

City of Oakland Bicycle Route Guide Signage Plan

In addition to regulatory and warning signs, Oakland's bikeway network is enhanced by Caltrans-and MUTCD-approved guide signage. Guide signs include the numbered SG-45 sign, customized with the City of Oakland logo and destination information, G93 signs, and signs denoting certain routes as part of the San Francisco Bay Trail.

► **About the Route Numbering System**

The purpose of a numbering system is to create a network that can be followed locally and regionally, connecting bicycle lanes and routes across the entire length of the City and into neighboring jurisdictions. Oakland's bicycle route numbers are based on those designated in the Alameda Countywide Bicycle Plan¹.



SG-45



SF Bay Trail

Routes that parallel north-south traffic corridors are designated by numbers that end in "5." Thus, routes 45 and 55 make use of several streets to form cross-county hill corridors, and Route 5 is the Bay Trail and continues into and around San Francisco. Routes that end in "0" extend from the bay to the hills. For example, Route 10 stretches from Alameda, along Fruitvale, and up to Skyline Blvd.

"Routes that parallel north-south traffic corridors are designated by numbers that end in "5" . . . Routes that end in "0" extend from the Bay to the Hills."

To the extent feasible, Oakland routes that parallel north-south corridors end in odd numbers, and those that go from the bay to the hills end in even numbers. Because Oakland is "V" shaped—north on state highways is actually west in Oakland, and "East" Oakland is actually south—City staff determines route numbers by their orientation to Lake Merritt. Spur routes leading to specific destinations are designated by three-digit numbers. Examples of local routes include Route 29, which spans Broadway from Jack London Square to Lake Temescal, and Route 229, which connects Route 29 to Route 45 via Broadway Terrace.

As of March 2005, the City does not have an available map of the routes, but hopes to have one under development soon. A map will help cyclists see how all the routes connect and guide us in filling in the network.

► **About Signage**

In addition to G93 signs, such as those on the Webster/Shafter/Colby route (#27), Oakland uses SG-45 signs to connect Class II and III facilities as one bikeway, like the existing signage program in San Francisco². Oakland's SG-45 signs feature:

- Route numbers
- Directional and/or designation arrows and information
- Highly reflective material that increases visibility
- City of Oakland logo

The City's unique geography poses some challenges for bike route signage. Due to its geographical "V" shape, as noted above, Oakland signs do not provide N-E-S-W arrows as do most signs in San Francisco. Oakland does not indicate the number of miles from a destination (as do Berkeley's Bike Boulevards); instead, SG-45 signs indicate nearby activity centers easily reachable from a given point. Oakland plans to develop, refine and post bike route signage to transit centers, for example, by collaborating with BART to implement their Station Access Plans.

Oakland has posted SG45 signs along several routes over the last half year, a project funded by a County grant from the Transportation Fund for Clean Air. Both regional routes and local routes identified in the Oakland bike plan were included in the project.

All signs require diligent maintenance, field survey to identify misplaced and missing signs, and fabrication and installation by City maintenance staff. To recommend a sign location, please contact the Bicycle/Pedestrian Facilities Program at (510) 238-3983 or bikeped@oaklandnet.com. Staff periodically conduct field surveys and will evaluate the requests submitted. To report a damaged or missing sign, please call the Traffic Maintenance Services Division at (510) 615-5595.

¹ www.accma.ca.gov/pdf/bicycle_plan/chapter3.pdf; also www.accma.ca.gov/pdf/bicycle_plan/chapter4.pdf

² www.bicycle.sfgov.org/site/uploadedfiles/dpt/bike/Bike_Plan/draft5Y_NetworkDoc_02_07_05.pdf (begins on page 17)