

Bicycling in Rockville Going for Recognition!

Presentation to Rockville Bicycle
Advisory Committee

Wed. December 2, 2009

Presentation Format

- Brief Background on Bicycle Friendly Communities
- Existing Conditions in Rockville
- Recommendations for Improvements
- Questions and Answers

Characteristics of BFC's

- Almost immediately recognizable that bicycles are welcomed.
- Bicycle facilities are obvious
- Bicycle facilities are used
- The five E's are addressed (i.e. Engineering, Education, Encouragement, Enforcement, Evaluation).

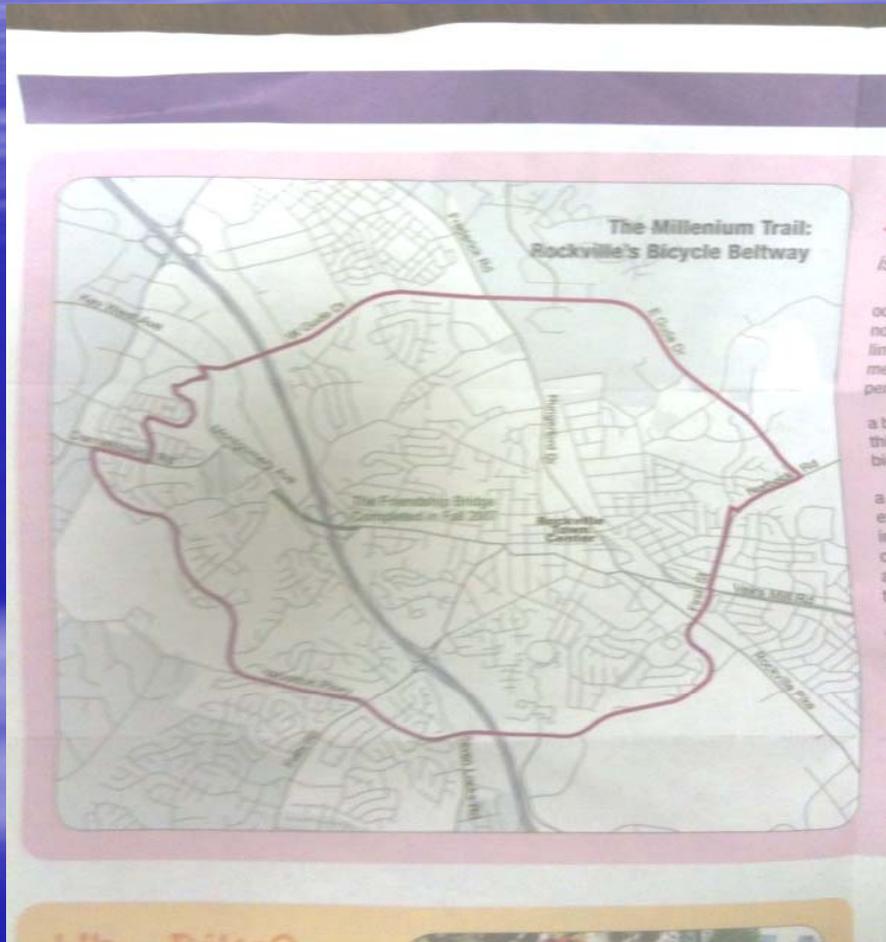
Existing Conditions in Rockville

- Rockville received Honorable Mention by LAB as a BFC.
- Rockville has made significant progress in promoting bicycling (i.e. Friendship Bridge, Millennium Trail, pioneered school based bike safety curriculum, bike mapping, cross-city bike routes, etc).
- Congratulations, Rockville!

Areas for Improvement

- Millennium Trail Improvements
- Partnership with Montgomery College regarding bicycling
- Evaluating bike access to Rockville Pike commercial district
- Social marketing campaign
- Comprehensive bikeway network

Millennium Trail Improvements



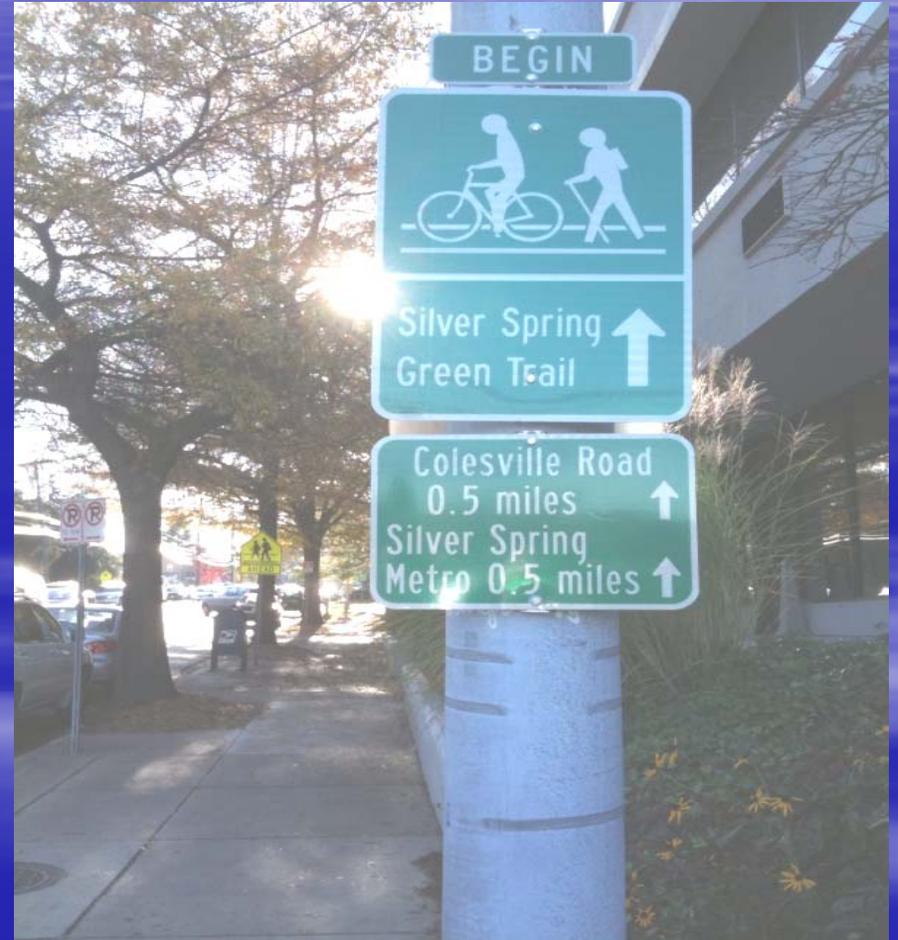
- Signing
- Pavement markings
- Bollards
- Intersection Design
- Orientation
- Maintenance

Millennium Trail Existing Conditions

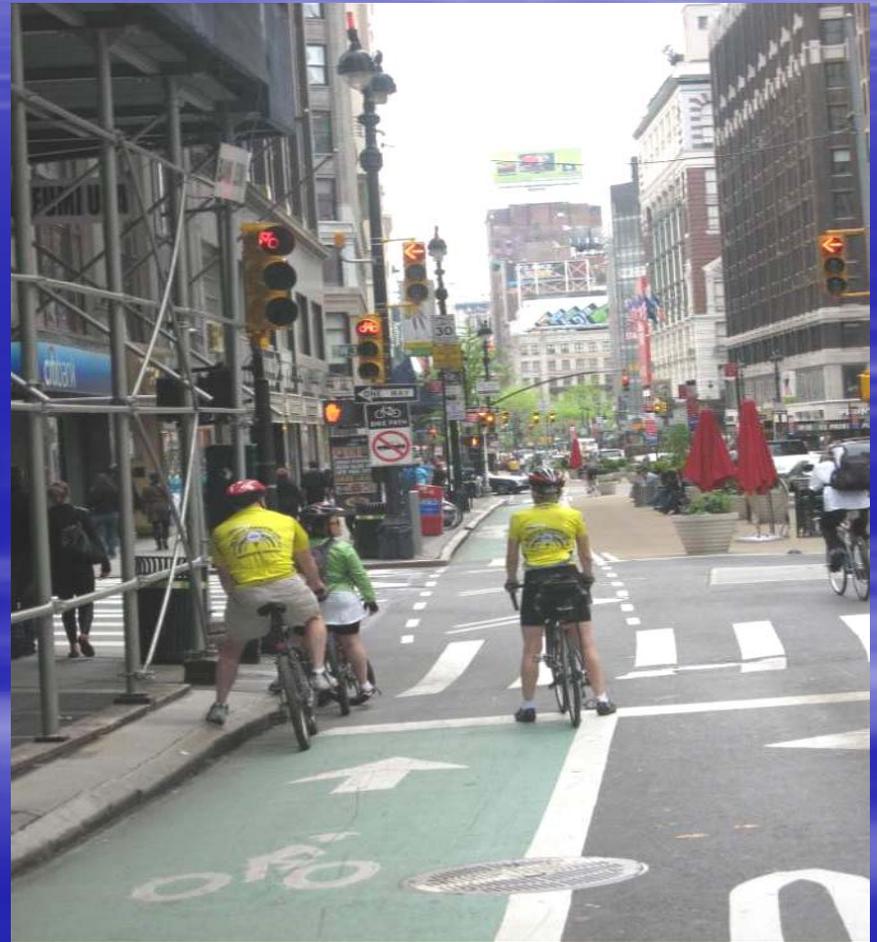
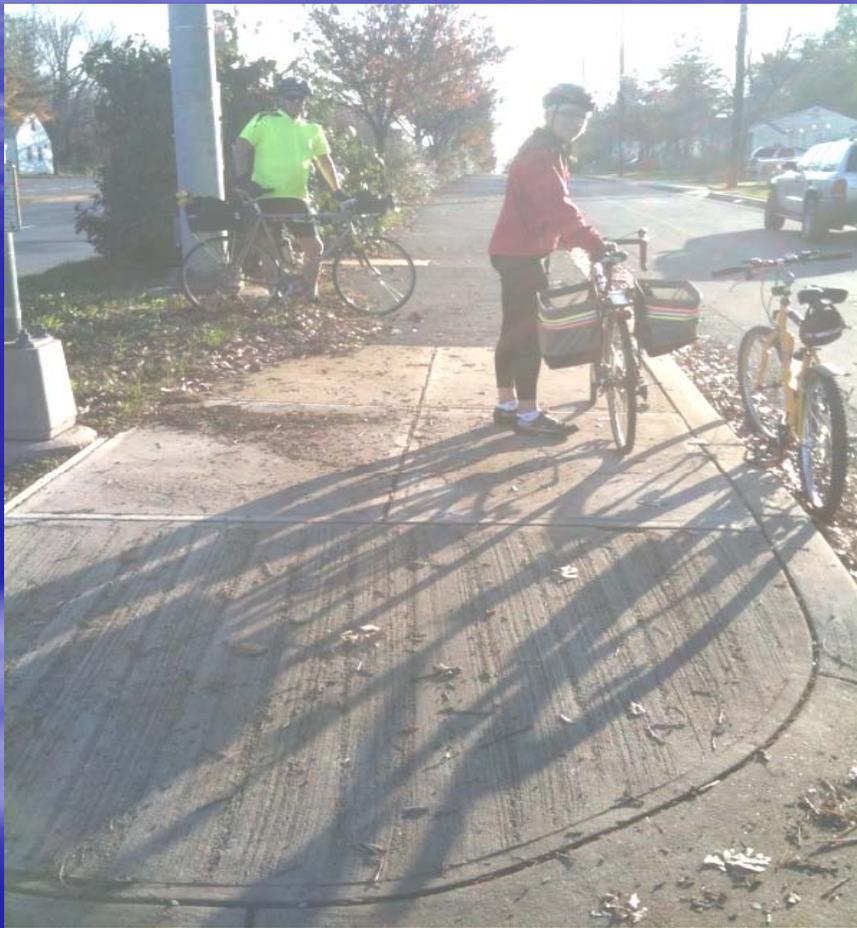


- Bikeway recognition
- Orientation problems
- Destination Information
- Bollard Placement
- Intersection issues
- Encroachment issues

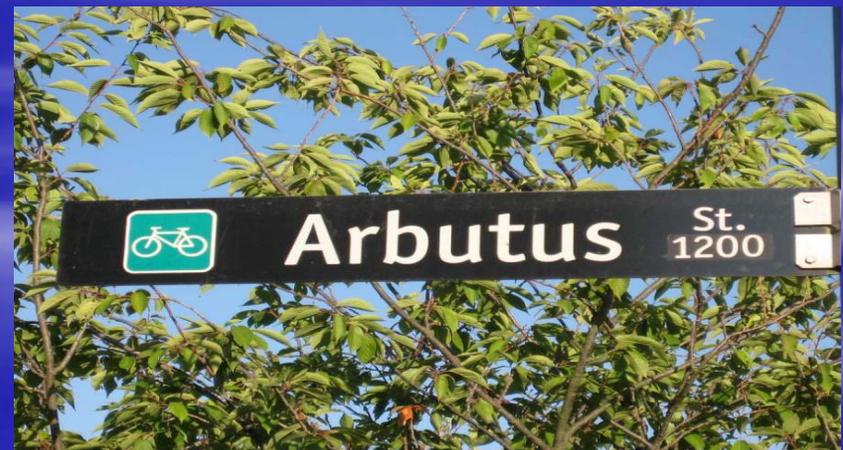
M Trail – Bikeway Recognition



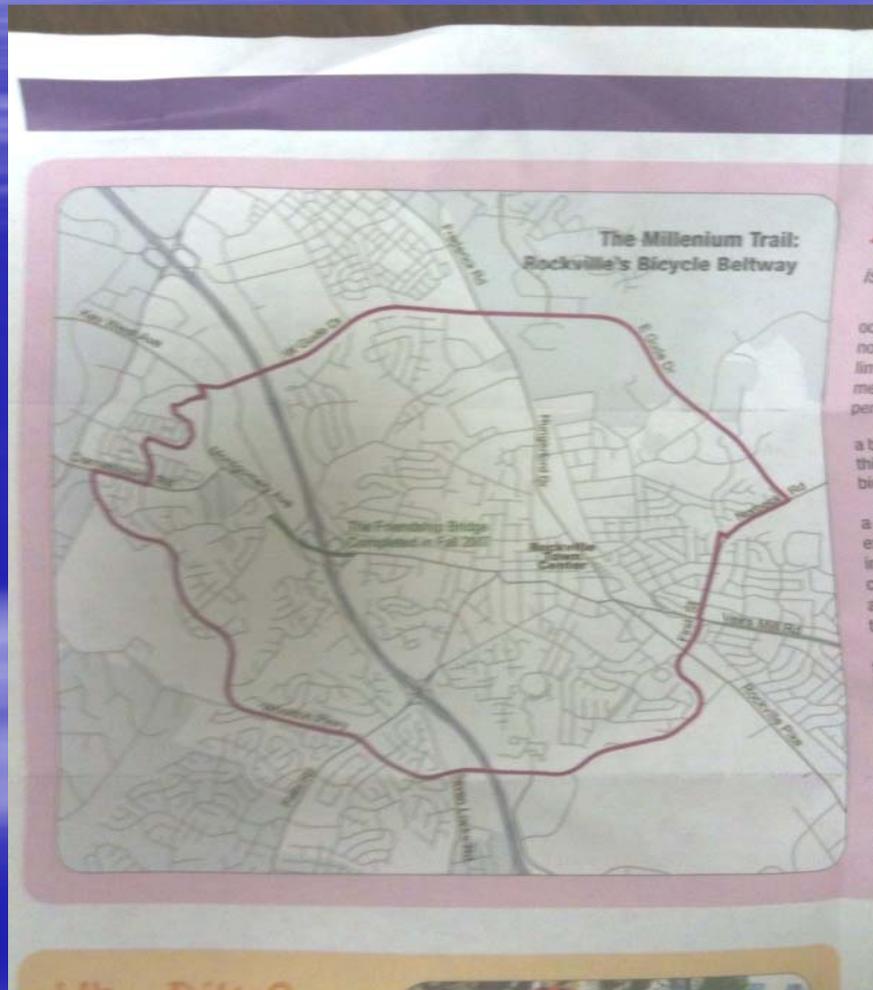
M-Trail Bikeway Recognition



M-Trail – Bikeway Recognition



M Trail- Orientation Vicinity Maps along Trail



M Trail – Orientation Mileage Markers



- Existing Design on Pavement
- Easy for bicyclists to miss
- Not consistent
- Replace/supplement with mileage posts along edge of trail

M Trail - Destinations



- Missed opportunities for destinations to major activity centers (e.g. Thomas Community Center, Wooton H.S, etc)



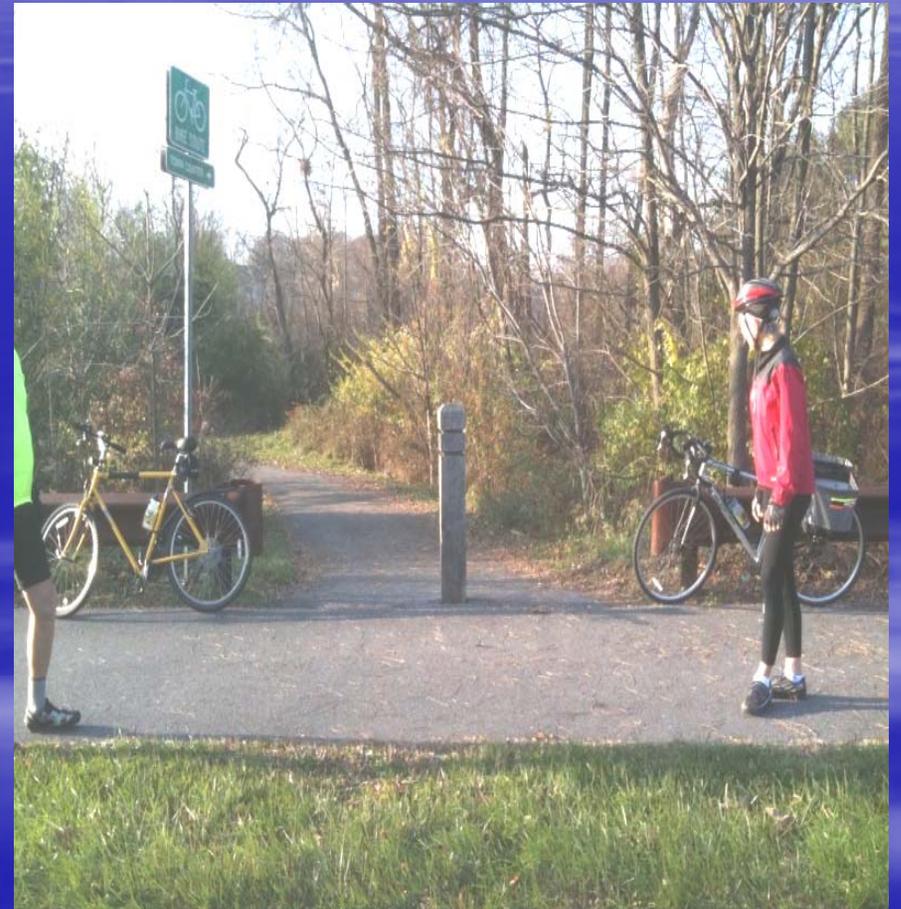
M Trail – Bollard Placement

- Bollards on Trails – Necessary Traffic Control Devices or Spawns of Satan?
- Anecdotal evidence shows bollards pose dangers to trail users
- Bollard placement is recommended as a last resort...not standard practice
- Bollards should be visible and reflective
- Consider flexible plastic for materials

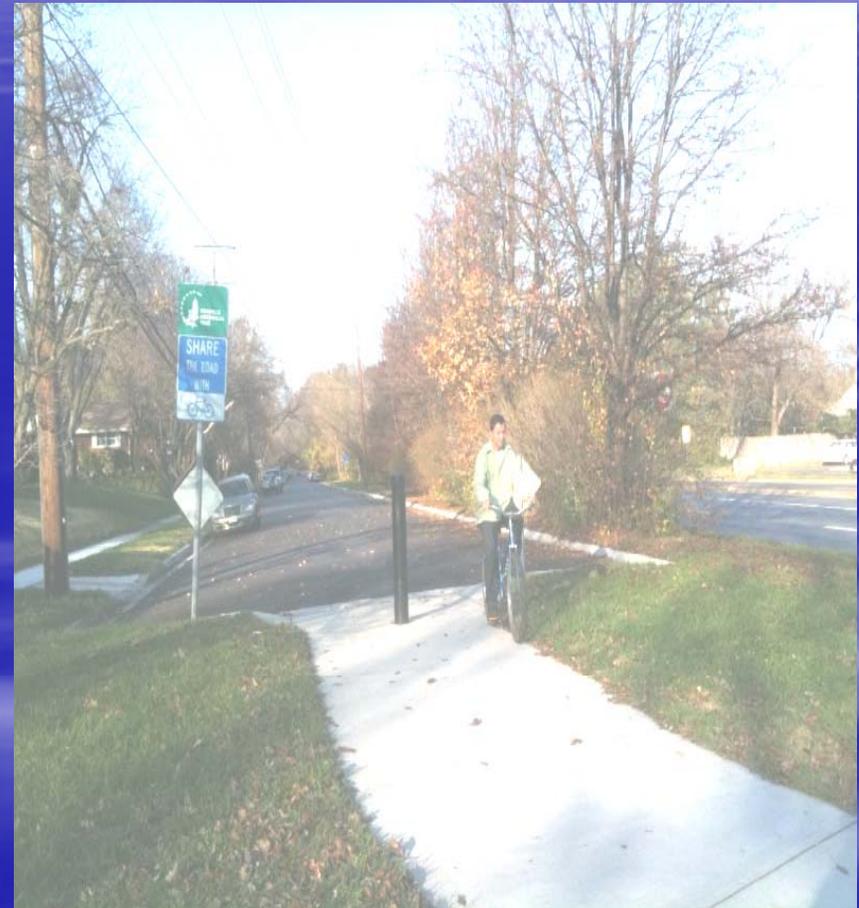
M Trail-Bollard Placement



M Trail –Bollards SW Quadrant



M Trail - Intersections



M Trail Intersections

- Bikeway intersection with roadway is not obvious
- Millennium Trail signs are not always placed at departure legs of intersection
- Pavement markings, destination signs, center line striping and Millennium Trail street name signs would increase recognition

M Trail intersections with other trails

“Duh...Which way do I go?”



- Install center line striping along M Trail alignment at these locations
- Add destination signs prior to trail fork



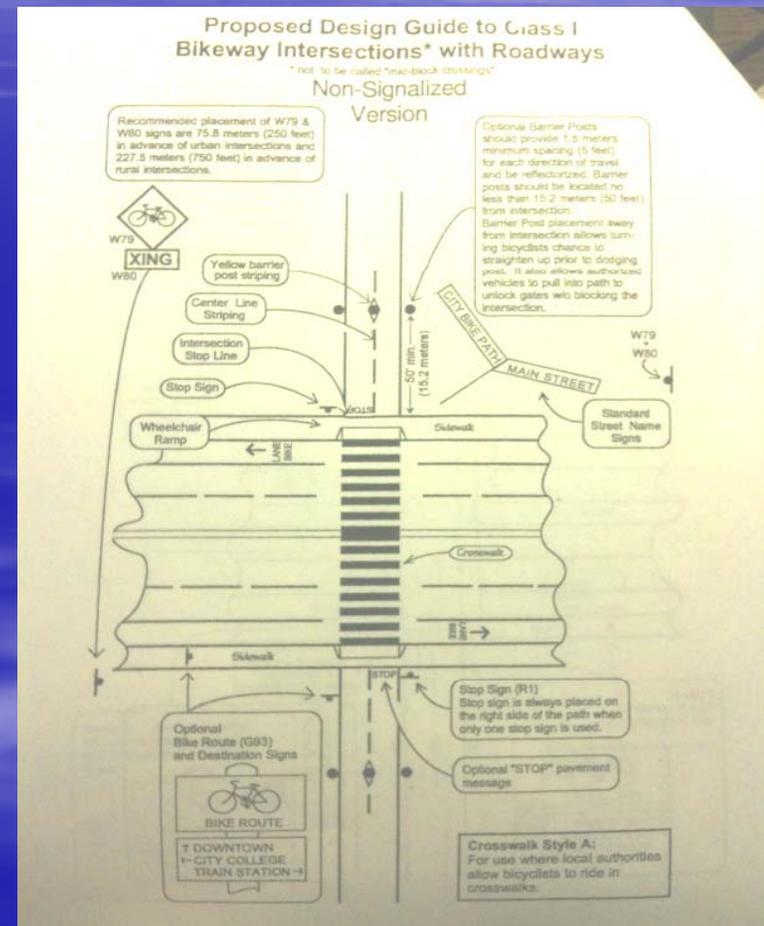
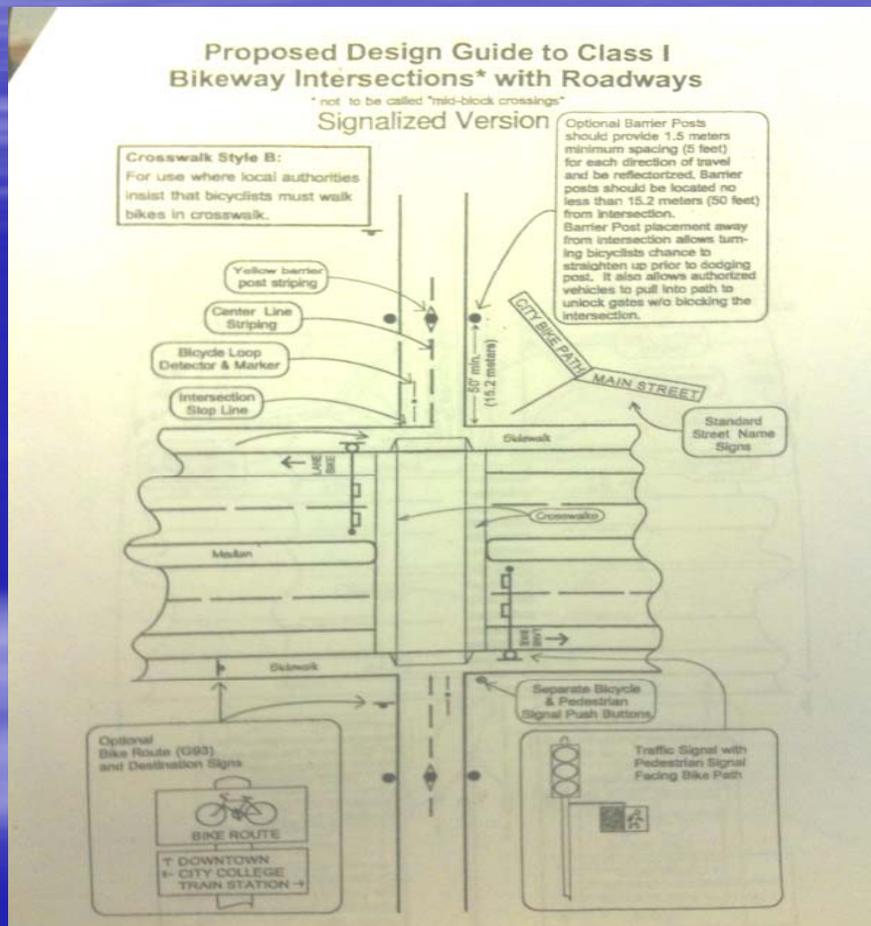
M Trail Intersections

Examples from Others



M Trail – Intersections

General principles



M-Trail Intersections West Gude Drive



- “T”-Roadway intersections along West Gude Drive
- Connections between perpendicular roadways and MT have missing curb cuts and crosswalks
- Encourages wrong-way bicycling

Millennium Trail East Gude Drive



- No crosswalk markings at trail/driveway locations
- Crosswalks would increase driver awareness
- Colored x-walk markings??



Millennium Trail East Gude Drive



- Parked vehicles encroach on trail r.o.w.
- Install physical barrier between trail & lot
- Mark driveway apron as trail crossing.

Partnership with Montgomery College-Rockville



- Create bicycle routes with destination signing to Montgomery College
- Promote bicycle education courses there
- Support “Bike To College Day” events

Evaluate Bike Access to Rockville Pike Shopping Strip

- MD 355 is not bicycle friendly
- Bicycle racks not widely available at shopping centers
- Consider one-way sidewalk bikeways
- Would need to gain support of State Highway Administration
- Improving bike access along MD 355 would improve level of bike friendliness in Rockville

Encourage Bicycle Commuting Through Social Marketing



- Promotional efforts should extend beyond B2WD
- Consider internet, newspaper, outdoor, transit media strategies



Bicycle Promotion in Copenhagen, New York and Cape Town



Social Promotion of Bicycling



- San Diego's "*Lose the Roaditude*" campaign billboard
- Choose Cycling in Howard County bumper sticker
- Mimics popular "Choose Civility in Howard County" bumper stickers

Comprehensive Bikeway Network for Rockville



Comprehensive Bikeway Network for Rockville

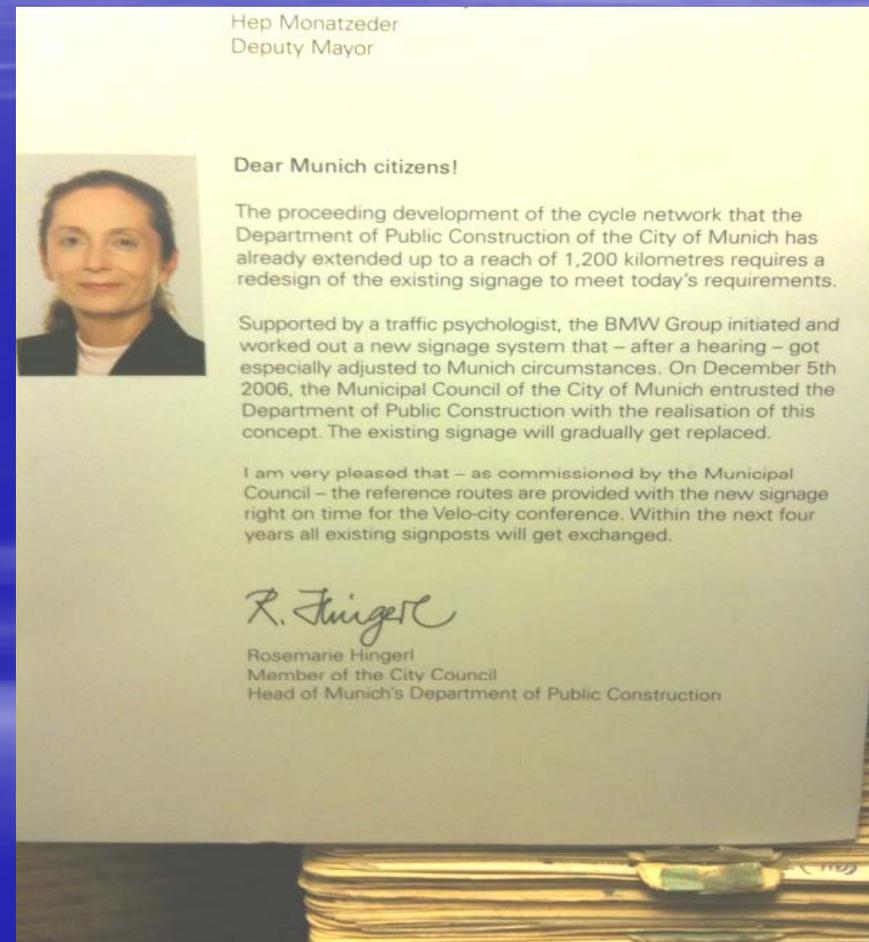
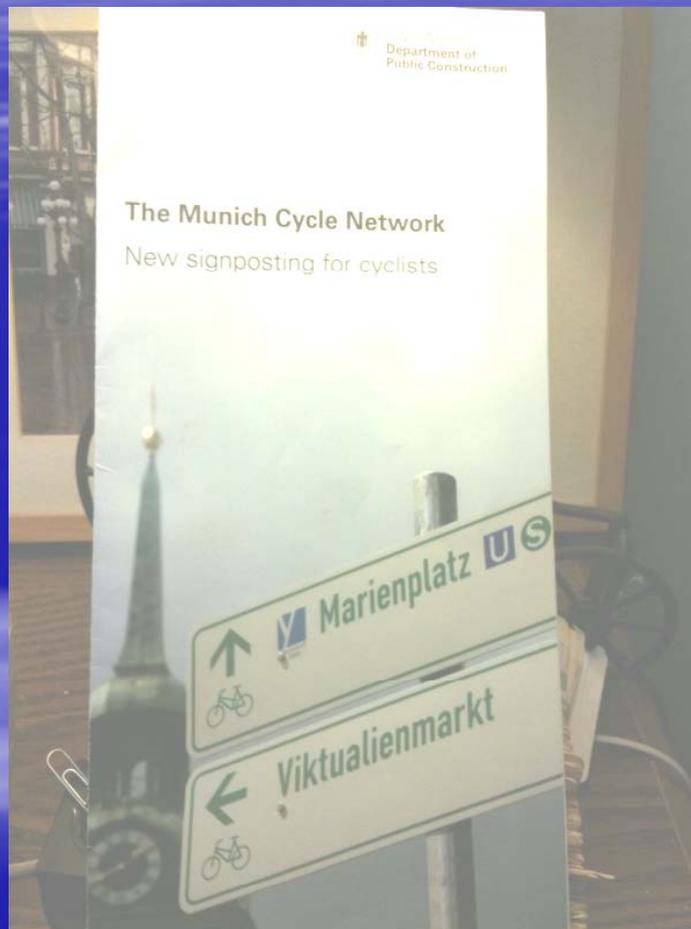


- Rockville has made a start on bikeway signing
- Recommendation of a comprehensive network
- Bikeways should criss-cross city and connect with outlying areas

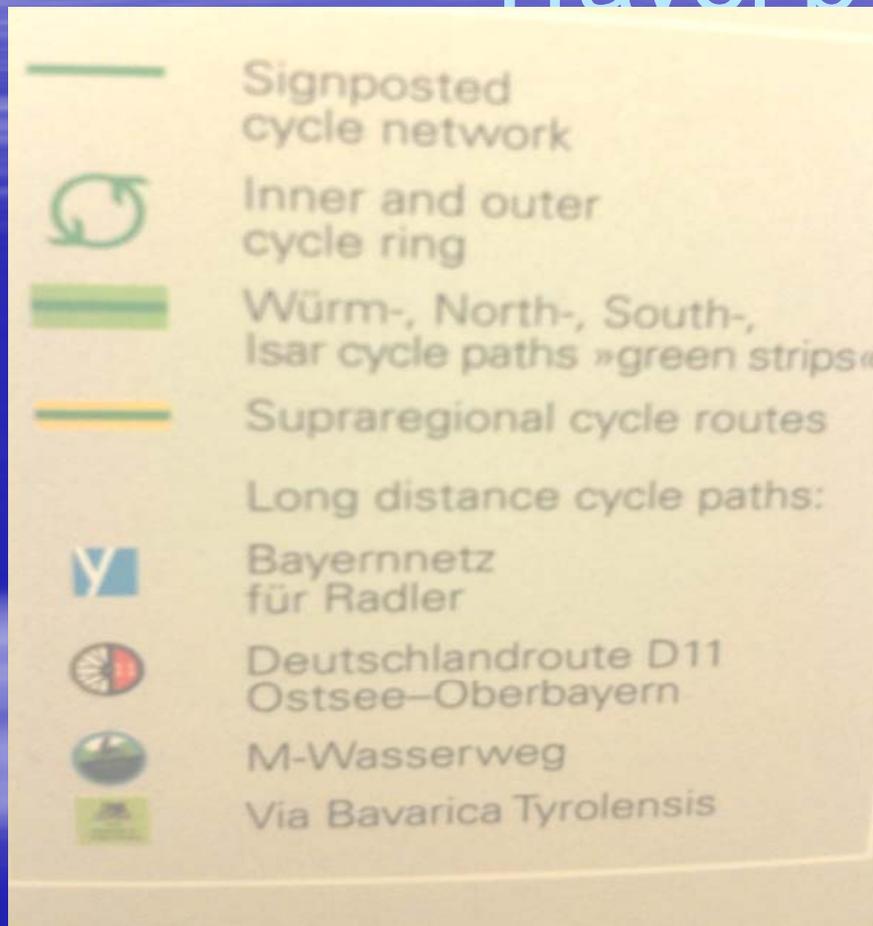
Which signs provides better information?



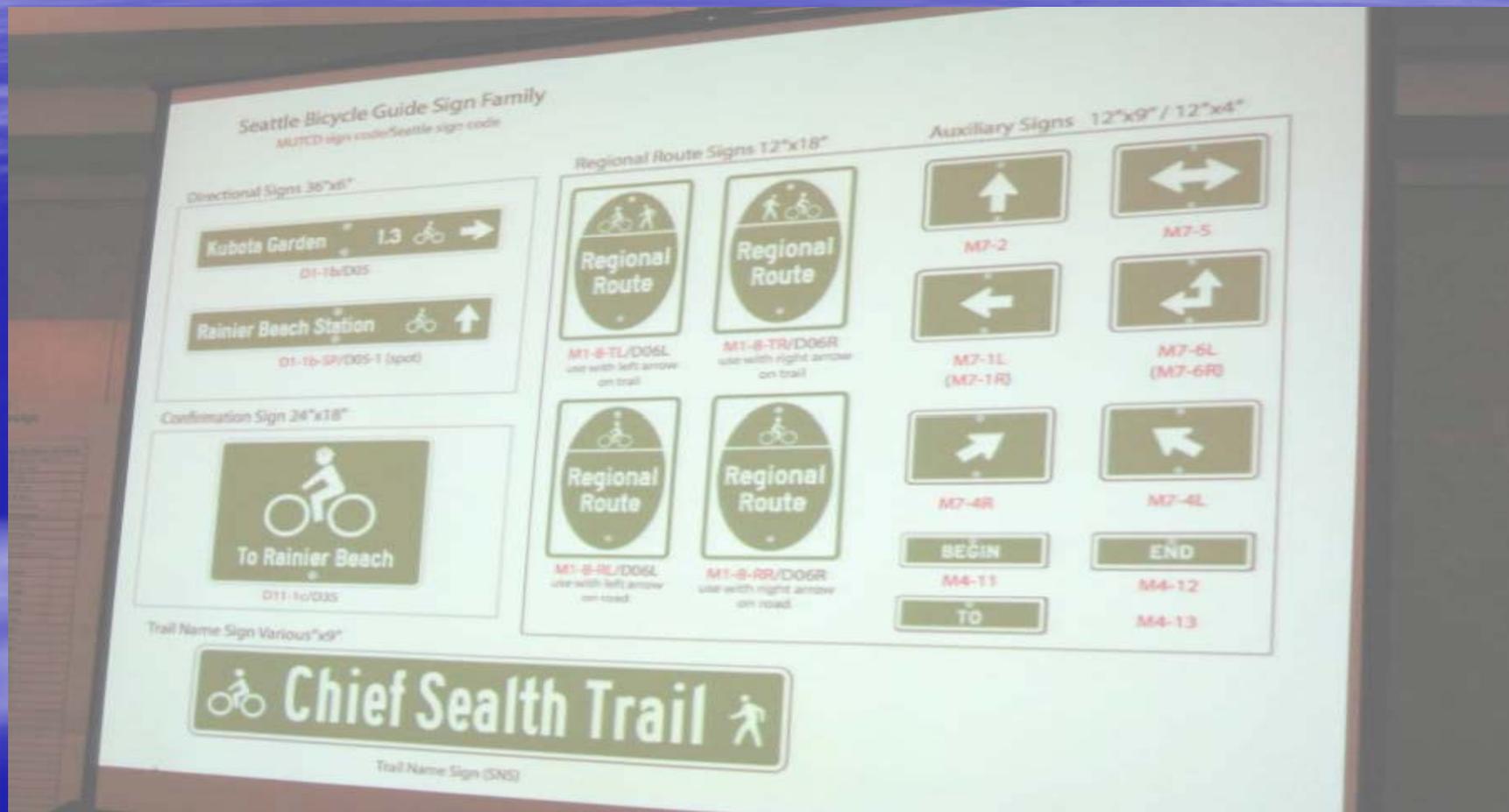
City of Munich Comprehensive Signing System Brochure



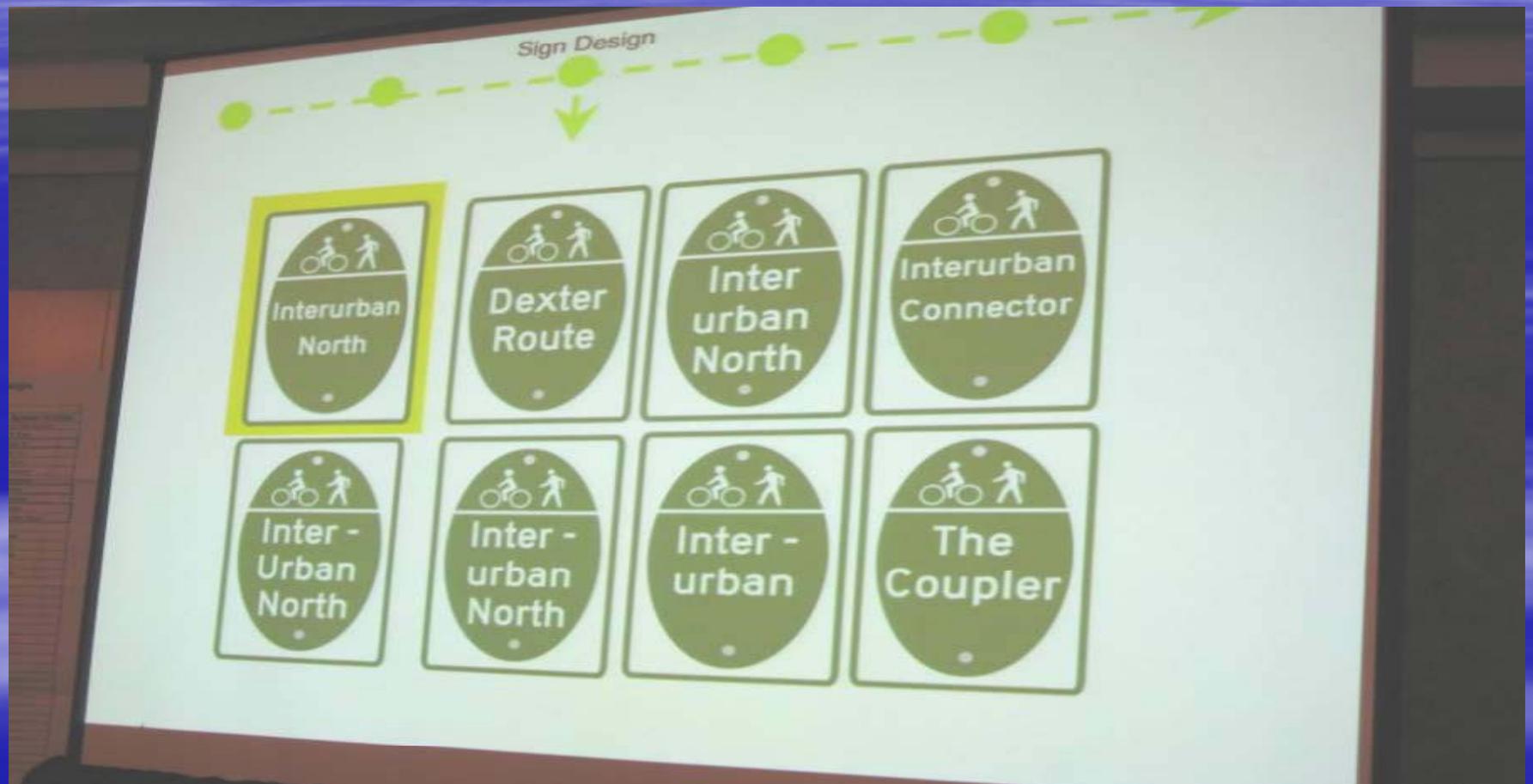
Munich Bikeway Designation Categories & Galway, Ireland Bike Travel by Minutes



Seattle Proposed Bikeway Signing Network



Seattle Proposed Bikeway Signing Network



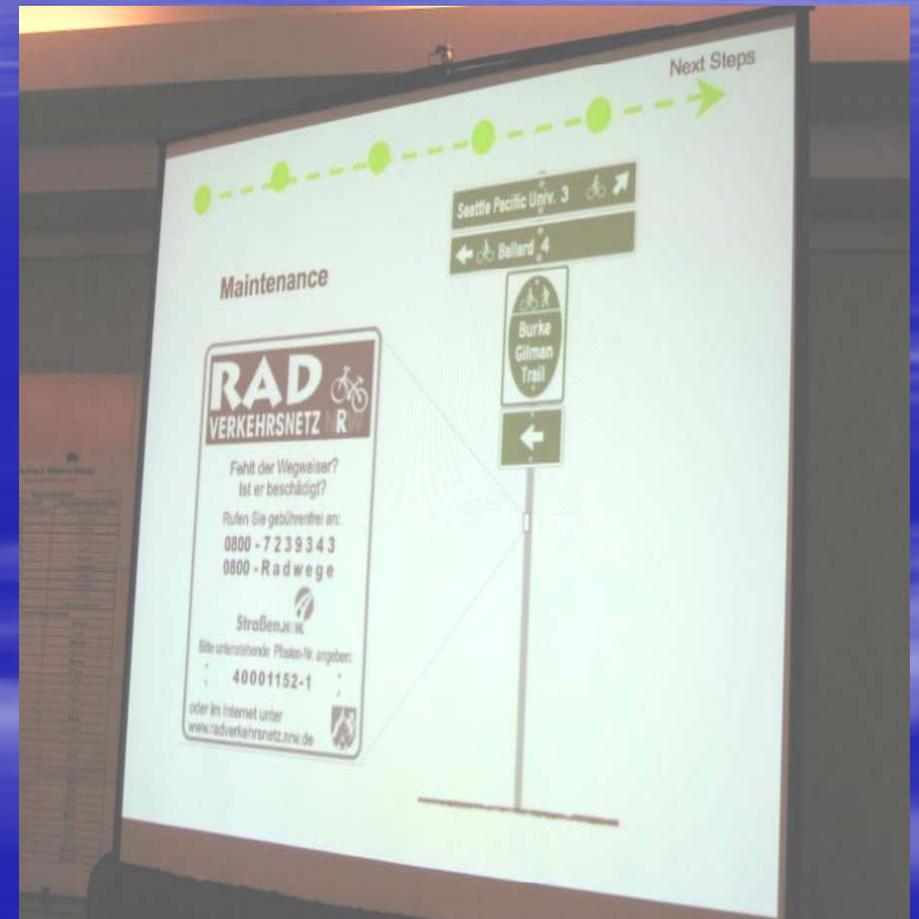
Seattle Proposed Bikeway Signing Network

| Prop. Proj. # | Location | Sign Facing | Mount Type | Post Type | Offset | MUTCD | SDGT | Arrow (for D05) | Sign Text |
|---------------|----------|-------------|------------|-----------|--------|---------|------|-----------------|-------------------------|
| | | S | | LP | | D1-1b | D05 | Straight Ahead | Woodland Park Zoo 1.1 |
| | | | | | | D1-1b | D05 | Right Turn | University District 2.5 |
| | 42.1 | | | | | M4-13 | | | |
| | 43.2 | | | | | M1-S-TW | D06R | | Burke Gilman Trail |
| | 43.3 | | | | | M7-1R | | | |
| | 43.4 | | | | | | | | |
| | 43.5 | | | | | | | | |
| 2 | 47 | E | Concrete | TS-10 | | D11-1c | D35 | | To Ballard |
| | 47.1 | | | | | M4-13 | | | |
| | 47.2 | | | | | M1-S-TL | D06L | | Burke Gilman Trail |
| | 47.3 | | | | | M7-2 | | | |
| | 47.4 | | | | | | | | |

Revised

Interurban North Way

Seattle Proposed Bikeway Signing Network

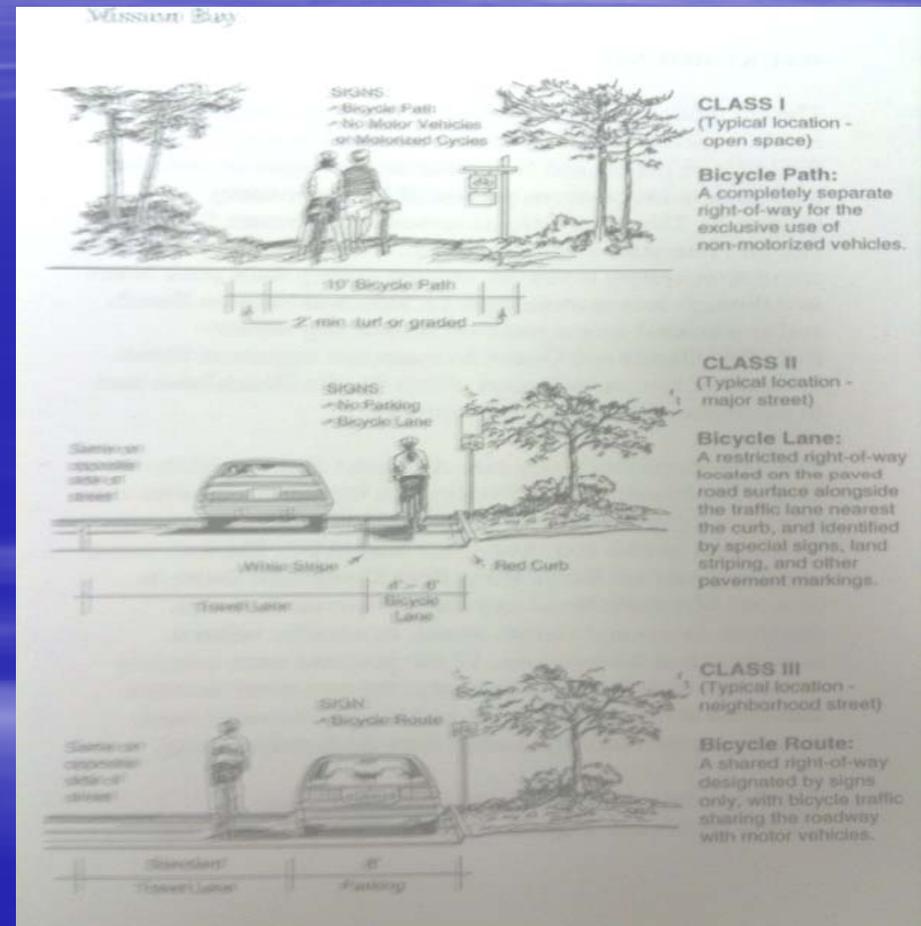


Comprehensive Bikeway Signing Network for Rockville Recommendations

- Drop orange and yellow route designations
- Bike route signs and destination plates should be of equal width
- Consider “Control City” concept of destination signing
- Consider named routes or alpha-numeric designations for bikeway corridors (e.g. North-South Bikeway or Bike Route A-4)

City of San Diego Bikeway Design General Specifications

- Bike Paths are identified with signs
- Bike lanes are identified with signs and pavement markings
- Shared use roadways are marked with Bike Route signs



Conclusions

- Consider 5 E's for next step categories
- Establish priorities
- Rome wasn't built in a day...Plan long-term
- Work with partners...county, state, college, advocates
- Good luck!



Questions or Comments?

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