

## **Bike Route FAQ's**

### **What are the symbols that have been painted on the roads?**

The lane marking comprised of two inverted V-shapes above a bicycle is commonly referred to as a sharrow. A sharrow is not a bike lane, it is meant to alert motorists and cyclists to share the road. The sharrows in Wyomissing and West Reading are also intended to identify the bike and pedestrian route that traverses both Boroughs to allow for easier navigation.



### **Why are the sharrows in different places depending which road they are painted on?**

PennDOT standards require a sharrow be placed four feet from a curb when installed on a street where parking is not permitted and eleven feet from a curb when installed on a street where parking is permitted.

### **Where does the bicycle and pedestrian route go?**

The route connects multiple neighborhoods within the Borough, the commercial district via North Park Road, Spring Street, Crossing Drive and Berkshire Boulevard, and connects to Spring Township, West Reading, Shillington and Cumru. An access point on the north leg of the route connects to the Gring's Mill Recreation Area and the West Reading extension of the route connects to the Schuylkill River Trail via the playground. The Official Trail Map for Wyomissing and West Reading is available here <https://wyomissingboro.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/P-Bike-Ped-Trails-Official-Overall-Map.pdf>.

### **What is the responsibility of a cyclist when using the route?**

Title 75, Pennsylvania's Vehicle Code, considers a bicycle a vehicle and has established a specific publication <http://www.dot.state.pa.us/public/pubsforms/publications/pub%20380.pdf>, providing regulations for cyclists to follow. Cyclists are required to follow almost all rules of the road that are required from vehicles, including using hand signals to indicate turns, using lamps and reflectors when riding between sunset and sunrise and obeying all traffic signals and controls.

### **What should a motorist do when encountering a cyclist on the road?**

Many motorists are unaware that a cyclist has the right to use the full travel lane of a roadway or that bicycles are prohibited under Title 75 from riding on the sidewalk. A motorist may pass a

cyclist on a roadway, provided that the motorist allow a minimum of four feet of distance between the motor vehicle and the cyclist, proceeds with due care and at a prudent, reduced speed.

### **What are bike share stations?**

Bike share is a system of self-service bicycles that a user can check out by using an app on their cell phone linked to their credit or debit card. A fee is charged for use of the bike based off when the bike is removed from and returned to a docking station. Bike share is meant to offer an alternative means of transportation to reduce traffic congestion. Studies also show that more people riding bikes in urban areas may create a positive economic impact within the area where the bike share station is located.

### **Where will the bike share stations be located?**

There will be a total of three bike share stations installed, one at the parking lot located behind Wawa at 2005 Museum Road that is adjacent to the quarry soccer fields in Wyomissing, one at the multi-modal lot at the southwest corner of North Wyomissing Boulevard and Fourth Street in Wyomissing and one on the south side of Reading Avenue in West Reading. Bike Fixit stations will also be available at each of these locations for a cyclist using their own bike that has a mechanical malfunction and needs basic tools and a pump to make repairs.

### **Who paid for the bike route, bike share stations and Fixit stations?**

The Borough received a grant from PennDOT in the amount of \$187,425, to fully cover the cost of providing bike share stations for two years, three bike repair stations, painting of the sharrows and the purchase and installation of all signage related to the bike route. Donations provided by Berks Alliance, Customers Bank, Kraft Codes, North Park Road Associates, Hartman Valeriano, Magovern and Lutz, Kozloff Stoudt, Fox Theatres, SFBC Wyomissing, LLC, Teleflex, Penn National Gaming and SFT Holdings, totaling \$48,600 will be used towards long term maintenance of the sharrows and signs.

### **Where can I find more information on the local bike trail network?**

Berks County is home to many great places to ride a bike and for riders of all levels. The websites below provide information on established trails in Berks County, or are organizations that encourage bicycle use.

Greater Reading Trails Partnership - <https://greaterreadingtrails.com/>

Schuylkill River Greenways - <https://schuylkillriver.org/schuylkill-river-trail/>

Berks County Bicycling Club - <https://www.berksbicycle.com/>

Berks Area Mountain Bike Association (BAMBA) - <https://berksmountainbiking.org/>

IM ABLE Foundation - <https://berksmountainbiking.org/>