



## **BROADWAY & 3RD STREET SEPARATED BIKEWAYS**

### **PROJECT FACT SHEET**

**January 2011**

- WHAT:** The first separated bikeway in Southern California will be completed in downtown Long Beach along Broadway and 3rd Streets – between Alamitos Ave. and Golden Ave. – and will be open for people on bikes by March 2011 (weather permitting).
- Broadway and 3<sup>rd</sup> Streets are two one-way couplets that each span 1.2 miles. The ultimate configuration of the project will allow for two lanes of through traffic, one parking lane and a protected bike lane next to the sidewalk on both Broadway and 3rd Street. New “bike signals” along the separated lanes will help regulate vehicle left turns across the bikeway at intersections, which are a safety element to eliminate bicycle-car conflicts.
- This twelve-month demonstration project was approved by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the California Traffic Control Devices Committee (CTCDC) as a means to test the safety and effectiveness of this design. As such, the separation is constructed primarily as painted median islands and small asphalt berms. Before and after studies are required to complete this demonstration. If the project is deemed successful, at the end of twelve months the City may be allowed to install the bikeways permanently by constructing landscaped medians.
- WHEN:**
- The final construction phase of the separated bikeway is scheduled to begin on Monday, January 31<sup>st</sup>.
  - Construction is scheduled to be completed by mid-March, weather permitting.
- WHY:** This protected bikeway is designed to create an attractive transportation alternative for travel into downtown, including the 79 percent of downtown workers who drive alone to work each day. It also creates a more livable environment for the increasing number of residents who make downtown their home. Long Beach is developing a bikeway system for people of all ages and skill levels to feel comfortable riding a bike downtown and in every neighborhood.
- BENEFITS TO BUSINESSES:** Businesses benefit from increased customer access and bike and foot traffic.
- BENEFITS TO RESIDENTS:** Residents benefit from a community that promotes walking and cycling, which is attracting new retail and service businesses to the downtown area.
- IMPACT ON PARKING:** The 158 parking spaces on the south side of Broadway and the north side of 3<sup>rd</sup> Street will not be impacted. Once completed, 171 spaces on the north side of Broadway and south side of 3<sup>rd</sup> Street will be available for parking, a reduction of 13 percent from the present condition. This is anticipated to be offset by the increased number of bicycle and pedestrian trips through the downtown corridors.
- For the convenience of residents, during the construction period, they will be allowed to park their cars in designated city lots.



Concurrently, multi-space parking pay stations will be installed along Broadway and 3<sup>rd</sup> Street between Long Beach Blvd. and Pacific Avenue for a one-year pilot test. If successful, these pay stations may be installed throughout the downtown core.

**IMPACT ON TRAFFIC:**

While vehicle lanes will be reduced from three to two lanes on Broadway and 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, improved signal timing and a clear separation between people in cars, on bikes and on foot will benefit all road users. People preferring to drive on other thoroughfares with posted speeds of 30 MPH or greater may opt for Ocean Blvd., Shoreline Drive and 6<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup> Street as alternative routes.

**FUNDING**

The cost of this project is \$700,000, which includes the expense of upgrading the existing 30 year old traffic control system. No general fund dollars were used to construct this project. Only local transportation dollars were used.

**EXAMPLES IN OTHER CITIES:**

- New York City: Manhattan's 9th Avenue bikeway, from 31st Street to 14th Street (the model for the Long Beach project).
- San Francisco: Market Street bike lanes, between Octavia Blvd. to 8th Street.

**COMMUNITY CONTACT FOR CONSTRUCTION UPDATES:**

Project hotline number: 562-908-3518. More information about the project is also available online at <http://www.bikelongbeach.org>.

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