

Bike Routes

SDE Feature Class



Tags

Bike Boulevards, Bike Lanes, Bike Routes, Neighborhood Routes, Shared Bike Routes, ACHD, Ada County Highway District, Ada County

Summary

The purpose of the ACHD GIS Bike Route layer is to identify and attribute all bike routes located within Ada County. This layer, including the attribution of segments, will be the authoritative source for documenting Bike Route resources to the Ada County Highway District Commissioners as well as providing documentation for Federal applications and to the general public. A document recording Standard Operating Procedures for updating this layer will be forthcoming and is an intended part of the audit process.

Description

The ACHD GIS **Bike Route** layer (formerly known as **Paths**) was audited June-September 2016. The purpose of this audit was four fold:

1. To confirm that all Bike Routes published in the "Ada County 2015 Bike Map" were included in the ACHD GIS **Bike Route** layer.
2. To cross reference all bike routes listed on the **Bike Facilities** Excel spreadsheet [heretofore used for reporting Bike Routes to the ACHD Commissioners, Federal applications and the general public] and to confirm the routes were included in the ACHD GIS **Bike Route** layer for future reporting.
3. To update definitions for "Path Type", which is used for symbolizing the ACHD GIS **Bike Route** layer and provides a vocabulary for conveying the correct information regarding each path type.
4. To create a comprehensive location that includes all bike routes previously reported in either the "**Ada County 2015 Bike Map**" published map, the **Bike Facilities** Spreadsheet or the **Bike Routes** GIS layer.

Paths

Previously the **Bike Route** GIS layer was known in the ACHD GIS geodatabase as **Paths** and included the Greenbelt, micro-paths and some foothills trails. After a meeting with COMPASS the decision was made to remove all micro-paths and trail facilities from the Bike Routes layer

and to allow COMPASS to manage the Paths GIS data. The remaining bike routes include only routes that are in ACHD ROW or ITD ROW and are now in the Bike Routes ACHD GIS Enterprise Geodatabase layer and are attributed using the Path Types listed below. There are micro-paths in the **Bike Route** layer; these micro-paths are part of Bike Boulevards and are within ACHD ROW.

Definitions

During the previous audit of the **Bike Routes** layer ACHD only had 'bike lanes' and 'bike routes,' with a wide degree of variability in what was identified as a bike route. In the spirit of trying to create a better data set a new iteration of categories for "Path Types" has been decided on.

Bike Boulevard - are low volume and low-speed streets that have been optimized for bicycle travel through treatments such as traffic calming and traffic reduction, signage and pavement markings, and intersection crossing treatments. These types of treatments allow through movements for cyclists while discouraging similar through trips by non-local motorized traffic.

Common characteristics of a Bike Boulevard:

- Low motor vehicle volumes
- Low motor vehicle speeds
- Logical, direct and continuous routes that are well marked and signed
- Provide convenient access to desired destinations
- Minimal bicyclist delay
- Comfortable and safe crossing for cyclist at intersections

Definition from Alta Planning.

Bike Lane - indicates an exclusive bike facility along the roadway delineated with a 6"- 8" white line and bicyclist stenciling. We strive for a width of 5'-6.5' when installing new bike lanes, although there are a number out there that do not meet this standard. Bike Lane designation gives no indication of the traffic conditions of the road, but it will generally be a posted speed of 30mph and above, and daily volumes in excess of 5000 cars.

Neighborhood (or Local) Bike Route - indicates a generally low-traffic, low-speed (20-25mph) facility on which nearly all riders would be comfortable. These are generally a good alternative route to a busy street. We also try to align these routes with enhanced pedestrian/bike crossings of busier streets, such as Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFB) or Pedestrian Hybrid Beacons (PHB).

Shared Bike Route - Indicates a facility with moderate speeds (generally 25-30mph) and volumes, but with characteristics that make it suitable for most riders (wide outside lanes, shoulders, or shared lane markings in some cases). During the audit process Shared Bike Routes, Shared Routes and Sharrows were combined in to this Path Type.

Difficult Routes - indicates a facility with high speeds (30 mph and over) and high volumes of traffic, making them advisable only for more daring and experienced riders. They generally have at least paved shoulders 4' or wider.

Multiuse Paths - include facilities that are separated from motor traffic, such as the Federal Way Path and the Boise River Greenbelt. Multiuse paths have been removed from this layer. A GIS layer of multiuse paths is available from COMPASS.

The map was modified from an original created by the Community Planning Association (COMPASS) when they oversaw the map's creation and distribution. In 2006 COMPASS passed these responsibilities on to ACHD.

Credits

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For a hard copy of the Bike Routes map contact

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Most recent audit of this data occurred June-September 2016

Previous audit occurred June 2013