.

My goal is to make Chicago the most bike-friendly city in the United States. We have an ambitious, multi-million dollar program to establish 55 miles of new bike lanes and marked shared lanes, and install 1500 bike racks. Improvements to the Lakefront Trail are underway, with new bike paths to be built at other locations.

Milestones for 2008 include the implementation of Chicago's *Bike 2015 Plan*. bicycling community to make bicycling an integral part of daily life in Chicago. The plan identifies 150 strategies for city agencies, the private sector, and the bicycling community to make bicycling an integral part of daily life in Chicago. Please help by biking responsibly and sharing the road with others. Contact us if you have any suggestions to improve the map and accompanying information are welcome!

## A Message from the Mayor

# CHICAGO BIKE MAP

## STREETS FOR CYCLING



free

SPRING 2008

City of Chicago - Richard M. Daley, Mayor  
 Department of Transportation - Thomas G. Byrne, Commissioner  
[www.ChicagoBikes.org](http://www.ChicagoBikes.org)  
 MAP COURTESY OF CHASE