



South Bay Bicycle Master Plan Update

August 14, 2024

Context

In 2011, the [South Bay Bicycle Master Plan](#) was adopted by El Segundo, Gardena, Hermosa Beach, Lawndale, Manhattan Beach, Redondo Beach, and Torrance. This plan included 90 miles of Class I bike paths or Class II painted bike lanes. As of 2024, 13.4 miles of Class I/II facilities have been constructed, corresponding to 15% of the proposal.

In 2018, the designation of Class IV protected bike lanes was introduced in California (CalTrans [DIB 89-02](#)). Protected bike lanes offer a higher level of safety for all road users compared to Class II painted lanes, and accordingly lead to higher bicycle mode share ([FHWA](#)).

Updates

Considering the advent of protected bike lanes, the SBBC+ Board has voted to update the Bicycle Master Plan proposal (reflected in the linked maps below) to convert all originally proposed Class II lanes to Class IV based on classification guidance from CalTrans. This also aligns with adjacent and intersecting regional plans from LA County and LA Metro to provide a unifying source of truth for bikeway planning in the South Bay. This Class IV guidance entails that cities should aim to incorporate protected bike lanes for existing Class II and proposed future Class IV facilities in the Master Plan. If for some reason a given Class IV facility is deemed not possible (cost, engineering, etc) at a given time, this should not delay the construction of Class II facilities which would be supported over no project. Buffered Class II lanes provide a useful stepping-stone to future “hardening” with physical elements to upgrade to Class IV without re-striping. Concerns over loss of car lanes or parking should be considered in the context that 70% of trips in the South Bay are within three miles ([SBCOG](#)), and that protected bike lanes unlock significant additional bike ridership ([NACTO](#)) which in turn reduces congestion and supports local businesses.

The SBBC+ has also created this [StoryMap](#) and associated [interactive map](#) that can be used as a planning tool to guide and track implementation of bicycle facilities throughout the South Bay. We intend to continually keep this updated and also solicit community feedback on existing and proposed facilities. We invite the collaboration of all South Bay cities to work with us to make this a useful tool and build out the proposed network at an increased pace. We will be reaching out individually to cities to gather the latest information regarding the Master Plan implementation.