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GBFS Summary

GBFS stands for General Bikeshare Feed Specification, and it is a technical standard provided by the NABSA (North American Bikeshare Association) that dictates the maintenance of data feeds belonging to bikeshare companies in cities around the world. Included within the project are guidelines for creating data feeds for new bikeshare systems in new places, as well as data feeds for existing bike share systems. The data feeds are in the form of url's which are updated in realtime as bike transits are made in their respective systems.

The following excerpt is taken from a file in the project documentation called *gbfs.md*:

This specification has been designed with the following concepts in mind:

- Provide the status of the system at this moment
- Do not provide information whose primary purpose is historical

Historical data, including station details and ride data is to be provided by a more compact specification designed specifically for such archival purposes. The data in the specification contained in this document is intended for consumption by clients intending to provide real-time (or semi-real-time) transit advice and is designed as such.

The home page of the project on github is given by the following link:

https://github.com/NABSA/gbfs

The master file which provides the realtime data feeds is given by the following link:
https://github.com/NABSA/gbfs/blob/master/systems.csv

The realtime data may be found by navigating to the above link (systems.csv), scrolling to the far right column of the table (the column that lies off screen, just to the right of the column which contains the urls for the websites of the bike rental companies). From there, the urls for the respective city and company will be shown to contain the phrase "free_bike_status".