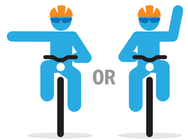
SHARING THE ROAD SAFELY

Signal your turns

Watch out for drivers turning right in front of you when you are riding straight and make sure you are visible.



TURNING RIGHT

TURNING LEFT

SLOWING DOWN

Wear bright, noticeable clothing whenever you ride. At night, the law requires you have white front and red rear lights on your bike. Wearing reflective clothing at night is also strongly recommended.

Wear a helmet and make eye contact

After August 2009, the City of Columbus will require all bicyclists under 18 to wear a helmet when riding. But it's advisable to wear a helmet at all ages! National studies have shown that 85% of brain injuries can be prevented by wearing a helmet. Let drivers know you are paying attention, and make sure they see you. Even with eye contact, some drivers may not act correctly, so be prepared!

Don't wear headphones or earbuds!

You need to be able to hear what is going on around you when you ride. Wearing headphones or earbuds could cost you your life!

Ride defensively

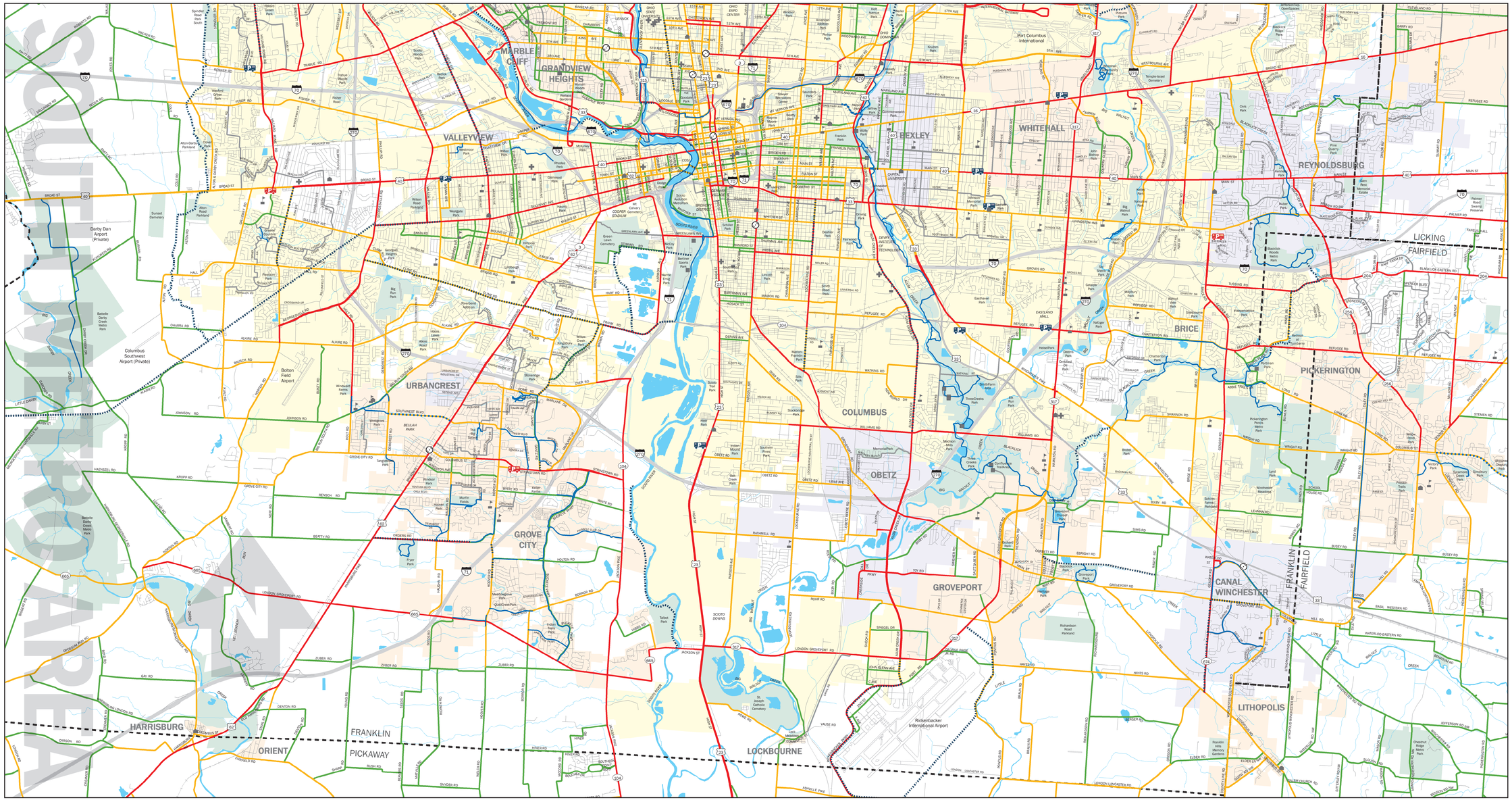
Be a smart bike driver! Stay aware of your surroundings at all times. Try to anticipate what is going to happen, and always watch out for traffic to the sides and behind you. Cyclists are safer with a rearview mirror.

Obey traffic signs and signals

Stop at all red lights and all stop signs. Riding predictably and obeying the law are the keys to safe bicycling.

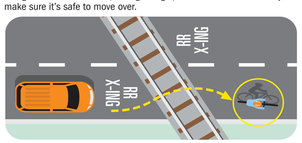
Never ride against traffic!

Bicycles, like cars, must use the right side of the roadway. Never ride against traffic–drivers in vehicles don't expect it and it causes a dangerous situation for everyone.



Cross railroad tracks at a right angle

Bicycle wheels can get caught in railroad track grooves. To avoid this, go straight across the tracks (at a right angle). Check for traffic behind you to make sure it's safe to move over.

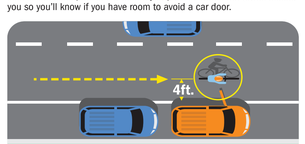


Keep an eye on the road surface

If the lane is too narrow for cars to pass you safely, or if there is debris in the road, you may move to the center of the lane. Check behind you and signal your intent before "taking the lane." When the lane widens again, move over to the right to allow traffic to pass. Ride predictably without sudden movements.

Watch out for car doors!

Drivers may open their car doors without looking. An opening door can cause serious injury to a cyclist. The "door zone" is a 4-foot area to the side of every car. If you can't ride outside the "door zone," ride slowly and look inside each parked car before you pass it. Watch the traffic behind you so you'll know if you have room to avoid a car door.

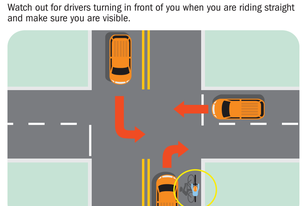


Ride in a straight line

Avoid weaving into spaces between parked cars. Ride in a straight line at least 4 feet from parked cars in case someone opens a car door in front of you.

Watch out for cars

Watch out for drivers turning in front of you when you are riding straight and make sure you are visible.

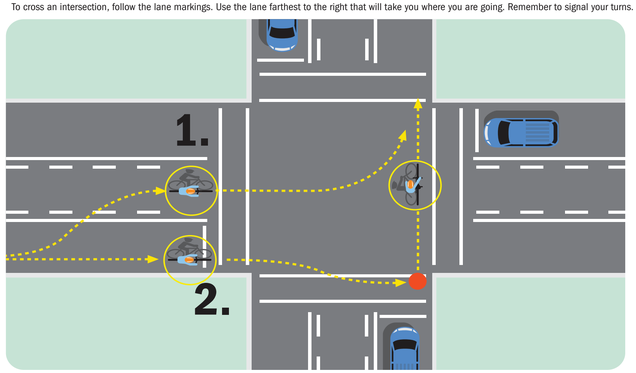


How to turn left

There are 2 ways to turn left at an intersection. Either move into the left turn lane and turn left the way a car would, or ride across the intersection, turn your bike to align with the crosswalk, and join the traffic once you have the right of way.

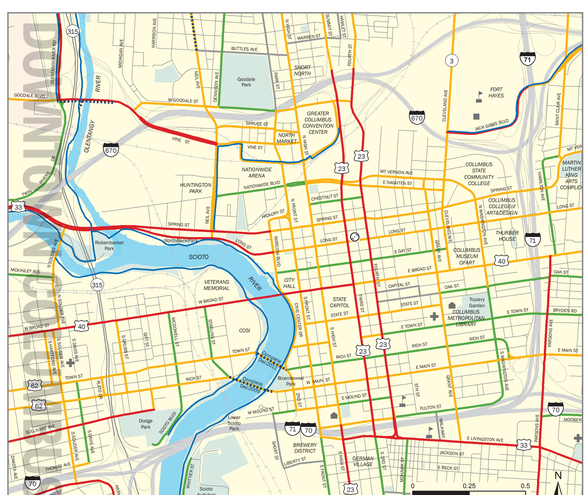
Be careful at intersections

To cross an intersection, follow the lane markings. Use the lane farthest to the right that will take you where you are going. Remember to signal your turns.



Avoid riding on sidewalks

Motorists are more aware of bicyclists that are in the roadway than those on sidewalks. Also, mixing pedestrians and bicyclists can create conflicts, which cause accidents.



LEGEND

Bikeway Level of Service

These designations were developed for non-rush travel hours.

- **GOOD** — Low-traffic roadways where bicyclists and motorists can more safely share the road. Suitable for bicyclists with basic skills.
- **MODERATE** — Roadways where the speed and volume of traffic may present challenges, especially at peak hours. Suitable for bicyclists with intermediate skills.
- **POOR** — Roadways with a high volume of traffic or high speeds. Extreme caution should be used on these roadways. Suitable only for bicyclists with advanced skills.
- **RESIDENTIAL** — These routes are generally low-traffic and low-speed, and suitable for bicyclists with basic skills. Some preferred routes suggested by local bicyclists for getting from one area to another.
- **EXISTING OFF-ROAD BIKEWAY** — A shared-use path on which bicycles are permitted. Separate from roadways.
- **BIKE LANE** — A separate lane designated for bicycles alongside the traffic lanes.
- **COMMITTED BIKEWAY** — Site of a future off-road bikeway or bike lane.

- HIGH SCHOOL
- HOSPITAL
- LIBRARY
- TRAIL HEAD
- BICYCLE SHOP
- COTA PARK & RIDE WITH BIKE LOCKERS
- COTA PARK & RIDE
- RAILROAD
- STREAM
- RIVER
- PARK
- COUNTY BOUNDARY

0 0.5 1 Miles

COLUMBUS METRO bike users map

Columbus is committed to making it safer and easier to bike for fun or to work in our neighborhoods, and we appreciate the countless hours that our citizens have invested to help build our Bicentennial Bikeways Plan and this innovative new map system. The steps and many others are part of our shared vision to make Columbus one of the nation's leading bike-friendly communities. I look forward to seeing all of you, riding bikes at every level, as we continue to invest in a great regional bikeways system. *Be active. Stay safe. Share the road!*

Mayor Michael B. Coleman
Columbus, Ohio

Whether you're looking for a quick route to work or a relaxing ride on the Olentangy Trail, this map will help you get where you want to go and enjoy the trip. Please ride responsibly and follow the rules of the road. Be safe and have fun!

Chester R. Jourdan, Jr.
MORPC Executive Director

Consider Biking is proud to have been a key partner in this project. We convened many experienced everyday bicyclists to provide the cyclist's perspective of road suitability for this map. Our mission is simple... to get more people bicycling.

considerbiking

morpc
MidOhio Regional Planning Commission

Mayor Michael B. Coleman

RideSolutions morpc
Find a Better Way to Work

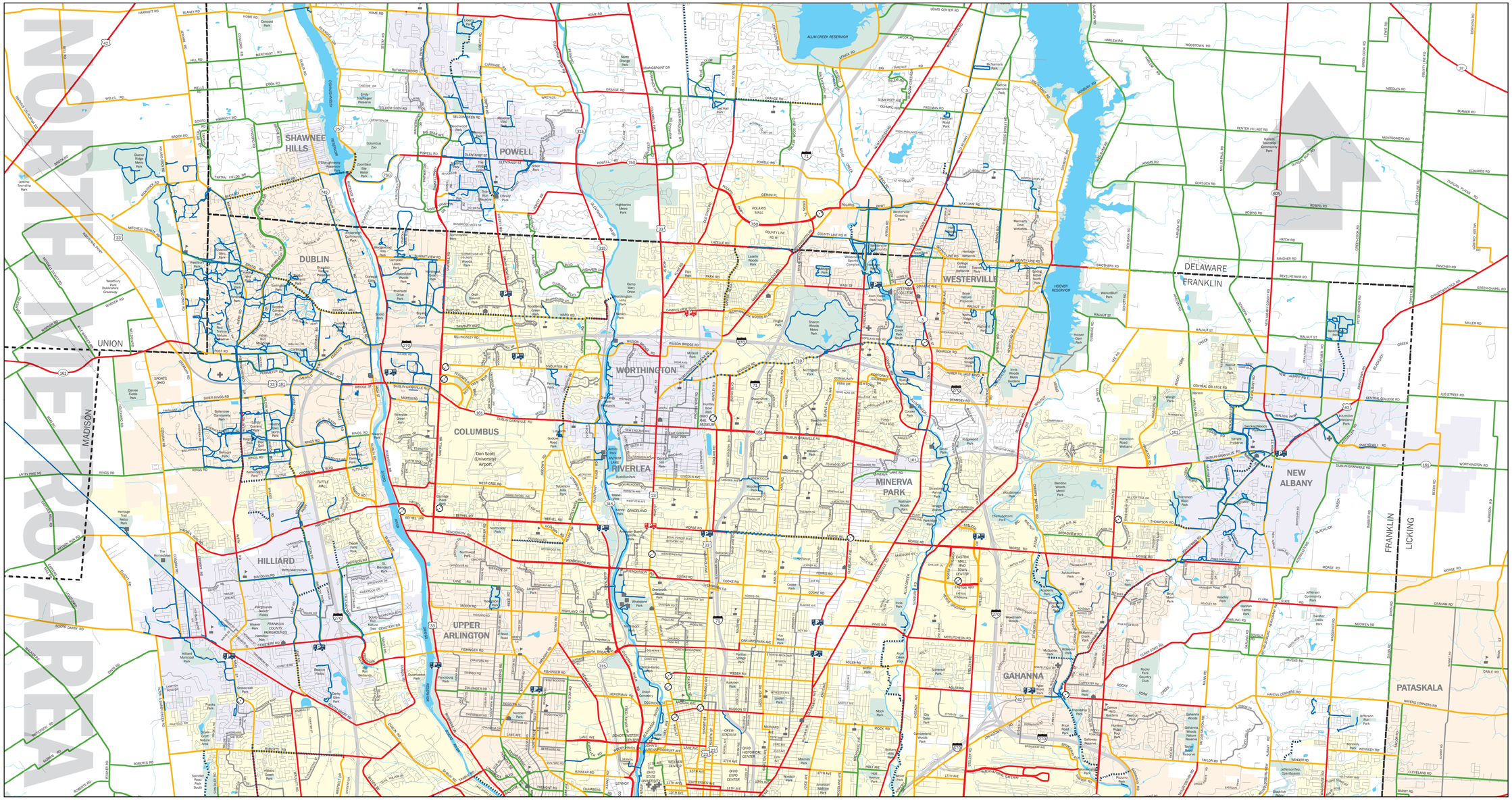
Map Design by ID Innovative Design Creative

COTA CENTRAL OHIO TRANSIT AUTHORITY

Mixed Sources FSC

10% Post-consumer waste

MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION/
MORPC RIDESOLUTIONS, THE CITY OF COLUMBUS,
CONSIDER BIKING, COTA/CENTRAL OHIO TRANSIT AUTHORITY,
FRANKLIN COUNTY ENGINEER'S OFFICE



considerbiking

Consider Biking is central Ohio's bicycle advocacy organization. Our mission is to serve the region by creating a friendly environment for bicycling, walking to enable all our citizens to make active transportation a part of their everyday lives. This bicycle suitability map is a critical tool to help identify how bicycles can be integrated into our environment.

As a partner in this project, Consider Biking brought together local cyclists to identify key routes in terms of their suitability for biking. This map reflects the actual experience of everyday cyclists in the central Ohio region. You hold in your hands a map for bicyclists, developed by bicyclists.

One of our primary goals is for central Ohio to be recognized for its world class regional bicycle network, which provides infrastructure, education, safety, comfort, and convenience for all bicyclists. Our vision is for everyone in the region to use a bicycle, and for cycling and walking to be safely integrated throughout our transportation system. The development of this regional map is the first step toward providing connectivity among our diverse communities.

CITY OF COLUMBUS DIVISION OF MOBILITY OPTIONS

The City of Columbus Division of Mobility Options focuses on safe, livable neighborhoods and transportation alternatives. The division plans and executes the elements of Complete Streets, pedestrian safety, bikeway facilities, sidewalks, Americans with Disabilities (ADA) Act – compliant roadway accommodations, public on- and off- street parking, traffic calming, neighborhood mobility planning and mass transit. The division brings awareness to multi-modal transportation choices, and is responsible for implementing the Bicentennial Bikeways Plan and Operation SAFEWALKS initiatives.

RELATED WEB SITES

MORPC www.morpc.org
PAVING THE WAY www.pavingtheway.org
CITY OF COLUMBUS - TRANSPORTATION pubserv.ci.columbus.oh.us/transportation
CONSIDER BIKING www.considerbiking.org
COTA www.cota.com
COTA - BIKE 'N BUS www.cota.com/bike_n_bus.asp
FRANKLIN COUNTY ENGINEER www.franklincountyengineer.org
CITY OF COLUMBUS - DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS recparks.columbus.gov
CITY OF COLUMBUS - TRAILS A-Z recparks.columbus.gov/trails
METRO PARKS www.metroparks.net
ODOT - MAP & LIST OF OHIO'S BIKEWAYS www.dot.state.oh.us/bike (click Ohio Bikeways)
THE OHIO TO ERIE TRAIL www.ohiotoerietrail.org
TRAILLINK - RAILS-TO-TRAILS CONSERVANCY www.traillink.com
ODOT - BUCKEYETRAFFIC www.buckeyetraffic.org
RIDESOLUTIONS www.morpc.org/ridesolutions

DISCLAIMER

The City of Columbus, Ohio, Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC), Central Ohio Transit Authority (COTA) and Consider Biking working in partnership together have published this bike suitability map to help bicyclists use their bicycles on the streets of the Columbus metropolitan area.

Users of this map should be aware that potential hazards and obstructions may exist on the roadways/routes shown and the City of Columbus and its partners in no way warrant the safety or the fitness of the suggested roadways/routes.

This map does not expand the liability of the City of Columbus to bicyclists beyond existing law. The user of this map bears the full responsibility of his or her safety.

Funding for this document was provided by the City of Columbus, MORPC, RideSolutions, and COTA, Federal Highway Administration, Federal Transit Administration and Ohio Department of Transportation, State of Ohio.

[30,000 copies of this map were printed at a unit cost of .31 each.]

RideSolutions morpc
Find a Better Way to Work

FIND A BETTER WAY TO WORK!

MORPC's RideSolutions program promotes alternatives to driving alone via vanpools, carpools, transit, walking and biking to work. RideSolutions' helps you, the community and the environment by saving commuters on fuel costs, reducing congestion in our region, and improving our environment. And with our Guaranteed Ride Home (GRH) Program, you won't need to worry about missing a ride home.

LEARN MORE AND JOIN THE MOVEMENT

Become a part of a national movement to reduce our dependency on foreign oil, clean our air and unclog the nation's roadways. Visit www.morpc.org/ridesolutions to learn more about the RideSolutions Program.

It's a cost effective, environmentally friendly and stress-free way to travel to and from work. Compute your commute to find out the total financial cost of driving your car to work.

BIKE 'N BUS

COTA

COTA's Bike 'n Bus front mounted bike racks combine the convenience of riding the bus with the enjoyment of cycling. Designed to securely accommodate most types and sizes of bikes, Bike 'n Bus also makes loading and unloading as easy as, well, riding a bike! Now riders can get it in gear when going to school, work or play.

COTA CENTRAL OHIO TRANSIT AUTHORITY

BIKE 'N BUS RACKS:
- Hold two bikes per rack
- Are free
- Are available on fixed routes during normal service hours - including evenings and weekends
- Are not available when inclement weather prohibits safe use

WHEN LOADING YOUR BIKE ON THE BUS:
1. Remove all loose items such as water bottles, pumps and bike locks.
2. Signal the driver you intend to use the rack as the bus comes to a stop.
3. Squeeze the handle and slowly lower the rack. Place the bike in the designated rack wheel well. Safely lock the bike by pulling the spring loaded arm over the front wheel and release.

WHEN YOU'VE ARRIVED AT YOUR DESTINATION AND READY TO UNLOAD:
1. Lift the arm off the front tire and return it to its home position. Remove the bike from the rack.
2. Squeeze the handle and return the rack to its upright position.
3. Signal the driver that you have removed the bike and ready to go.

BICYCLE LOCKERS
COTA Bike 'n Bus locations have bicycle lockers to provide security for customers who would like to ride their bike and then take the bus. The COTA Park & Ride locations below have eight completely enclosed, heavy plastic lockers available on a month-to-month basis.

LOCATIONS	SERVED BY
Reynoldsburg	
Birchview near Brice Rd. & Eastgreen Blvd	#1, #45, #47
Crosswoods	
Off N. High St., just south of Campus View/Worthington Woods Bridge	#2, #31
Grove City	
Stringtown Rd. & Parkmead Dr.	#15, #64
Westwoods	
W. Broad St. & Westwoods Blvd./Hilliard-Rome Rd.	#10, #53
Delawanda	#2, #31, #95

PRICE:
Rental for bicycle lockers is FREE. A one-time refundable security deposit of $10 is required. For more information about COTA bicycle lockers, call COTA's information line at (614) 228-1776. www.cota.com.

CENTRAL OHIO GREENWAYS

LEGEND Bikeway Level of Service

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- LIBRARY
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- RAILROAD
- STREAM
- RIVER
- PARK
- COUNTY BOUNDARY

0 0.5 1 Miles

2009