

Guide to Greening Multimodal Buffers

June 17, 2025





Premier City Streets













Image source: https://www.visitcopenhagen.com/

https://www.theguardian.com/

https://www.archdaily.com/971436/paris-to-become-one-of-the-most-bike-friendly-city-in-the-world-by-2026

https://sf.curbed.com/2017/9/19/16330162/cycling-sf-how-to-bikes-guide

https://www.portland.gov/transportation/walking-biking-transit-safety/biking-portland

Inspiring & Motivating









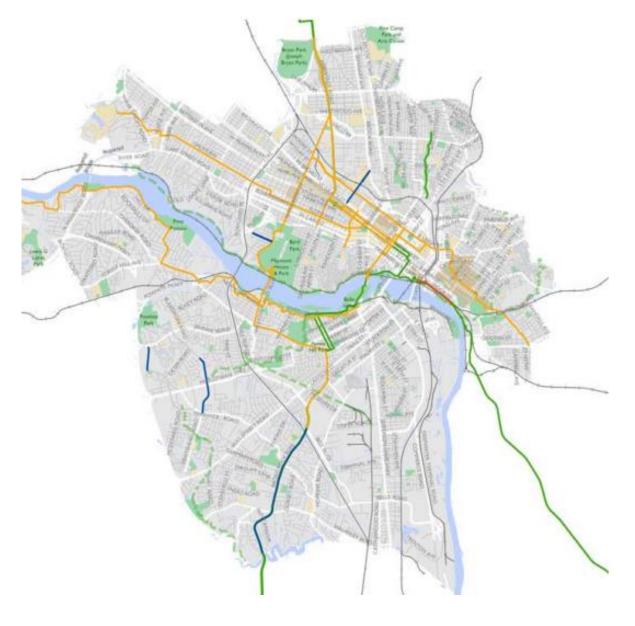




Cycling in Richmond

» Existing Inventory ~83 mi

- 15.93 mi of conventional lanes
- 32.12 mi of buffered lanes
- 2.39 mi of contraflow lanes
- 1.52 mi of cycle track
- 1.35 mi of bus/bike only lane
- 23.73 mi of sharrows
- 5.34 mi of separated/off-road



» 100 mi total coming soon!



What is the Guide?

» Unique, first-of-its-kind

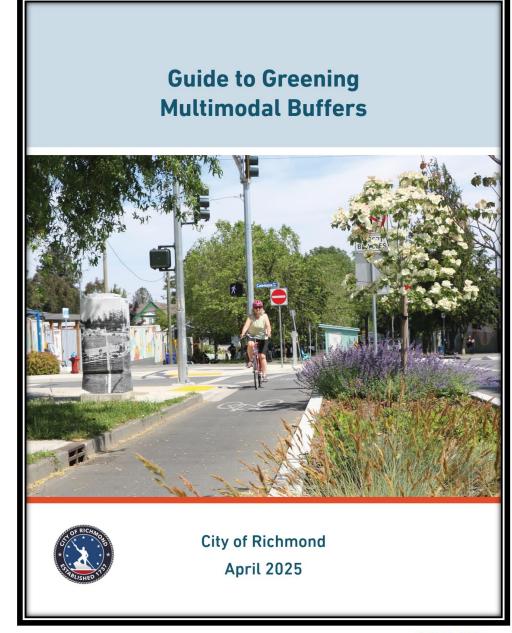
- Promotes buffer hardening
- Defines range of treatments
- Provides direction on selection
- Encourages consistent approach

» Team effort











Levels of Greening

» 5 unique levels

- From raised buffer with trees
- To raised buffer with understory planting
- To permeable hardscape
- To concrete curb
- To artistic paint

Level 5





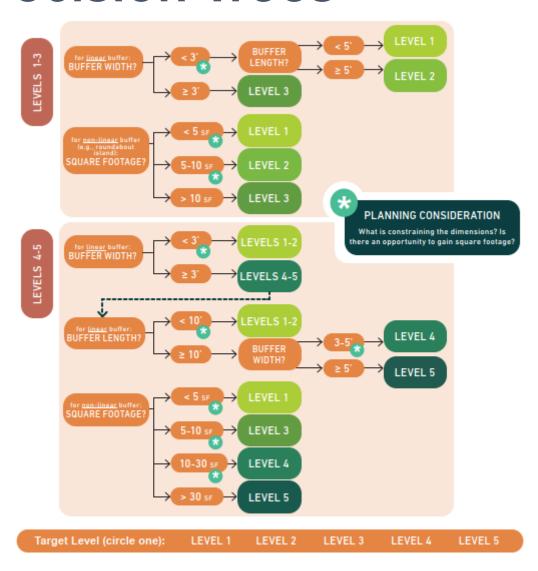


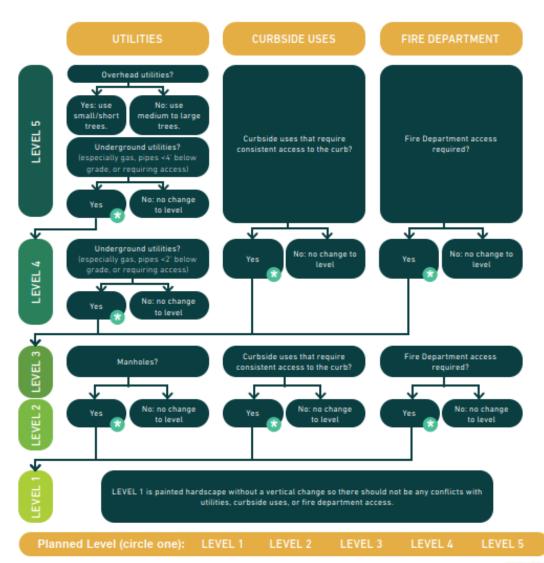




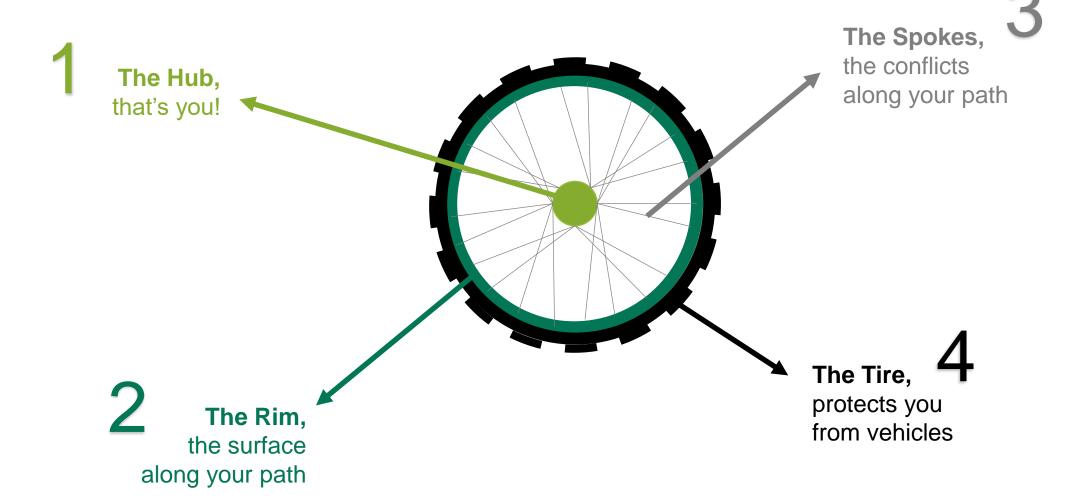


Decision Trees





Picture a bicycle wheel...



The Hub

Step 1 – Envision the future

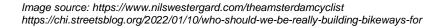








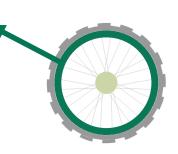


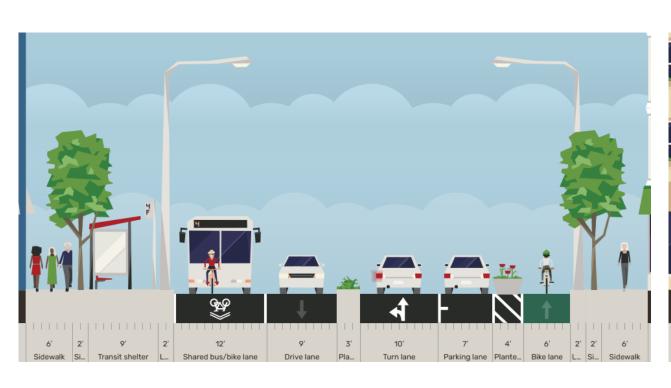


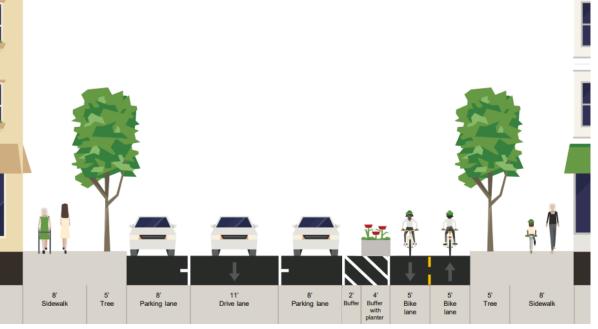


The Rim

Step 2 - Identify spatial constraints



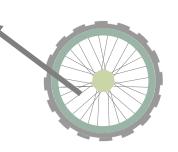






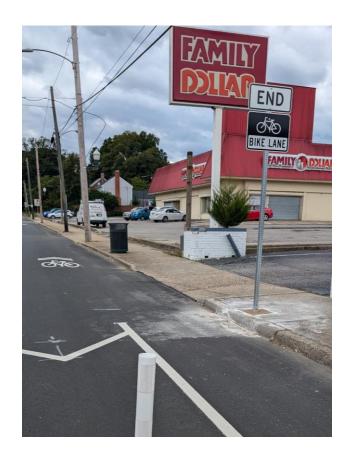
The Spokes

Step 3 – Evaluate conflicts





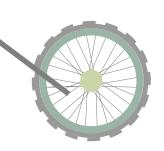






The Spokes

Step 3 – Evaluate conflicts



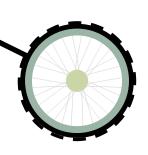


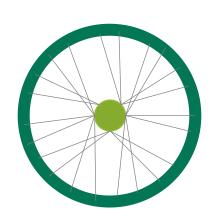




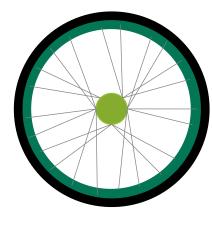


Step 4 - Enhance your comfort

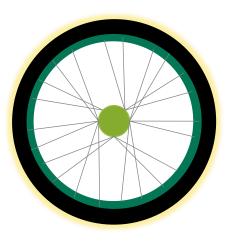




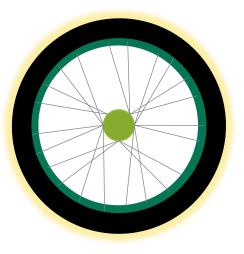
No Buffer



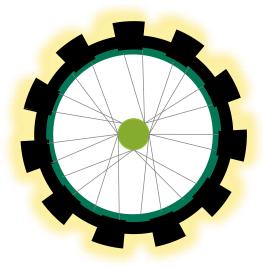
Striped Buffer



Physical Barrier



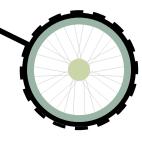
Physical Barrier w/ Understory Plantings

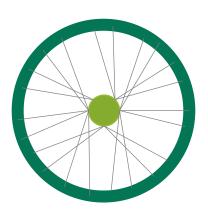


Physical Barrier w/ Street Trees



Step 4 – Enhance your comfort



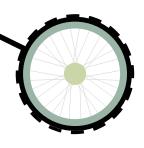


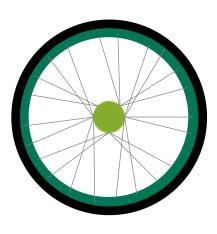
No Buffer





Step 4 – Enhance your comfort





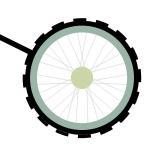


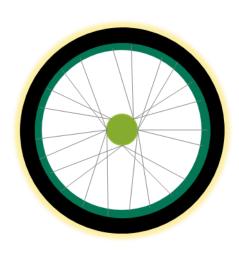






Step 4 – Enhance your comfort





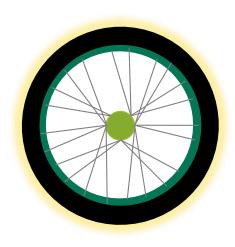
Physical Barrier





Step 4 – Enhance your comfort



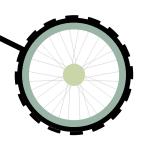


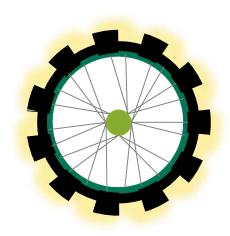
Physical Barrier w/ Understory Plantings





Step 4 – Enhance your comfort





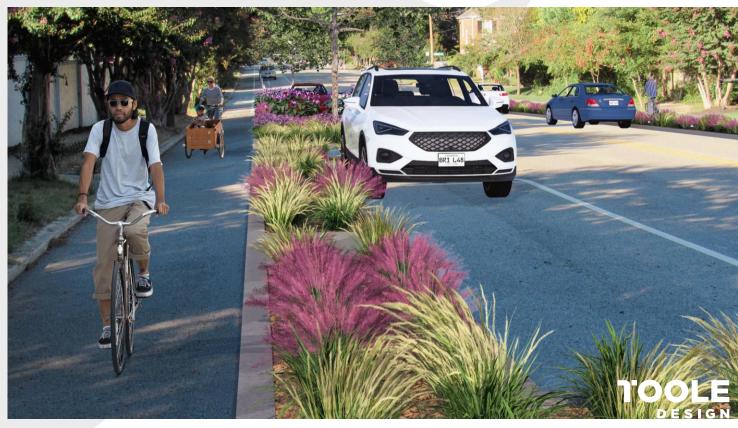
Physical Barrier w/ Street Trees





Malvern Avenue

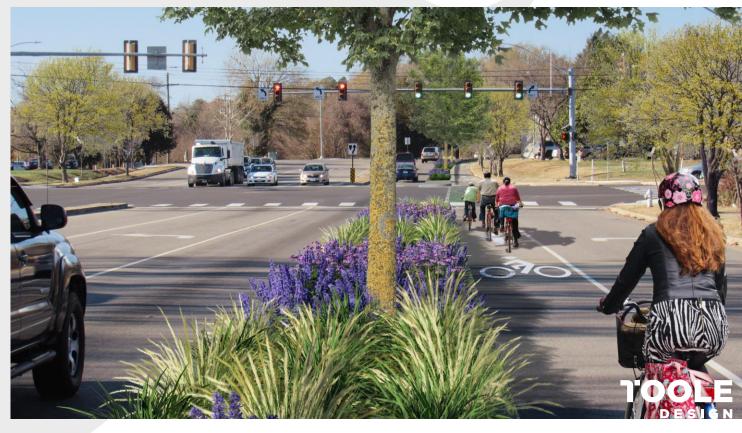






Warwick Road







Williamsburg Road









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CITY OF RICHMOND