

ISSUE #4: Indoor Bicycle Parking

Theft and exposure to weather are the two biggest concerns for bicycle commuters who must leave parked bikes in remote locations. Moving commuter bike parking indoors can often solve both of these problems, but existing indoor space is usually in short supply.

Key Points:



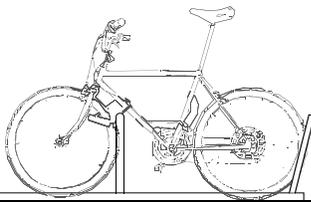
When vertically staggered, hanging racks can be spaced as close together as 17" on center.

- Common horizontal bike racks are not the only way to handle bike parking. Alternative rack types such as vertical hangers and two-tier assemblies can double the capacity of a given indoor space.

When possible clothing lockers, shelves, wall hooks and a private changing area are useful additions to a bike parking room. This is especially important if bike commuters have no access to locker and shower rooms elsewhere.

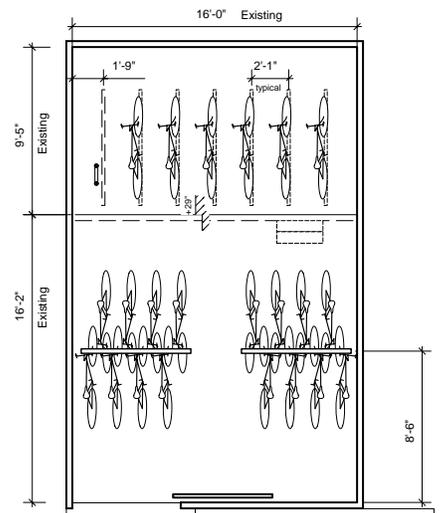


The Port of Portland's retrofit of an existing employee bike parking room doubled the amount of rack space and added shelving, changing areas and clothing hooks. Clothing lockers were provided as part of the original installation.



- Odd-shaped leftover spaces, of little use for other purposes, can sometimes be retrofit for bike parking. Applying creative design imagination in conjunction with alternative rack types is usually the key to success.

Providing adequate clearances for maneuvering and parking bikes is critical. Manufacturers' suggested minimums are sometimes unworkable in practice. Careful layout and testing of proposed rack locations is advised before permanent installation. See Issue Paper #1 for more information on selecting and installing racks.



New layout for Powells Books employee bike parking room captures unused space for additional bicycle parking racks.