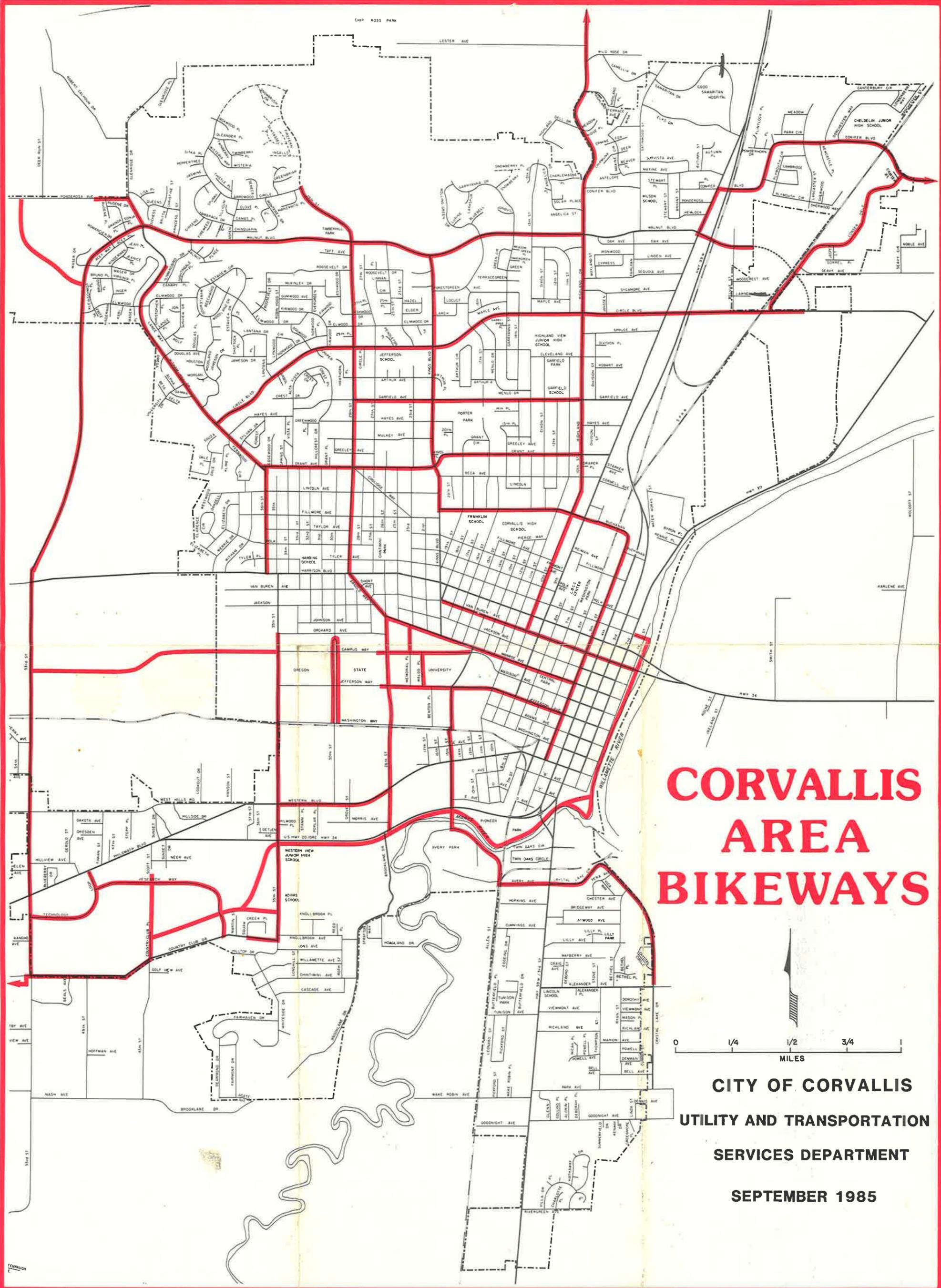
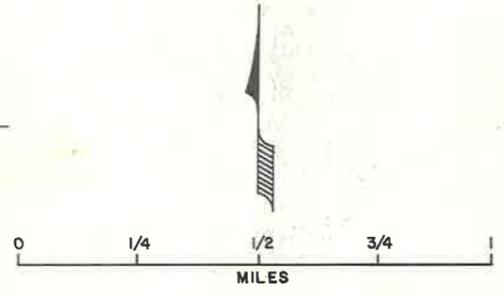


CHIP ROSS PARK

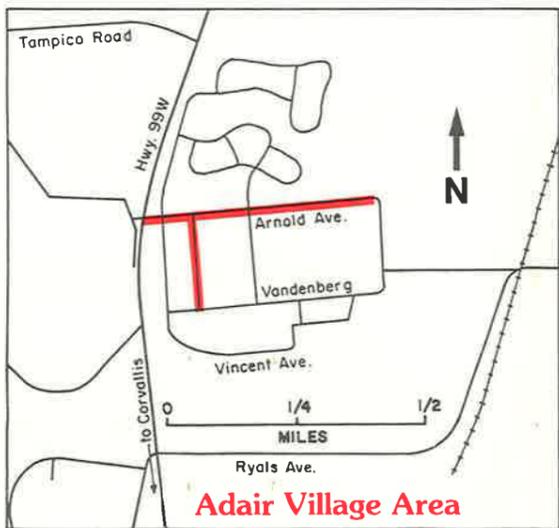
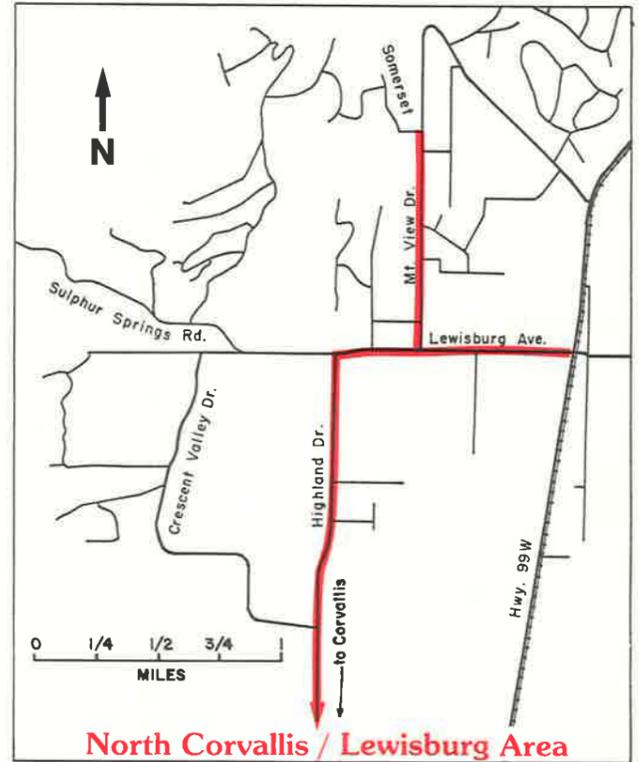
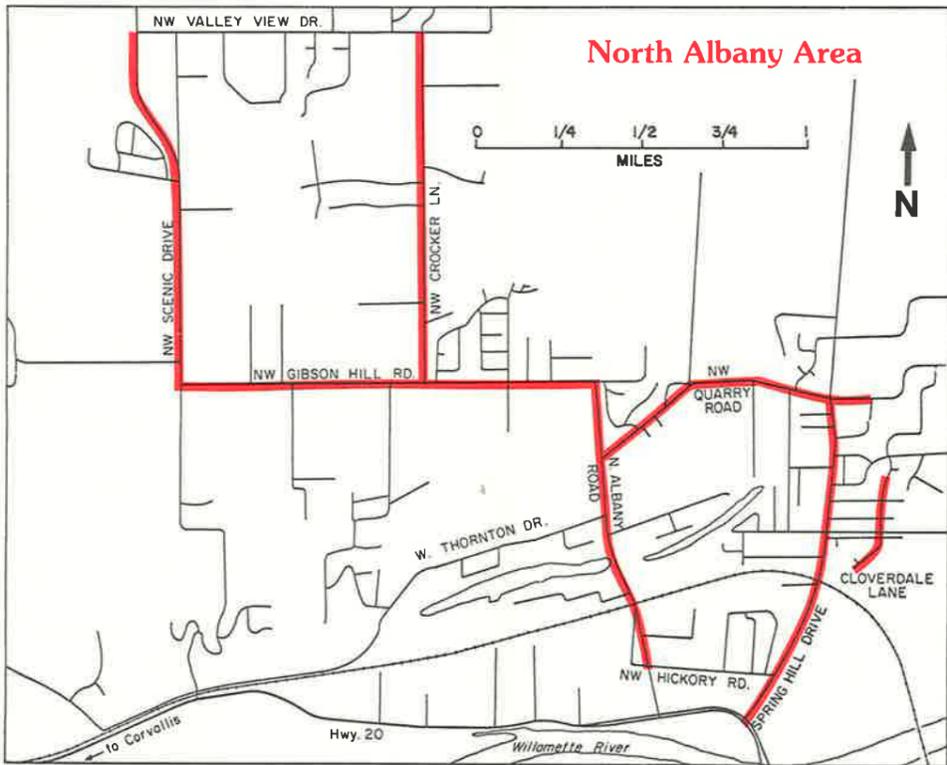


# CORVALLIS AREA BIKEWAYS



**CITY OF CORVALLIS  
UTILITY AND TRANSPORTATION  
SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

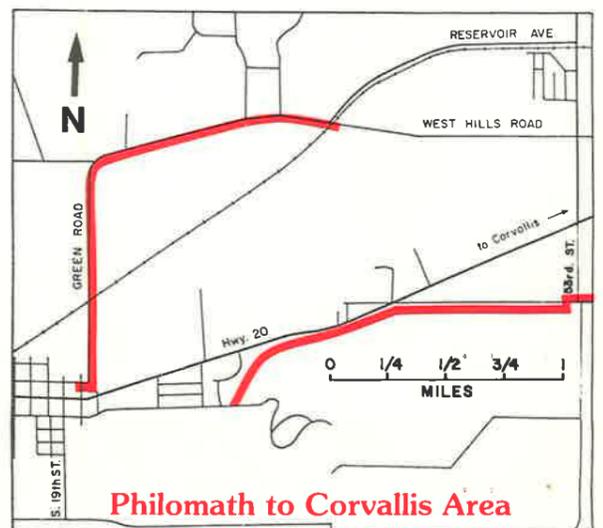
**SEPTEMBER 1985**



## BENTON COUNTY BIKEWAYS

### TOURING TIPS

- While riding, pay attention to what you and others are doing. Don't daydream.
- Wear bright colored clothing so others have no trouble seeing you.
- Always look behind before changing directions.
- Ride a safe distance (3 to 5 feet) from fellow riders. Caution them when you are close.
- Carry first aid supplies on long rides and plan to take a break every hour to hour and a half.
- Talk with fellow riders and enjoy the scenery to help relax.



### THE LAW

Corvallis City ordinances no longer require bicycles to be licensed. The Police Department does have an engraver available and strongly recommends the engraving of your Oregon Drivers License number on your bicycle to facilitate its return if lost or stolen.

Under Oregon law, all bicycles ridden on public streets are subject to the same rules and regulations as a motor vehicle.

When riding on public streets ride near the curb unless a bikeline directs you outside a parking lane. When approaching an intersection that has right or left turn lanes switch to the through lane if you do not intend to turn. If there is an optional turn lane, move to the center of the lane if you intend to proceed straight.

Bicycles parked on sidewalks, at building entrances, in roadways and driveways can be dangerous. Park your bike in a safe place where it will not be an obstruction or a hazard to others.

#### Remember:

- Ride single file.
- Always ride with the flow of traffic.
- Obey all traffic signs and signals.
- Always yield the right-of-way to pedestrians.
- Always use lights at night.
- Walk your bike on downtown sidewalks.
- Helmets offer valuable protection.
- Use hand signals to indicate turns.

### BICYCLE LANES

On many streets bicycles have their own travel lane. Automobile drivers know where to expect bicycles and bicyclists can realize they are an important part of the traffic flow, rather than an unwanted addition. A bicycle may have to merge into an adjacent auto lane to execute a turn movement or get through a busy intersection.

Dashed lines through the intersections indicate that a conflict area is approaching where cars can cross the bikeline to make a turn. The bikeline is a travel lane for bicycles. It is not a driving or a turning lane for automobiles. It will not be used for parking either bicycles or automobiles.

Through bicycle traffic at an intersection has the right-of-way over turning motor vehicles, but proceed with caution. In a contact between an auto and a bike, the bike always loses. Or put another way, the right-of-way is something given, not taken.

Like automobile lanes, bicycle lanes carry only one-way traffic. Go with the flow.

The right-of-way may not be obvious to a motorist so be courteous.

### BICYCLE PATHS

These bike facilities, such as the Riverfront Path, are separated from the roadway and are generally more recreation-oriented. Often times these paths are also used by pedestrians, joggers and roller-skaters, consequently extra caution is advised.

Development of the Corvallis and Benton County Area Bikeways by  
Corvallis Citizens Advisory Commission on Bicycles  
Benton County Bicycle Advisory Committee  
City of Corvallis  
Benton County

### EQUIPMENT

Riding a bike at night requires caution because it is difficult for a motorist to see you. If you ride at night you must display a white light visible 500 feet to the front and a reflector visible 600 feet to the rear.

A bell or horn will help to warn people of your presence. Sirens or whistles are prohibited because they may be confused with emergency vehicles.

Your bike must be equipped with brakes good enough to skid on clean, dry pavement.

Protect your bike. To prevent your bike from being stolen, always lock it to a permanent object with a strong chain. Lock the frame and both wheels if possible.

Protective headgear is available for about \$40. Long pants and shoes prevent minor spills from causing major abrasion.

### TIPS FOR THE CYCLIST

The safety of bicycle riding is often dependent on how aware a cyclist is of the situation around him. Here are some tips to keep in mind:

- Ride defensively. Motorists often don't see you. Watch out for their blind spots. Watch also for cars turning suddenly at driveways and intersections. Other hazards to look for are opening car doors, loose gravel and rough pavement. Move rocks and broken glass out of the bike path if you have time. When the road is wet, everything is slippery. Cross railroad tracks straight across rather than at an angle which might cause you to fall.
- Pedestrians and roller skaters popping out from between parked cars can also be a hazard.
- Ride with the traffic. There is nothing more baffling than someone coming at you the wrong way.
- Do not ride on the sidewalks in downtown Corvallis. It is dangerous and against City ordinance. You can be cited.
- At intersections, be prepared for cars to be turning across your path. If in doubt, merge into the automobile lane to travel through the intersection.
- Be predictable. The motorist needs to know what you are planning to do, even in a bike lane. Signal well in advance if you intend to turn or merge into another lane.
- Be visible. Wear bright clothing in the daytime and use lights and reflectors at night. In addition to the light and reflector required by law, reflectorized pedals and tapes, moving leg lights and spoke reflectors are recommended to increase visibility.
- Don't carry articles which prevent you from keeping at least one hand on the handle bars and having full control at all time.