

Designing for Bicyclists

June 2009

The Basic Premise

California Vehicle
Code 21200 –
“Every person riding
a bicycle upon a
highway has all the
rights and is subject
to all the provisions
applicable to the
driver of a vehicle by
this division...”



Bicyclist Safety

“Bicyclists fare best when they act and are treated as drivers of vehicles”

John Forester, Author of Effective Cycling and founder of the League of American Bicyclists Education Programs



And There are More Bicyclists Than Ever...

People are biking for fun, for health, for transportation, and to save money



And There Are a Lot of Bike Facilities Already (They're called roads...)

Most bicycling in
San Diego County
happens on streets
with auto traffic



Sharing the Lane

Sharing the lane
front to back –
Easiest when traffic
speeds and volumes
are low



Sharing the Lane II

Sharing the lane side by side.

Bicyclists are usually slower than automobile traffic.

To facilitate smooth traffic flow, many jurisdictions include space on the side for bicyclists.



Sharing the Lane III

Shared side-by-side space can take many forms. Usually it is a wide outside lane, or a shoulder, or a bike lane. There are also new experimental designs like 'sharrows' and colored bike lanes



Separate Facilities

Sometimes jurisdictions provide separate space for bicyclists and pedestrians in the form of a multi-use path



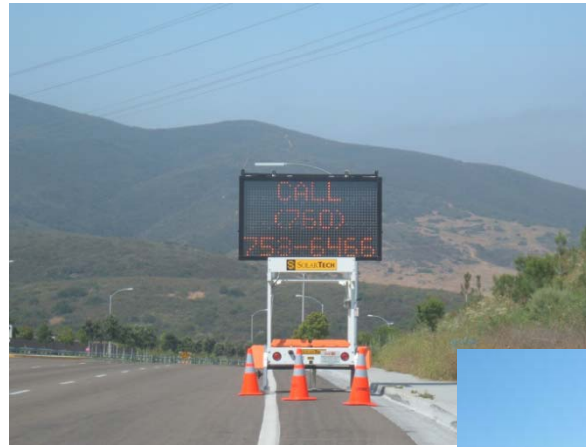
Issues To Consider

Intersection Design.
The vast majority of bicycle/car crashes happen at intersections. The more you separate bicyclists between intersections, the more careful you have to be AT intersections



Issues to Consider II

Little things make a big difference to bicyclists. Pavement quality, signage, striping – all these are more detailed for bicyclists than they are for cars, and require careful thought.



Bicyclists Need:

Space

Recognition

Encouragement

Respect



Resources

Caltrans Highway Design Manual Chapter 1000

California and Federal MUTCD

SANDAG Routine Accommodation Policy

City of San Diego Street Design Manual

Association of Bicycle and Pedestrian Professionals (APBP)

San Diego Regional Bike Plan