Bikeways..... A New Dimension

Bikeways in the United States are experiencing a tremendous boom in their popularity and use. It is estimated today that there are more than 150,000 miles of bikeways nationwide. These bikeways are no longer limited to urban areas; scenic routes now link various communities, crossing states and spanning parts of the nation. Bikeways are currently recognized as a dynamic new dimension in community planning, opening a new world of fun, physical fitness and recreation.

The City of Wichita has over 86 miles of bicycle routes and trails. To insure the safety of each bicyclist, most routes have been located on streets carrying low traffic volumes. The universal bicycle cycling emblem is used to mark each route. The Wichita bikeway system extends to all areas of the City and is primarily designed to serve the recreationalist and to a limited extent the commuter. Routing for the bike system focuses on 85 points of interest, including parks, historic sites, centers of employment and schools. The bike routes have been arranged so that you can enjoy a quick trip around your neighborhood or a scenic tour of the whole City. Simply choose a path on the map and follow the signs to fitness and fun.

This is the universal cycling emblem used to identify bicycle routes in Wichita and throughout the world.

This sign indicates that the bicycle route continues straight ahead and to the right. Motorists should be careful in making right turns when approaching or passing a bicycle. Both the motorist and the bicyclist should drive defensively.

Please follow the directional arrows when traveling along the bike routes. An arrow indicates the bike route is changing direction.

A double arrow indicates the bike route continues in both directions. The bicyclist must remember to use proper hand signals for turning and stopping.

This sign indicates that the bicyclists should use the sidewalk. This is for the bicyclists own safety.

Bike crossing signs appear at dangerous intersections and long busy streets. Motorists should be particularly careful and slow down in these areas. Very young children should not travel these areas without adult supervision.

Rear Wheel Drive
In 1835, a Scotsman, Macmillan, fitted cranks to the rear axle and attached connecting rods to swinging pedals operated by hand levers, previewing the rear-driven bicycle of today. Macmillan, who also anticipated the upturned handle bars as we know them, was the first to get the rider's feet off the ground. To him goes the distinction of having created the first practical bicycle.

Velocipede
About the same time, two Frenchmen were working on the problem. A carrier repairer, Michaux, got the idea for a front wheel crank and pedal while repairing an old Draisine. An inventor named Pierre Lallement devised flat, weighted front wheel pedals and mounted the saddle on a long, flat spring. When Lallement came to the United States looking for employment, he built the first velocipede made in this country.

Hobby Horse
Two wheels had been linked with a backbone as early as 1790, but it was German forester Baron von Drais in 1816, who first devised a crude steering rudder attached to the front wheel of his heavy, iron-tired, wooden hobby horse. The "Foolhardy" contraption made him the object of much ridicule and amusement, but enabled him to patrol the many miles of forest paths in half the time with half the effort.

Front Wheel Drive
Many treadmill or everlasting staircase devices were tried. About 1821, an Englishman named Gompertz replaced the push and coast method of propelling the hobby horse by constructing a rack and pinion, hand-operated front wheel drive.

Wichita Bike Facts

Estimated Ownership	45,800
Bicycle Accidents	81
(Involving motor vehicles)	
Killed	2
Injured	76
Property Damage	3
Bicycle Thefts Reported	1,612
Bicycle Licenses Issued	30,777

Let's Hear From You

In order to improve the Wichita Bikeway System it is important that we hear from you. Please give us your comments and suggestions about hazardous crossings, route changes, route extensions, etc. Your comments will be appreciated, please address your letters to:

W-SCMAPD
104 South Main
Wichita, Kansas 67202

If you have any questions about the bike routes, please call the Wichita Answer Center at 262-0494.

Wichita Bikeway System

LICENSE YOUR BICYCLE — Every bicycle owner is responsible for getting a new bicycle license before November 1 of every year. Before a license will be issued, each applicant must present his bicycle for an official inspection. Both the inspection and the license are available at all retail bike and repair shops. The cost of the license is $1.00. A portion of this license fee will be used for signs, maintenance, and establishment of bicycle routes.

PROTECT YOUR BICYCLE — Lock you bicycle every time you leave it unattended. Use a high quality lock or chain, and avoid locks which can be easily picked, broken, or cut with wire cutters.

When you are not riding, keep your bicycle in a locked shed, garage or basement. Never leave your bicycle in a yard or driveway where it could be seen and stolen. If you have home owners or apartment insurance, check to see if the policy covers bicycles. When your bicycle is licensed and inspected, keep your copy of the license application for reference in case your bicycle is lost or stolen.

LOCK YOUR BICYCLE PROPERLY — A lock or chain merely slipped through the front sproket or your bicycle does not provide adequate protection against theft. To properly lock your bicycle and provide maximum protection, loop the chain through the frame and rear wheel, then around a post of other stationary object. Attach the lock and make sure it is fully closed.

Tricycle
A tricycle craze developed in England about 1876, and many different style three-wheelers with chairs or seats of various styles were produced. For pleasure riding, for sport, and for commercial purposes such as milk wagons and mail carts, Starleys "Coventry" established a new way of life. The Coventry had one large, single driving wheel actuated by treadle and lever with two smaller wheels in tandem opposite for steering.

The Ordinary
The first real bicycle was a high wheeler called the "ordinary." Built in England, it had a metal frame, double wire spokes and steel rims. The huge front wheel which provided greater distance for each revolution of the pedals, resulted in frequent tips forward. A brake was applied by pulling a cord connected to the front wheel. Because of the extreme weight of the large wheel, the rear wheel was made smaller and smaller.

Ride It Right

- Observe all Traffic Regulations — red and green lights, one-way streets, stop signs.
- Keep to the Right and ride in a straight line. Always ride in single file with traffic.
- Have White Light on Front and a state-approved reflector on rear.
- Equip bike with bell or horn to warn of approach.
- Always Give Pedestrians the Right of Way.
- Never Ride a Bicycle on a Public Sidewalk in the downtown area. However, you may use sidewalks in other areas of the City.
- Look Out for Cars Pulling Out into Traffic. Keep sharp look-out for sudden opening of auto doors.
- Never Hitch on Other Vehicles, "stunt" or race in traffic.
- Be Sure Your Brakes Are Operating Efficiently and keep your bicycle in perfect running condition.
- Never Carry Other Riders — carry no packages that obstruct vision or prevent proper control of cycle.
- Slow Down At All Street Intersections and look to right and left before crossing.
- Always Use Proper Hand Signals for turning and stopping.
- Don't Weave In Or Out of Traffic or swerve from side to side.
- Avoid riding in heavy traffic.
  Children should not ride on busy streets.

TEST YOUR KNOW-HOW

This true-or-false Bike Quiz is based on the material in this pamphlet. Circle "true or false" next to each, then check against correct answer at bottom of page.

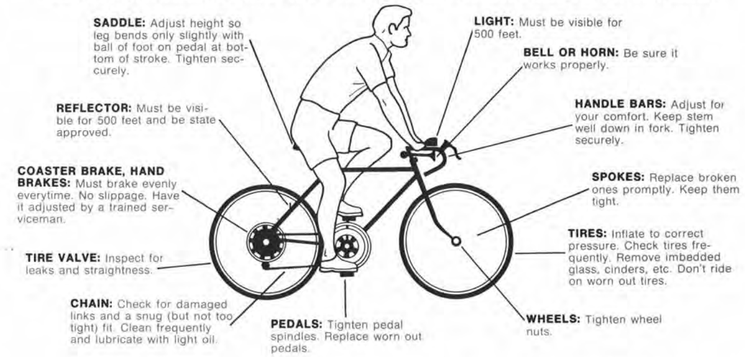
1. A bicycle is considered a vehicle and should be ridden on the right hand side of the street. T F
2. The headlights of a bicycle should be seen from at least 500 ft. T F
3. It is safe and proper for a bike rider to carry a passenger. T F
4. When bicycling through heavy downtown traffic, bicyclists may use the sidewalk. T F
5. Night riding without a white headlight and red tail light or reflector is unsafe and unlawful. T F
6. The bicyclist always has the 'right of way" at intersections. T F
7. Bikes should be inspected at least once a year. T F
8. A lock or chain slipped through the front sprocket of your bicycle provides adequate protection against theft. T F
9. Bicycle licenses must be renewed every year. T F
10. Bicycle riders should observe and obey all traffic signs, stop signs, signals and other traffic control devices. T F
11. It is safe for two people to be on a bike if one is on the handlebars. T F
12. There are approximately 86 miles of marked bike routes in the City of Wichita T F
13. Saddle and handlebars should be adjusted to your height. T F
14. Riding single file is the sensible thing to do. T F
15. Broken or loose spokes should be replaced immediately. T F
16. It is possible to go more than 100 miles per hour on a bike. T F
17. Henry Ford and the Wright Brothers were pioneers in the bicycle industry. T F
18. There are less than one million bike riders in America. T F
19. Hitching a ride on another vehicle is safe if the rider is careful. T F
20. Handlebars should be loose so you can change riding positions. T F

True - False Answers:
1-T; 2-T; 3-F; 4-F; 5-T; 6-F; 7-T; 8-F; 9-T; 10-T; 11-F; 12-T; 13-T; 14-T; 15-T; 16-T; 17-T; 18-F; 19-F; 20-F.

REQUIRED TURN SIGNALS

Ride It Safely

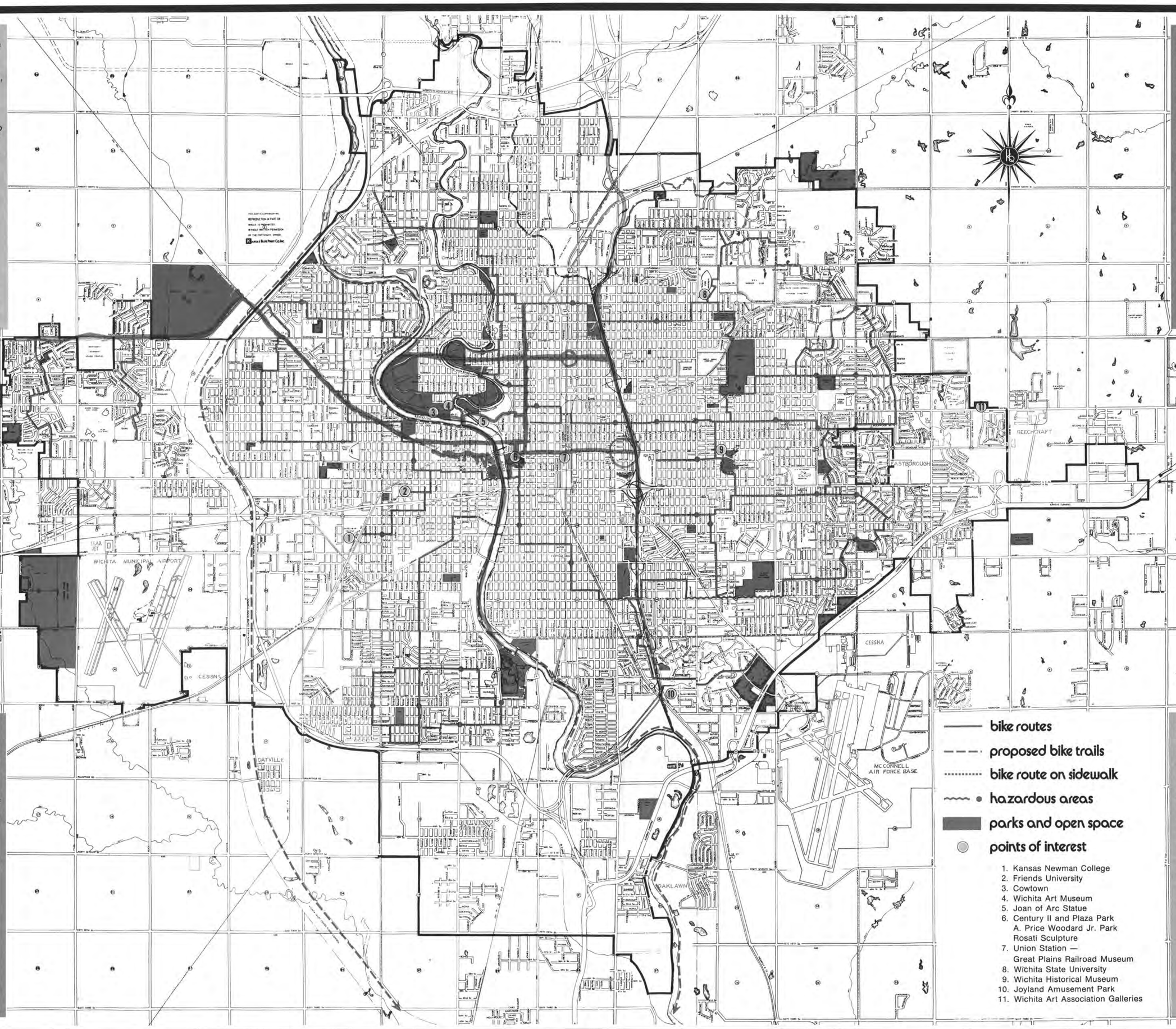
HAVE YOUR BICYCLE CHECKED ONCE A YEAR BY A RELIABLE SERVICEMAN



ALWAYS RIDE WITH CAUTION • TAKE GOOD CARE OF YOUR BICYCLE

Women on Wheels
Voluminous victorian fashions suggested ladies and bicycles were incompatible. A side saddle model, whereon the lady could pedal with both feet on one side of the wheel, proved the point. Then in 1887, a drop frame bike intended for "elderly and those too clumsy to climb over the rear wheel" gave ladies their opportunity. Once rolling, there was no stopping them.

Bloomer Girl
Amelia Bloomer, editor of a reform publication, began to write about and to wear the harem-like pantaloon of the suffragettes. Possibly because of her curiously fitting name, the "bloomer" became the companion craze of the bicycle age. Women emerged, out of petticoats, out of dors, out of physical and territorial restriction. The most dramatic revolution of all time, the emancipation of women, had begun.



Safety Bike
The forerunner of the modern safety bicycle came into being in 1884, when Starley patented his "Rover" with its indirect steering and improved frame design. By 1886, the diamond frame safety bike that we know today had spread to America and was sweeping the country.

Chain Drive
People liked the slim, graceful silhouette of the Ordinary and were reluctant to take seriously a curious machine produced by Englishman H. Bate, in 1878. It had two wheels of nearly equal size with a saddle and indirect steering reins suspended between, directly over the pedals. An endless rope ran over grooved pulleys on the pedals and rear wheel. It was thought so ugly it was called the "Crocodile."