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

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8/2/00: CITY COMMUTING BY BIKE

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Date: August 02, 2000 11:12 AM
Author: Ethan Gelber (ethang@gorp.com)
Subject: What is allowed where you live?

I have recently become more and more aware of the steps being made by communities all across America (and certainly throughout the world) to make pedal commuting a little bit easier. This includes the more and more widespread use of bike lanes (especially across bridges), permission granted to bring bikes on different rail-bound forms of mass transportation, bike racks mounted on city buses, etc.

GORP is taking making the first steps in attempting to put together a solid list of the ways in which different cities in America are responding to the two-wheelers out there who want to feel safe on city streets. This includes clearly established policies about what is and is not allowed, where permits and payments are required, and whom to contact if you want to take advantage of these often misunderstood and misrepresented services.

Are you a biking commuter? Do you know about how things work in your communities? Please share that information with everyone here.

(http://gorpforums.gorp.com/forums/Index.cfm?CFApp=52&Message_ID=41009)

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Date: August 05, 2000 08:52 PM
Author: Michael R. (bikedork@altavista.net)
Subject: On the streets of Chicago

Chicago is very forward-looking when it comes to bicycles. Our Mayor, Richard M. Daley, is reported to pedal 40 miles per day with a frequent 100 mile trip on the weekends. Daley, with organizations like the Chicago Bicycle Federation, has spearheaded bicycle access issues. Here's what we enjoy:

Over the past few years, the City has designated bicycle lanes on some well used streets such as Ashland, Halsted, Elston, Lincoln, Clark, and others. Violators caught driving in the bicycle lane are fined \$500.

The Chicago Transit Authority allows bicycles on its elevated trains on the weekends. The CTA's bus system has installed bicycle carriers on some busses to allow bikers a bus connection. The suburban bus system is also experimenting with carriers.

Much of the driving public haven't warmed up to sharing the streets with bikers. Some drivers will crowd you out of a lane, and others just don't see you. Even the well intentioned people who offer a friendly honk can startle the heck out of you.

The Chicago Bicycle Federation does a great job of keeping Chicagoans up with its work on street access. Their website can be found at www.chibikefed.org.

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Date: August 23, 2000 01:06 AM

Author: Jack Urbani ([Jackspgh](#))

Subject: Pittsburgh transforms itself

Pittsburgh is currently lining all of it's 3 rivers with parks and trails for bike commuters and bikers in general. It now has plans to add 710 miles to compliment the existing 190 miles of trails in the region. Downtown Pittsburgh is compact and predominately flat and very bicycle friendly. Pittsburgh has been voted as one of the most pedestrian friendly downtowns in the country. The Allegheny Trail Alliance will soon have Pittsburgh connected to Cumberland Md. and Washington DC by way of The Allegheny National Trail. There are already bike events being planned and annual competitions forming. The trails will connect the city in the valley to mountain bike trails, white water rafting and skiing through out the Allegheny Mountains. Please see this article written on our forward looking, future developments>>> www.triblive.com/news/rbik0821.html

and the Allegeny Trail Alliance at: www.atatrail.org/

and at: fay-west.com/youghtrail/

Pittsburgh is a very hilly region but the 3 rivers wind through the valleys connecting 100s of tight communities. We are very active in the Rails to Trails movement. The trails are also spreading through the suburbs, such as the Montour Run Trail. I hope you will all get a chance to come here and see how Pittsburgh is transforming itself from an industrial giant to a green clean mountain/river city.

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