

⊗ Delineating bike lanes within the limits of a required paved shoulder area is not permitted.
⊗⊗ 5 ft. minimum bike lane is required from the face of guardrail or other roadside barriers.*

FIGURE A-5-2 TYPICAL BIKE LANE CROSS SECTIONS

Bike Lane Widths

The width of a bike lane is 5 feet minimum from the face of a curb to the bike lane stripe on roadways without a gutter pan. The width of a bike lane is 4 feet minimum from the edge of pavement (face of gutter pan) to the bike lane stripe on curb and gutter roadways. Greater bike lane widths (5 feet Minimum) are required where substantial truck traffic is present, Transit Buses are present, or where motor vehicle speeds exceed 50 mph. Where vehicle traffic volume is high or substantial truck, bus or recreational vehicle traffic is present or speeds warrant, 6 feet minimum is appropriate to the bike lane stripe from the face of curb. Figure A-5-2, Section (1), depicts a bike lane along the outer portion of an urban curbed street where parking is prohibited.

Bicyclists tend to ride a distance of 32 to 40 inches from a curb face and it is important that the surface in this area be smooth and free of structures. Drain inlets and utility covers that extend into this area may cause bicyclists to swerve, and have the effect of reducing the usable width of the lane. Where these structures exist, the bike lane width may need to be adjusted accordingly.

If parking is permitted, as in Figure A-5-1, Section (1), the bike lane shall be placed between the parking area and the travel lane and have a minimum width of 5 feet. Bike lanes should never be placed between the parking lane and curb line, unless it is a separated bike lane. See FHWA "Separated Bike Lane Planning and Design Guide"

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