

# Portland OREGON



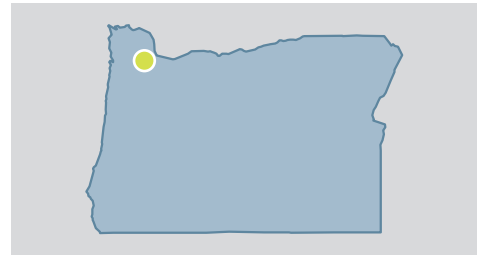
Level Awarded: Gold

Date Awarded: October 2003, renewed October 2005

Population: 533,492

Square Miles (land): 134.3

Location:



## MOST SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENT

Thinking about providing for bicycles and promoting increased use of the bicycle is integrated into almost all actions taken by Portland, beginning in the Mayor's Office, right down to actions taken by the maintenance crews on the streets.

## HIGHLIGHTS

Portland has a growing network of bike lanes (163 miles), trails (66 miles) and signed routes (30 miles) that has helped more than double the level of bicycle use since the early 1990s. In 1992, there were 3,555 daily bike trips across the city's main bridges; this number had risen to 8,250 by 2002. Recent improvements to the network have focused on signing and marking including:

- bicycle-only signal heads at two key intersections
- shared lane pavement markings
- 700 bicycle boulevard pavement markings along 30 miles of streets
- 350 distance and destination signs at bikeway intersections that also show riding times to major destinations
- bicycle-only scramble signal at a critical trail/roadway intersection
- colored bike lane markings at specific conflict areas

All bicycle facilities receive maintenance and the city responds quickly to a reporting system that allows cyclists to inform jurisdictions of immediate needs. Sixty percent of the downtown police force are certified to patrol by bicycle and all officers have been trained to address bicycling and walking specific issues. The city's Safe Routes to School program, and many outreach programs, are run with the help of the Bicycle Transportation Alliance and other local organizations.

Portland's transit agency, MAX, has recently eliminated the need for permits to put bikes on the buses and light rail cars; eliminated peak-hour, peak destination restrictions on carrying bikes on transit; and designed new light rail cars — and retrofitted existing cars — with hooks for hanging bicycles.

Portland's Bike Central provides bicycle commuters with clothes storage, showers and secure bike parking. An extensive individualized marketing program encourages residents to bicycle with better information — the city has a free bike map covering the whole city as well as quadrants and specific neighborhoods.



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For More Info

[www.bikeleague.org](http://www.bikeleague.org)

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