

# Bikeway Hours

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Updated Nov 8

# Intro To Bikeway

- AKA bike trail, bike path, bike route, recreation trail
- Network of narrow paved roads, center loop surrounds our city (Updated Nov 8)
- Supports transportation, makes city more walkable, less car-centric
- Recreation
- Time in nature
- For pedestrians, runners, bicyclists, skateboarders, e-bikes, baby strollers, ...

# Instigation For Analysis

- During a lovely intense night ride, stopped to talk with a cop
- Cited for being in a park after hours

# Check City's Bike Guide

- Parks department has a long brochure about bikes
- See <https://www.siouxfalls.org/parks/bike>, click on “2022 Bicycle Route Map”
- Brochure discusses “Sioux Falls Bicycle Laws”
- Has a map of the bikeway
- No mention of bikeway hours

# Bike Guide Front

## Bike Map

CYCLING SIOUX FALLS' BIKE PATHS AND BIKE LANES

### ON-STREET BIKE ROUTES

- Street signed rider route
- Side path route (off street)
- Bike lane
- Sharrow (shared road)
- Bike shoulder
- Swimming pools
- Community centers

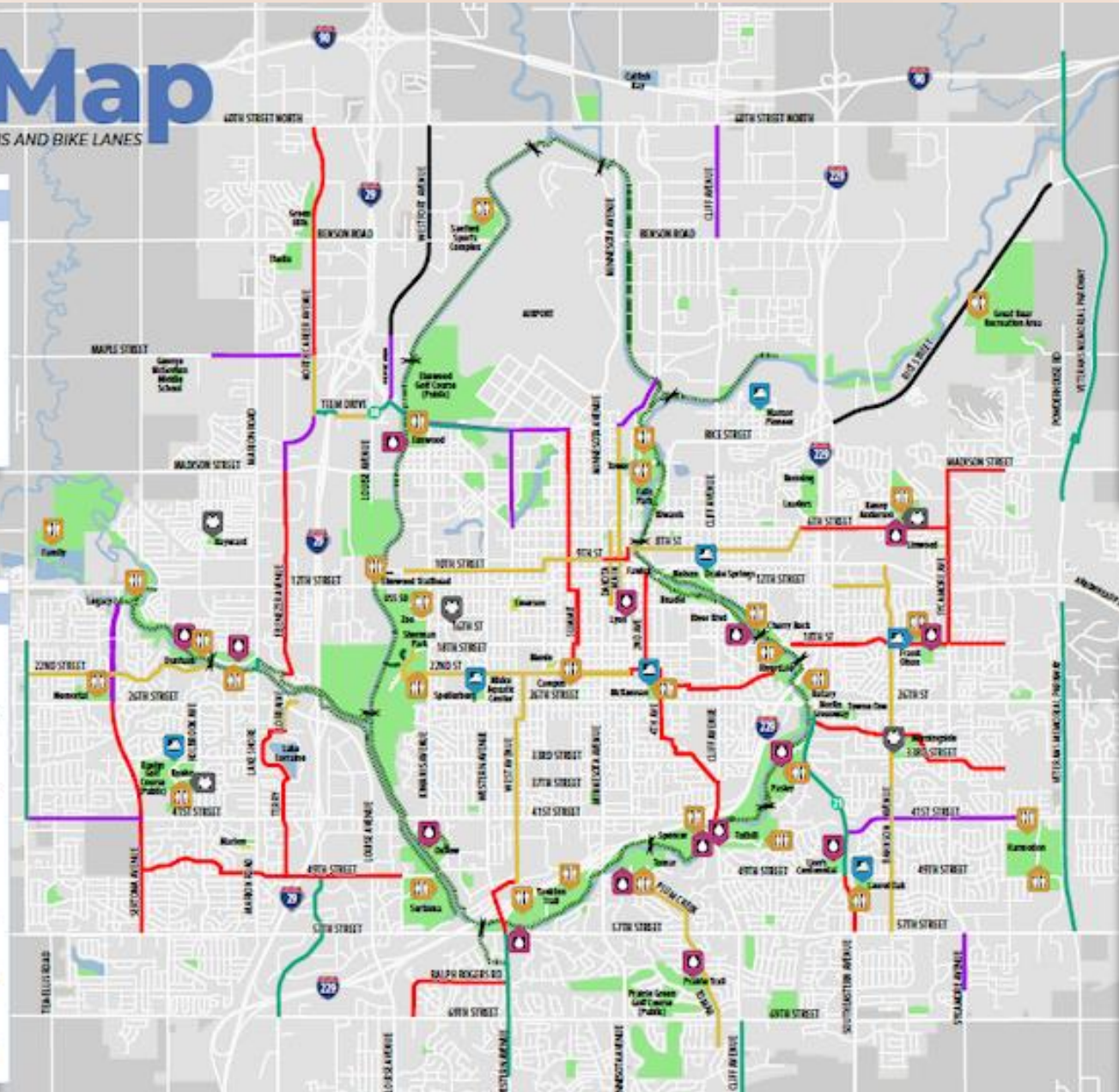
### ON-STREET BIKE ROUTES

- Paved bike trail
- Park
- Restrooms/drinking fountain\*
- Drinking fountain\*\*
- Pedestrian/bicycle crossing

\* In general, drinking fountains and restrooms are available for use beginning mid April and ending late October, dependent upon weather conditions.

For the latest information, contact the Parks and Recreation Department at 605-367-8222.

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SCALE IN MILES



### MAIN LOOP

BIKE TRAIL LOCATIONS	POINT TO POINT DISTANCE	MILES FROM FALLS
Falls Park to 10th St.	.89	.89
10th St. to Cliff Bridge	.63	1.52
Cliff Bridge to 18th St. Bridge	.93	2.45
18th St. to 26th St.	.68	3.13
26th St. to Cliff Bridge at Tuttle	1.87	5.00
Cliff Bridge to Minnesota Bridge	1.31	6.31
S. Minnesota Bridge to S. Western Bridge	1.26	7.57
S. Western Bridge to 4th St. Bridge	1.36	8.93
4th St. Bridge to Golf Bridge	1.42	10.35
Golf Bridge to 12th St. Bridge	.70	11.05
12th St. to Madison St. Bridge	1.05	12.10
Madison St. to Russell St. Bridge	.50	12.60
Russell St. to Maple St. Bridge	.49	13.09
Maple St. Bridge to N. Minnesota Ave.	3.75	16.84
N. Minnesota Ave. to Falls Park	2.89	19.73

### INTERACTIVE MAP

Connect to our online Interactive map at [www.siouxfalls.org/bike](http://www.siouxfalls.org/bike)

For more detailed park and trail information including canoe/kayak launch areas, accessible fishing sites, playgrounds, parking, picnic areas, information kiosks, and the latest status of bike trail construction including alternative routes.



CITY OF SIOUX FALLS  
PARKS & RECREATION

# Bike Guide Back

## Sioux Falls Bicycle Laws

### Traffic Regulations

Every bicyclist has the same rights and responsibilities as any other driver of a vehicle except where specifically prohibited by law. Bicyclists must ride with the flow of traffic and obey all traffic laws and traffic signs.

### Bicycling on City Streets

A bicycle and motor vehicle must "share the lane" when there is adequate room available in the lane with the bicycle riding as far to the right in the lane as allows. When there is not enough room available in the lane for both motor vehicles and bicycles to share, the bicyclist may "take the lane" to signal to a motor vehicle that it is not safe to pass in the same lane.



### Safely Passing Bicyclists—3 Feet Separation

A motor vehicle must allow a bicyclist at least a three-foot separation (6 feet on roadways over 35 mph speed limit) between the right side of the driver's vehicle, including all mirrors or other projections, and the left side of the bicyclist at all times.

### Riding on a One-Way Road With Two or More Lanes

A bicyclist may ride as far to the right as allows and also as far to the left as allows on a one-way road with more than one lane.

### Two Bicycles Riding Within the Same Lane

Two bicycles may ride side by side within a single lane except when a motor vehicle approaches from behind.

### Interfering with Pedestrians

Bicyclists must not interfere with pedestrians while riding their bike.

### Lights

Bicyclists riding at night or during adverse weather conditions (ex. heavy overcast, fog, rain, snow) must have a headlight on the front of their bike and a reflective yellow or red mirror mounted on the rear.

### Traffic regulations

Bicyclists must have control of their bicycle at all times and ride in a careful and responsible manner.

### Overtaking or Passing Another Vehicle

A bicyclist passing another vehicle/bicycle traveling in the same direction must pass at a safe distance on the left and must not cut in front of the vehicle until safely clear.

### Vehicles on Parkways or Sidewalks

Bicycles are allowed to ride on sidewalks or parkways (except where prohibited) but they must yield the right-of-way to pedestrians and stop at every intersection. Always be sure vehicle drivers see you before proceeding.

### Bicycling in City Parks

Bicyclists riding in city parks and greenways are required to follow the same laws as bicyclists on city streets. Bicyclists riding in city parks and greenways are required to operate their bicycles in a careful manner with concern for the safety of others and concern for the preservation of park property.



### Parking Bicycles on Sidewalks

A person may park a bicycle on a sidewalk which is six feet wide or greater, unless marked as prohibited or restricted by an official sign. The bicycle must be parked so that it does not block traffic.

## Share the Road

### Communicate with Drivers

Use hand signals so that drivers know where you're going. Signal all your turns and stops ahead of time. Also, before turning, look over your shoulder for any traffic. Check and only move when it is safe.



Make eye contact. Confirming eye contact with motorists helps them know that you are on the road.



### Street-Smart Cyclist (Be Seen and Avoid Injury)

Always wear a bicycle helmet to reduce the risk of permanent injury or death from a crash.

- Make sure your helmet fits right, wear bright clothing, use lights, reflectors, a bell and a mirror to see, be seen and be heard.
- Consider using the other equipment as illustrated below to make your ride safer and more comfortable.



### On-Street Bike Routes, as Shown on Map

#### --- Street Signed Route

A signed bicycle route that is appropriate only for riders with more advanced riding skills and capable of riding in traffic.

#### — Sidepath (off street)

A bicycle sidepath is a path next to a road, like a sidewalk, except it is wider and signs are posted designating it for bicycle use.

#### — Bike Lane

A bike lane is defined as a portion of the roadway that has been designated by striping, signage, and pavement markings for the preferential or exclusive use of bicyclists.

#### — Sharrow (shared road)

A shared lane marking on a road surface indicating that bicyclists may use any portion of the lane.



#### — Bicycle Shoulder

A shoulder on a rural section roadway that has been designated by striping, signage and pavement markings for the preferential or exclusive use of bicyclists.



### Bike & Bus

Bike your way to any bus stop and then you, and your bike, can take the bus from there to any other stop. Complete the rest of your trip on your bike. Call 605-367-7151 with questions or visit [www.siouxfalls.org/tam](http://www.siouxfalls.org/tam).

It's easy to use!

- Each fixed route bus is installed with a rack.
- Bike racks are mounted on the front of the bus along with instructions.
- The rack holds up to two bicycles.
- The rack allows for most bicycle wheel and frame sizes.
- The bike doesn't touch the other bike, the bus or other vehicles.
- There is no additional charge for your bicycle.
- Training is available at the Downtown Bus Stop.

## Share the Trail



Be patient and courteous of others using the trails and routes. Control your Speed!  
The trail is not a race track.

### Safety Tips:

- When stopped, move off the trail. Don't block the trail.
- Wear protective gear such as a helmet.
- Be aware of your surroundings, and watch out for unsafe situations.
- Be aware of changing weather conditions and places you can go to in an emergency.
- In case of an accident or other type of emergency, call 911.

# Check City Ordinance

- Ordinance 95.024 “Hours parks open to public”
- Talks about park hours
- City parks are closed from 10:00 pm to 5:00 am except Falls Park and downtown greenway which are open until midnight
- Parts of the bikeway are in parks
- Bikeway spans multiple parks plus the levee
- No mention of bikeway hours

# Check Bikeway Signs





# Check Signs, Continued

- Signs say this road is for everything but automobiles
- No bikeway signs mention hours



# Police Patrols

- Police occasionally patrol the bikeway on bike, motorcycle, car
- Supposedly reluctant to allow trail open at night without patrols
- But willing to keep city alleys, roads, and sidewalks open at night without patrols
- Having infrequent patrols is an invalid reason to close transportation roadways

# Action Items In Work

- Defend myself in municipal court
- Subpoena police department to get police video
- Build community support with Sioux Falls Bicyclists and Sioux Falls Area Running Club
- Look for a list of citizen boards on [SiouxFalls.org](http://SiouxFalls.org)
- Attend next meeting of the following city boards: parks, bicycle, active transportation

# Summary

- Transportation roads do not have a curfew
- It would be impractical to have 3 different curfews for one bike loop around one city:
  - 1) no curfew for levee sections (not in a park)
  - 2) 10:00 pm for most park sections
  - 3) midnight for Falls Park and greenway
- Lack of documented bikeway curfew says bikeway remains open all night

# Recommendations

- Encourage bikeway use for transportation
- Encourage walkability, exercise
- Acknowledge lack of explicit guidance on hours
- Acknowledge that roadways do not have a curfew
- Amend city ordinance to explicitly keep bikeway open all night
- See "Bike Trail Issues" by myself May 2, 2018

# Enjoy The Night

