



# City of Cottage Grove



## Bicycle Parking Guidelines

## **Introduction**

It is the City of Cottage Grove's desire to promote alternative methods of transportation within its boundaries and has set a standard of doing so through the expansion of its trail and sidewalk system. The end result of such measures will improve the health, safety, livability and natural environment of Cottage Grove. In 2009, it became a goal of the Parks, Recreation and Natural Resource Commission to encourage bicycle parking and commuter facilities in new private and public developments and to provide design guidelines to any party interested in being a part of this community goal. The guidelines set forth in this document are for the purpose of installation, location and design of bicycle racks in the City of Cottage Grove.

Like automobile parking requirements for new developments, many other cities have incorporated bicycle parking requirements into their codes. Although Cottage Grove does not have specific requirements for bicycle parking, it is the city's desire that all decision makers will give serious consideration to providing some measure of bicycle parking options. Bicycle parking is a key consideration in people's decision to bicycle because of security concerns for their property. Every bicycle trip includes the route of travel plus parking at the origin and destination. An adequate supply of safe and convenient bicycle parking is thus mutually reinforcing the city's desire to encourage alternate forms of transportation. As such, the city offers owners a vehicle parking stall credit towards requirements based on the size of bicycle racks provided. Those credits are distributed as follows:

6 – 9 bicycle stalls = 1 vehicle parking stall credit

10+ bicycle stalls = 2 vehicle parking stall credits

## **Bicycle Parking Recommendations**

To encourage satisfaction of both the rack and bicycle owners, the following guidelines have been set forth.

### *Location*

1. The rack should clearly serve the entrance that the rack is closest to. Having the rack near the entrance makes sure the rider will enter where you want them to. This is especially important to those riders who will park for a short time such as shop patrons. Special consideration should also be given to the potential for employees biking to a place of occupation. In those situations, a bicycle rack near rear entrances may be appropriate and encourage employee use.
2. The rack should be positioned in a well lit and secure area. Bicycle and property theft are a leading concern for all bicyclists. It is desirable to have a bicycle parked in a place that the rider will feel safe and that the rider's bicycle and other property will not be disturbed.
3. The rack should be far enough removed from vehicle traffic to avoid damage to the rack from vehicles driving or backing into.

### *Spacing*

1. Each bicycle requires an area of approximately 2 feet in width by 6 feet in length. This space allows ample room for the rider to dismount the bicycle as well as to properly secure the bicycle at its frame.
2. One should choose a simple design that needs no explanation as to how to the rack works and that may be difficult to use causing problems for future users.

### *Styles*

The three recommended styles are based off of research by the Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources Commission. Exhibit A gives clear renditions of the recommended bicycle rack styles. No specific color is recommended but it is suggested that the rack fit into the color scheme of the surrounding properties as best as possible.

1. Inverted “U”
2. Saddleback
3. Triangular hitch and post

### *Quantity*

1. Dwellings – 1 space per five dwelling unit
2. Hotels/lodging – 1 space per ten rental units
3. Assembly, recreation, entertainment or amusement centers – 1 space per ten auto spaces
4. Commercial and/or manufacturing – 1 space per ten auto spaces
5. In all cases, no fewer than two spaces are recommended

### *Installation*

1. Racks should be anchored into the ground with a cement footing to reduce potential for theft, vandalism and/or incidental damage
2. Racks should be installed on a flat and permanent surface such as asphalt or concrete. Concrete is desirable in that asphalt can be damaged by kickstands. A concrete slab placed adjacent to but level with the parking lot is the most desirable location for a bicycle rack.
3. Landscaping around the parking rack slabs should be considered for aesthetic purposes but should also be installed in a manner in which the landscaping will not block the view of the rack(s) to the general public.

### **Conclusion**

The installation of bicycle racks is important to everyone in the City of Cottage Grove not just bicyclists. These guidelines are not intended to stifle creativity, but rather guide the owner in the bicycle rack decision making process. The need for functional, yet useful design is integral to assuring a safe bicycling experience for adults, children, customers and business owners.

The city of Cottage Grove is always eager to assist those interested in installing, expanding, upgrading or replacing bicycle racks. Feel free to contact the Parks and Recreation Department or Community Development offices at 651-458-2800 any time for more questions or concerns.

## ATTACHMENT “A”

### Inverted “U” Style



### Sattelback Style



### Triangular Hitch and Post Style

