



Palo Alto CALIFORNIA



Level Awarded: Gold

Date Awarded: May 2003, renewed May 2005

Population: 56,862

Square Miles (land): 23.7

Location:



MOST SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENT

Recently, Palo Alto has completed two major new bicycle facilities, including a rail line undercrossing and a new path and bridge over Embarcadero Road.

HIGHLIGHTS

Palo Alto has long been a pioneer of bicycle accommodation. The Ellen Fletcher Bicycle Boulevard provides direct bicycle access to downtown along a residential street paralleling major arterials streets. The Bike Boulevard has protected crossings and a minimum of stop signs along its route.

The city also led efforts to adopt bicycle parking (requiring bicycle parking in new offices to be no farther away than the closest car parking space) and street repair standards.

In December 2004, Palo Alto completed the \$5.1 million Homer Undercrossing, a pedestrian/bicycle undercrossing of the Caltrain Commuter Rail line that connects to the station platform and BikeStation via the Urban Lane bike path.

In May 2004 the \$1.5 million Embarcadero Bike Path opened. The 0.8-mile-long path completes the existing north-south bike route from Mountain View to Menlo Park along segments of surface streets, the Urban Lane bike path and El Camino Park bike path. The path is lighted and separated from the Caltrain right-of-way by security fencing.

The Palo Alto Bikestation, which opened in 1999, was the first Bikestation along the Caltrain commuter rail line. Major renovations to the Bikestation at the Palo Alto Caltrain station will be completed in the first quarter of 2006. Renovations include new bike racks, and a new card-key security system that will allow bicyclists 24-hour access.

Palo Alto offers youth and adult bicycle education programs in the City of Palo Alto Community Services Department classes and activities catalogue (Kids I and Kids II classes) and the Palo Alto Unified School District's Adult School (Street Skills and optional Road I classes). The City and School District jointly fund bicycle education programs in Grades K-6.



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For More Info

www.bikeleague.org