

CATspeak on:

Bicycle Parking

Promote Sustainable Mobility/Land Use in the Lehigh Valley!



Why should we support & encourage those who ride by necessity or by choice?

- Promote better public health through physical activity
- Reduce climate impact (transportation is 28% of U.S. energy consumption)
- Encourage efficiency; Bike trips <5 miles are reasonable for many, can be quicker than car trips for distances <1 mile, while walking is generally the quickest for trips less than ¼ mile
- Parking a bicycle uses 1/12 the footprint of a car -> smaller parking lots mean less storm runoff, less heat island effect in summer, and possibility for more greenspace (plants, trees, birds, etc).
- U.S. Green Building Council advises LEED Building guidance, i.e. for retail: 2 bike spaces/5,000 sq ft

Bicycle parking to serve three (3) distinct needs:

(1) Short-Term (less than 2 hours); bike hitches & racks near building entrances. Hitches installed on sidewalks parallel to pedestrian flow do not take up much space. Use larger racks as needed.



(2) Medium-Term (4-8 hours for shift employees and commuters); covered, well-lit, and in a visible location to deter theft.



(3) Long-Term (overnight); for apartments & dorms, same as medium-term plus secure access and additional protection from weather. An example would be a bike room for resident-only access on the ground floor of a new dorm/apartment building.

