City Bikeways

The City of Takoma Park maintains 3 miles of signed on-street bike routes, some of which are marked with shared lane ("sharrow") pavement markings. In addition, there are 0.5 miles of marked "climbing lanes" on Carroll Avenue and Ethan Allen Avenue, which are lanes in the uphill direction on two-way roads. There are also marked, non-standard (less than four feet wide) bike lanes on sections of Carroll Avenue through Old Takoma and on bridges across Sligo Creek and Long Branch. Approximately 2.5 miles of the Sligo Creek Trail runs through Takoma Park, maintained by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission.

The City continues to make improvements to neighborhood bikeways by adding sharrows and signing routes. In 2013, new bike route signs will be installed along an additional 2.5 miles of Elm, Westmoreland, and Poplar Avenues, while worn sharrows on Maple Avenue will be freshly re-installed. The Grant Avenue Project between the Takoma Park Community Center and the Ed Wilhelm Field at Takoma Piney Branch Park will include a bike path, ensuring this bike cut-through is maintained. As part of the Ethan Allen Gateway Streetscape project, bike lanes are planned for East-West Highway where it meets New Hampshire Avenue. Stay tuned for updates on Montgomery County's expansion of the popular Capital Bikeshare program, coming soon to Takoma Park!

'Like' our Facebook pages to keep up on bike projects and events in Takoma Park and on The New Ave:

www.facebook.com/TakomaParkMD

www.facebook.com/TheNewAve

Share the Road & Be Safe

Cyclists

- Follow the rules of the road — Cyclists have the same rights and duties as other drivers and must follow the same traffic laws.
- Be predictable — ride in a straight line, signal turns and look back before turning or changing lanes.
- Come to a complete stop at every stop sign and red light.
- Use a bell and lights (both front and rear), and keep your bike well-maintained.
- Don't ride with headphones.
- Be courteous — yield to pedestrians on trails and sidewalks.
- Wear a helmet — If you're under 18, it's the law in Montgomery County!

Motorists

- Respect bicyclists — share the road with cyclists and drive with courtesy and tolerance.
- Check your blind spots — a bicyclist could be there!
- Come to a complete stop at every stop sign and red light.
- Signal all turns and lane changes 100 feet in advance. When turning right, safely enter the bike lane before completing the turn.
- See the signs — bike lanes, signs and pavement markings indicate cyclists are nearby.
- Be patient — pass bicyclists only if it is safe to do so and with at least 3 feet of clearance.
- Be courteous — yield to pedestrians and bicyclists at crosswalks.

Photo: © Sam Kittner

Follow the Signs

Ride the "Takoma Greenways," neighborhood routes that connect regional trails with local destinations on quiet streets shared with traffic. Cyclists should watch for speed bumps and pedestrians in the roadway.

Indicates that bicycles may be operating anywhere within the traffic lane on a Maryland State Highway, such as New Hampshire Avenue (MD650). Motorists must share the road with cyclists, and show them courtesy and respect.

These small signs will help you get to know the Metropolitan Branch Trail, linking Silver Spring with Union Station through a combination of signed on-street routes and off-road trails. Learn about the history and future of the trail:

www.metbranchtrail.com

Pavement Markings

Sharrows (Maple Avenue)
Shared lane markings, or "sharrows" are used to indicate that bicycles and automobiles share the lane, and reinforce the legitimacy of bicycle traffic on the street. Motorists must share the road with cyclists, and show them courtesy and respect.

Bike Lanes (Carroll Avenue)
Sections of Carroll Avenue in Takoma Park have designated lanes for bikes. Motorists must respect the bike lane, taking care when making right turns. Where space exists for a wider shoulder or bike lane on only one side of the road, it is usually placed in the climbing direction for the comfort of slower-moving cyclists.

Bike Takoma Park

Welcome!

Takoma Park's residents bike to work, school, Metro, shops, social events, and also just for fun. The City encourages you to incorporate cycling into more facets of your life, as a clean, healthy, safe, and convenient alternative to driving. This map will help guide your two-wheeled adventures in and around Takoma Park, with safety tips and handy resources along the way.

Printed copies of this bike map are available from the Takoma Park Community and Recreation Centers, and downloadable from:

www.theNewAve.com/explore/bike

www.takomaparkmd.gov/hcd/transportation-planning

City of Takoma Park
Housing and Community Development
7500 Maple Avenue
Takoma Park, Maryland 20912

301-891-7119

planning@takomaparkmd.gov

2013

Photo: Bianca Delaglio

Eat, Shop, & Play by Bike

Bianca Delaglio

Takoma Park's vibrant and unique commercial districts and farmers markets are accessible by bike. For more information, see:

Old Takoma Business Association
www.mainstreettakoma.org

Takoma Park Farmers Market
www.takomaparkmarket.com

Crossroads Development Authority
www.takomalangleycrossroads.com

Crossroads Farmers Market
www.crossroadscommunityfoodnetwork.org

Long Branch Business League
www.longbranchbusinessleague.com

Visit the Takoma Park Community Center and Library for cultural and recreational activities by bike as well.

Look for the standard hoop rack in commercial districts and around public buildings. To request consideration for additional bike racks on City streets, contact the City's Planning Division (301-891-7119 / planning@takomaparkmd.gov)

THE NEW NEW HAMPSHIRE AVE

Bike to School

The Takoma Park Safe Routes to School program aims to encourage students to walk or bike to school. Safe Routes offers regular school based programs to teach students the best safety practices when biking to school and around town. Schools are invited to participate in the annual Bike to School Day event in May. A bulk helmet purchase in the fall allows families access to high quality helmets at a reduced price.

For more information, see www.takomaparkmd.gov/hcd/safe-routes-to-school or contact lucyn@takomaparkmd.gov.

Photo: Bianca Delaglio

Local Bike Shops

The Green Commuter
7320 Carroll Avenue
Takoma Park, MD 20912
301-580-6967
www.thegreencommuter.net

Takoma Bicycle
7030 Carroll Avenue
Takoma Park, MD 20912
301-270-0202
www.takomabicycle.com

May is Bike Month

Bike to School Day
www.walkbiketoschool.org
Annual event held in early May attracted over 100 local students in its first year (2012).

bike to work day

Bike to Work Day
www.biketoworkmetrodc.org
Free annual event held on a Friday in mid-May draws over 10,000 regional participants.

Bike to Market Day
www.takomaparkmarket.com
Bike to the Takoma Park Farmers Market the Sunday following Bike to Work Day.

Regional Bike Organizations

Washington Area Bicyclist Association
www.waba.org

Bike Maryland
www.bikemd.org

League of American Bicyclists
www.bikeleague.org

Bikes and Transit

Most Metro stations have bike racks and some have lockers available for rent, so you can ride your bicycle to a station, leave it there and take Metrorail or Metrobus. New *Bike & Ride* facilities at some Metro stations provide inexpensive, yet secure bike parking with card access.

Bicycles are permitted on Metrorail weekdays except peak hours (7–10 am and 4–7 pm). Bicycles are permitted all day Saturday and Sunday as well as most holidays, except July 4th, Inauguration Day, or other special events attracting large crowds. Folded bicycles are allowed on Metrorail during all operational hours, but must remain folded and securely fastened during weekday peak hours.

Metrobus and RideOn are equipped with a rack that can hold two bikes, including children's bikes. You are responsible for loading, securing, and removing your bike from the rack. For more information on using bikes on transit, and to learn how to use bus bike racks, visit www.wmata.com/getting_around/bike_ride, or pick up a ***Bikes and Metro*** brochure from the third floor of the Takoma Park Community Center, at 7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park, Maryland.

Denmark? No, Takoma Park!

Takoma Park Bike Map

OFF ROAD SHARED-USE TRAIL
ON ROAD BIKE LANE
ON ROAD SIGNED BIKE ROUTE
ROAD CLOSED TO TRAFFIC WEEKENDS
BIKE SHOP
CITY OF TAKOMA PARK
CITY'S COMMERCIAL AREAS
UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, COLLEGE PARK CAMPUS

0 0.5 1.0 2.0 3.0 MILES
0 3 6 12 MINUTES (10 mph)
N

MONTGOMERY COUNTY
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
WASHINGTON DC

DOWNTOWN WHEATON
TOWN OF KENSINGTON
DOWNTOWN SILVER SPRING
LONG BRANCH
TAKOMA/LANGLEY CROSSROADS
DOWNTOWN COLLEGE PARK
OLD TAKOMA
ETHAN ALLEN GATEWAY
MARYLAND GATEWAY
PRINCE GEORGE'S PLAZA
HYATTSVILLE
RIVERDALE PARK
GATEWAY ARTS DISTRICT
DOWNTOWN BETHESDA

ROCK CREEK PARK TRAIL
SLIGO CREEK PARK TRAIL
GEORGETOWN BRANCH TRAIL
CAPITAL CRESCENT TRAIL
LITTLE FALLS TRAIL
LONG BRANCH TRAIL
NORTHWEST BRANCH TRAIL
PAINT BRANCH TRAIL
RHODE ISLAND AVE TROLLEY TRAIL
NORTHEAST BRANCH TRAIL
PRINCE GEORGE'S CONNECTOR TRAIL
METROPOLITAN BRANCH TRAIL

Wheaton Regional Park
Rock Creek Park
Wheaton
Forest Glen
Kensington MARC Station
Silver Spring MARC Station
Takoma
Cedar St
College Park-U of Md MARC Station
Riverdale Park MARC Station
Prince George's Plaza
West Hyattsville
Fort Totten
Tenleytown-AU
Friendship Heights
Medical Center
Bethesda
Silver Spring
Takoma Park Community Center
Takoma Park Recreation Center
University of Maryland, College Park
Montgomery Blair High
Pine Crest Elementary
Eastern Middle
Montgomery Knolls Elementary
Oak View Elementary
Highland View Elementary
Sligo Creek Elementary
Silver Spring International Middle
East Silver Spring Elementary
Takoma Park Middle
Piney Branch Elementary
Takoma Park Elementary
Washington Adventist University
Washington Adventist Hospital
Montgomery College
Rolling Terrace Elementary
New Hampshire Estates Elementary
Langley Park-McCormick Elementary
Carole Highlands Elementary
Cesar Chavez Elementary
Ridgecrest Elementary
Rosa L. Parks Elementary
Nicholas Orem Middle
Strayer University
Green Commuter
Takoma Bicycle
Holy Cross Hospital
Wheaton Library
White Oak Library
Kensington Park Library
Long Branch Library
Long Branch Pool & Community Center
Silver Spring Library
Takoma Library
Shepherd Park Library
Chevy Chase Library
Tenley-Friendship Library
Hyattsville Library
Beltsville Agricultural Research Center
REI-Recreational Equipment Incorporated
Proteus Bicycles
College Park Bicycle
Bike Express
Silver Cycles
City Bikes
Bike Share
Griffin Cycle
Wheel Bikes
Bethesda Naval Medical Center
formance Bicycle Shop