• Wide Outside Lanes

Wide outside lanes for bicycle use are usually preferred where shoulders are not provided, such as in restrictive urban areas. On highway sections without designated bikeways, an outside or curb lane wider than 12 feet can better accommodate both bicycles and motor vehicles in the same lane and thus is beneficial to both bicyclists and motorists.

In general 14 feet of usable lane width is the recommended width for shared use in a wide outside lane. Usable width normally would be from edge stripe to lane stripe or from the longitudinal joint of the gutter pan to lane stripe (the gutter pan should not be included as usable width). On stretches of roadway with steep grades where bicyclists need more maneuvering space, the wide outside lane should be slightly wider where practicable (15 feet is preferred). The 15 foot width may also be necessary in areas where drainage grates, raised reflectors on the right-hand side of the road, or on-street parking effectively reduce the usable width. With these exceptions in mind, widths greater than 14 feet that extend continuously along a stretch of roadway may encourage the undesirable operation of two motor vehicles in one lane, especially in urban areas, and therefore are not recommended. In situations where more than 15 feet of pavement width exists, consideration should be given to striping bike lanes or shoulders.

• On-Street Parking

When there is on-street parking on urban roadways, the bicycle riding location is in the area between parked cars and moving motor vehicles. 12 feet of combined bicycle travel and parking width should be the minimum considered for this type of shared use. Striping should be provided to delineate the parking stalls (See Figure A-5-1 Section 1).

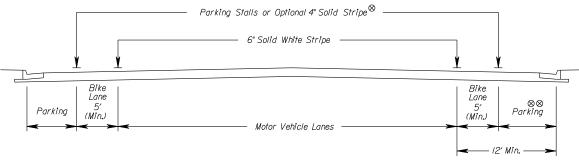


FIGURE A-5-1

(1) BIKE LANES WITH ON-STREET PARKING

⊗The optional solid white stripe may be advisable where stalls are unnecessary (because parking is light) but there is concern that motorists may misconstrue the bike lane to be a traffic lane.

 $^{\otimes\otimes}$ 7' for Residential Street and 8' Commercial and mix use.*