

**City of Philadelphia**  
**Bicycle Parking Regulations**  
**October 1, 2010**

**1. Scope**

These regulations support the bicycle parking provisions of Section 14-1400 of the Philadelphia Code, entitled "Parking and Loading Facilities" and Section 11-600 of the Philadelphia Code, entitled "Construction, Encroachments and Projections Over, On and Under Streets".

**2. Bicycle Parking on Private Property**

2.1 Bicycle Rack

2.1.1 A bicycle rack shall follow one of the following design guidelines:

- 2.1.1.1 The "Philadelphia Standard U-Rack" as specified in Philadelphia Streets Department drawing "M0082";
- 2.1.1.2 An "Art" rack as described in section 4 of these regulations;
- 2.1.1.3 A commercially available bicycle parking rack that complies with design guidelines published by the Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals (APBP) and is approved by the Department of Streets.

2.1.2 A minimum of 24-in. clear space shall be provided adjacent to a rack such that a bicyclist can easily maneuver a bicycle into position. When bicycle racks are installed parallel to each other, the rack elements shall be a minimum of 36-in. apart.

2.1.3 All racks shall be installed in artificially illuminated areas.

2.1.4 Bicycle racks shall serve no other purpose in addition to the securing of bicycles.

2.1.5 Bicycle racks proposed to be installed on or abutting a City of Philadelphia historically certified property or within a City of Philadelphia certified historical district shall be approved in advance by the Philadelphia Historical Commission.

2.1.6 When bicycle racks are installed for compliance with the bicycle parking requirements of the Philadelphia Zoning Code, the proposed rack locations shall be shown on the zoning site plan.

## 2.2 Bicycle Storage Room

- 2.2.1 A bicycle storage room shall be located internally to the building served.
- 2.2.2 The storage room shall be equipped with artificial illumination and ventilation and be physically separated from other storage or uses.
- 2.2.3 "Bicycle Storage Room" signage shall be permanently mounted on the doors.
- 2.2.4 Doors to the storage room shall be lockable from the outside.
- 2.2.5 Facilities shall be provided within the storage room for users to attach a personal bicycle lock to secure each bicycle.

## 2.3 Bicycle Storage Locker

- 2.3.1 A bicycle storage locker shall be completely enclosed and weather-proof, except for an optional opening of up to nine (9) inches at the base, to allow for security inspections.
- 2.3.2 The storage locker shall be designed to withstand a minimum force of 200 lbs/sf on all surfaces, doors and windows (when provided).
- 2.3.3 The locker shall be of sufficient size to store a bicycle within the locker with both wheels on the floor.
- 2.3.4 Each compartment within the locker shall store no more than one bicycle.
- 2.3.5 The locker shall be accessible from ground level. Stacked lockers are not permitted.
- 2.3.6 Each locker compartment shall be provided with a secure keyed lock.

## **3. Bicycle Racks Installed in the Public Right-of-Way**

- 3.1 Bicycle racks shall be installed in a location in which they do not interfere with building entrances or exits, fire hydrants, loading zones, bus zones or the safe passage of pedestrians. See Philadelphia Streets Department drawing "M0082L" for required clearances. Final location shall be at the sole discretion of the Streets Department.
- 3.2 The minimum acceptable paved sidewalk width on which a bicycle rack may be installed shall be 12-ft. Racks may be installed on narrower paved sidewalks provided that the racks do not conflict with minimum walking zone standards recommended in the Philadelphia Pedestrian and Bicycle Plan, building function, other encroachments and/or sidewalk pedestrian load. Determination of sidewalk suitability shall be at the sole discretion of the Streets Department.
- 3.3 Bicycle racks shall be installed only on solid concrete sidewalks (no pavers or bricks).
- 3.4 Racks must be secured with bolts that do not penetrate below the depth of the concrete sidewalk.
- 3.5 Bicycle racks proposed to be installed on or abutting a City of Philadelphia historically certified property must be approved in advance by the Philadelphia Historical Commission.

- 3.6 The sponsor of a bicycle rack must obtain a permit from the Streets Department's Right-of-Way unit. The permit fee shall be twenty-five (25) dollars per rack.
- 3.7 The sponsor of the bicycle rack shall submit the following materials to the Streets Department:
  - 3.7.1 An application and maintenance agreement for the rack;
  - 3.7.2 A letter of approval from the abutting property owner;
  - 3.7.3 Pictures of the proposed location;
  - 3.7.4 A scalable site plan that indicates the proposed location of the rack, building entrances and exits, bus stops and any existing sidewalk obstructions.
- 3.8 The sponsor of the bicycle rack shall be responsible for all maintenance, including:
  - 3.8.1 Removing any abandoned bicycles, bicycle locks or chains on a regular basis and keeping the area in a neat and clean condition;
  - 3.8.2 Performing routine inspection of the bicycle racks and keeping them in good visual condition;
  - 3.8.3 Removing graffiti and stickers and applying touch-up paint as needed.
- 3.9 When bicycle racks are installed for compliance with the bicycle parking requirements of the Philadelphia Zoning Code, the proposed rack locations shall be shown on the zoning site plan.
- 3.10 Approval of bicycle rack locations shown on the zoning site plan by the Streets Department Bureau of Surveys & Design locations shall constitute the Streets Department approval required by section 14-1401 (4).

#### **4. "Art" Racks – Additional Provisions**

- 4.1 An "Art" rack shall be defined as any rack other than the "Philadelphia Standard U-Rack" or a commercially available rack approved by the Philadelphia Streets Department for general use. "Art" racks are typically designed to be site specific.
- 4.2 All "Art" racks shall be capable of securing two standard bicycles.
- 4.3 The "Art" rack shall provide a minimum of two points of contact with the bicycle.
- 4.4 The design (including installation details) of any rack with an overall height greater than 42-in. shall be sealed by a professional engineer registered in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
- 4.5 The maximum overall height of an "Art" rack installed in the public right-of-way shall be 72-in.
- 4.6 The design of an "Art" rack including the installation details shall be reviewed and approved by the Department of Streets' Bureau of Surveys and Design.
- 4.7 Approval of the Philadelphia Art Commission is required for "Art" racks proposed to be installed in the public right-of-way.

