



## PROJECT IN BRIEF

### GRAND RAPIDS

### BUS RAPID TRANSIT (BRT)

ARCHITECT: URS Corporation

TRANSPORTATION ENGINEER: CDM/Smith

## CycleSafe Supplies Bike Racks for First BRT Line in Michigan

A quality transportation system is a vital component to building a vibrant and successful community. Investment in mass transit becomes even more important for cities as more people are living and working in urban areas. For mid-sized cities like Grand Rapids, MI, developing a well connected and highly used bus system is key to a successful urban renewal effort.

In 2011 the voters of Grand Rapids approved a millage for the local operation of the Silver Line, a 9.1 mile Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) line, the first of its type in the state. The planning for this route began a decade before the successful passage of the plan making the vote an important victory for mass transportation advocates. Construction began in the fall of 2013 and service is scheduled to begin in August 2014.

The Division Avenue BRT line will connect the cities of Grand Rapids, Kentwood and Wyoming together to help link the downtown core to regional employment centers, educational campuses and medical facilities. BRT systems have been utilized successfully in cities around the world and provide a fast, convenient travel option for riders. They also help to stimulate economic development along the service lines.



*U/2 racks increase  
stability of the bike*

A BRT system is designed to travel as fast as a light rail system, but at a fraction of the construction cost. The goal is to remove barriers inherent in a traditional bus line by employing a variety of technological and operational improvements. Some of the main components include pre-paid fare, level boarding, traffic signal priority and semi-exclusive lanes during rush hour.

The Silver Line will connect with The Rapid's Central Station, the first LEED Certified public transportation facility in the United States. The route will have a total of 33 stainless stations along the route, with many inbound and outbound stops across the street from each other. Amenities include level boarding, covered seating, real-time arrival information of the next bus, 24/7 surveillance, sidewalk snow melt systems and bicycle parking.

During the mid-2000s, as The Rapid was experiencing an increase in ridership, biking also began to take off in Grand Rapids. And as more people started biking to work, the bike racks on The Rapid busses started quickly filling. After the city released their first Bike Grand Rapids Map in 2008 an even more significant increase in city biking was occurring. It was clear that the relationship between biking and taking the bus was very strong.

CycleSafe happily participated in this biking revolution, and bike racks and lockers can be found at various locations throughout the city, including at The Rapid Central Station. Additionally, the Silver Line project has purchased multiple stainless steel U/2 bicycle racks from CycleSafe for each of the stations.

These U/2 Bike Racks are inverted U Racks that accommodate two bicycles each, securing the wheel and frame. This design increases the stability of the bike, and helps to prevent bikes from



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*Durable and maintenance free.*



colliding with one another. It is an efficient design that results in more bikes being parked in less space when compared to "wave type" racks. The Architect specified the U/2 Rack with the cross-bar for added security, which eliminates a cyclist lock from being forced down to the ground and cut with bolt cutters. It is also a safer design for heavily trafficked pedestrian areas such as the ones at The Rapid BRT stations.

These racks also offer leading technology with heavy gauge 1-1/2" Schd. 40 steel pipe with a buffed stainless steel finish, making them durable enough to withstand urban environments, an important feature in a four-season city.

It is apparent that biking is steadily growing as a form of transportation for many residents in Grand Rapids. CycleSafe is proud to be working with the City to help expand the number of bicycle parking available at new and future transit locations.

## CASE STUDIES AVAILABLE

- Corporations
- Health Care
- Municipalities
- Military Bases
- Trails/ Recreation
- Transit/ Light Rail
- Universities

## Cycle-Safe's Product Line



### LOCKERS

The ProPark® bicycle locker from CycleSafe is an attractive, pad-mounted modular system that's easy to install, requires minimal maintenance, and provides the ultimate in bicycle security.



### CYCLEPORT SHELTERS

A modular bicycle shelter system which features a composite canopy with a tubular frame in contemporary design. May be specified with a variety of side walls and bike racks for weather protected short term use.



### U2 RACKS

CycleSafe's "inverted U" type bike racks are the leading edge in technology for bike rack parking and offer the best of short-term cycle parking. The inverted U-rack design for two bicycles is widely regarded as the recommended standard for modern bicycles.



### VINTAGE RACKS

Vintage Racks by CycleSafe are a novel blend of the old and the new. They capture the charm of traditional ornamental bicycle standards. Vintage Racks were developed in response to urban planners' efforts to recreate historic streetscapes as counterpoints to the hustle and bustle of the modern world.



### WALLRACKS

The vertical WALLRACK by CycleSafe is an innovative bike hanger that has a clever wheel cage which allows the user to not only hang the bike vertically in a space efficient design with excellent bike support, but also to lock the front bike tires and frame through the cage with common cyclists' D-lock to deter theft while in storage.

## SUSTAINABLE PRODUCT

CycleSafe lockers are part of the growing movement toward sustainability. The company seeks out the most environmentally friendly techniques for its manufacturing processes, which includes closed compression molded technology – the cleanest and most durable composite molding method available. The thermoset polyester SMC molding process takes less energy than thermoplastic or metal production. CycleSafe lockers are coated with low-emission baked-on polyurethane finish, which contributes to the long life of the project. CycleSafe products are manufactured to meet ISO 9000 quality and ISO 14000 environmental standards.



**CycleSafe®**  
SECURE BICYCLE PARKING

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