



Planning, Development & Transportation

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Bicycle Safety Town Information and Resources or What is a Bicycle Safety Town?

One of the major recommendations of the recently approved *Bicycle Safety Education Plan* is to build a bicycle safety town. A bicycle safety town is a “miniature city,” complete with streets, bike lanes, and traffic signs. Families, adults, and children can all use the town to practice safe cycling skills and participate in classes hosted by the City and other community partners. This is a new idea nationally to encourage safe cycling. Communities that have built safety towns take a wide variety of approaches depending on local needs.

So what exactly could the Fort Collins bicycle safety town look like? The following pictures and information are intended to provide a basis for future discussions about how the “town” would be designed and how the community could use it.

Design Elements

Existing bicycle safety towns throughout the nation include a variety of design elements.

- “Streets” with and without dedicated bicycle lanes
- On-street Vehicle Parking
- Traffic Signage and Signals (i.e. stop signs, yield signs)
- Driveways
- Crosswalks
- Trail Crossings

- Staging Areas for Classes
- Miniature Buildings
- Interpretive and Educational Signs
- Landscaping
- Fencing



Brookhaven, NY



Elk Grove Township, IL



Frisco, TX

Programs and Classes

Bicycle safety towns can have a variety of programs and purposes. A few examples for more active “towns” are discussed below.

- *Community Partnerships:* Peoria, Illinois has an approximately four acre bicycle safety town. In addition to being open to the public, bicycle classes are offered through the local school district. During these times, the town is closed to the general public.
- *General Safety:* Frisco, Texas and Pasco County, Florida offer a wide variety of safety programs for the community. These include pedestrian, bicycle, and seat belt safety, water and boat safety, fire, smoke and electrical safety, and drug safety. Classes are taught by volunteers who have been trained by education and safety professionals
- *Dedicated Bicycle Safety:* Elk Grove Township, Illinois has taught a two-tier program for the past 28 years. The first tier is an in-class presentation and video, with children taking home a bicycle safety activity booklet. The second tier is hands-on experience at the bicycle safety town.

Additional Information and Web Sites

Peoria Park District Bicycle Safety Town

<http://www.peoriaparks.org/bicycle-safety-town>

Elk Grove Township Bike Safety Town

<http://www.elkgrovetownship.com/BIKE%20SAFETY/BIKE%20SAFETY.htm>

Pasco County Safety Town

<http://www.pascosheriff.net/websmart/Pasco/static/safety%20town.htm>

Portsmouth Police Safety Town

http://portsmouthpd.org/?page_id=226

Brookhaven Bike Safety Town

<http://www.brookhaven.org/Departments/PlanningEnvironment/TrafficSafety.aspx>

Frisco Fire Safety Town

<http://www.ci.frisco.tx.us/safetytown/Pages/ThirdGradePrograms.aspx>

Greensboro Safety Town

<http://www.safetytowngreensboro.com/>