



**Bike Jeffco** *the voice for cyclists in Jefferson County*  
**A Report of Riders' Observations on Bike Facilities on the Ride**

Purpose of this Ride Review  
August 8, 2018

By Charlie Myers and the Board of Directors of Bike Jeffco

About by Bike Jeffco

Bike Jeffco is the cyclists' advocacy organization for Jefferson County. Bike Jeffco was established in 1998 through the leadership of the late Dave Evans to address safety hazards on Deer Creek Canyon Rd and reduce cyclist/driver conflicts. Accomplishments include shoulders on Deer Creek Canyon Road, the Genesee/El Rancho Bikeway and members have provided testimony on bike related legislation and proposed ordinances. **Ride reviews** are often used by Bike Jeffco to ascertain what hazards may exist on certain routes and what options could be used to improve the level of safety. **The Jeffco/Golden Ride Review was planned for evaluating the following bike facilities:**

- Some new segments of the Golden Bike Trail had gone in along SH 6 as well as the new 19<sup>th</sup> St/SH 6 Park
- Jefferson County Transportation and Engineering had recently opened a new shared use path along the north side of SH 6. Members have expressed how this facility is an excellent addition to east/west options and might change some riders' personal routes.
- The planned route of the shared use path at Pleasant View Community Park (Camp George) scheduled to be constructed by the fall of 2018.

*"New bike facilities have greatly improved connections within the nearby community as well as connections to important regional routes."*

**Mike Raber**

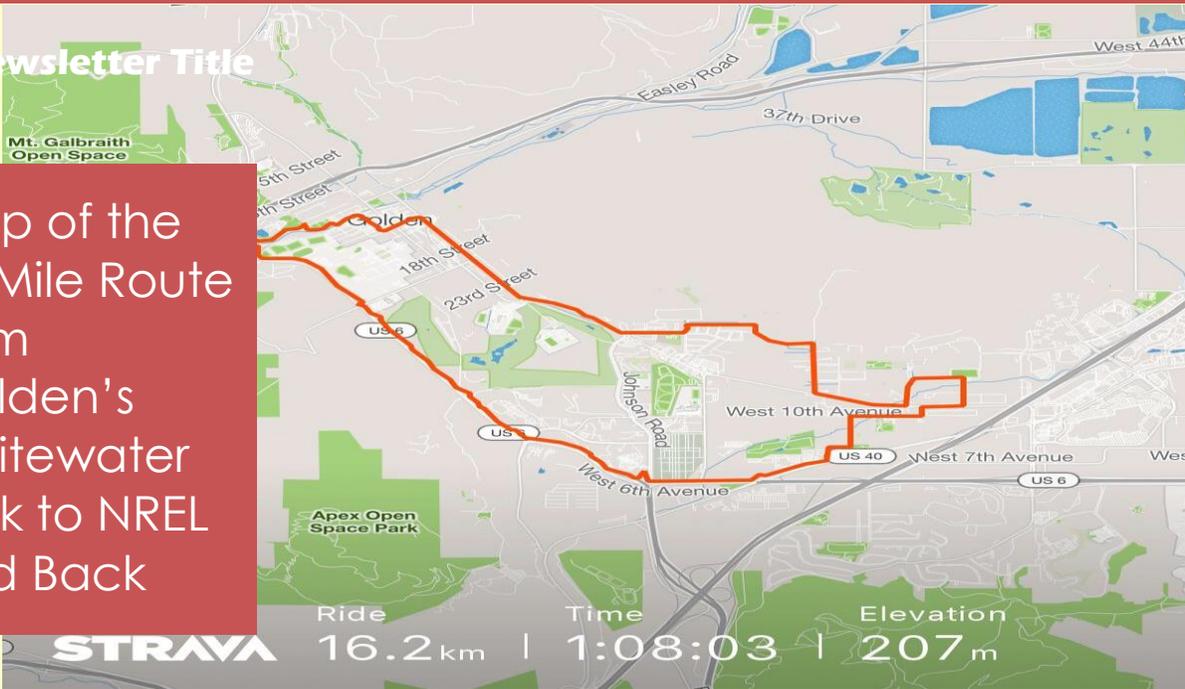
*"I love seeing and experiencing these new effective bike facilities."*

**Jan Stevenson**



Newsletter Title

Map of the 10 Mile Route from Golden's Whitewater Park to NREL and Back



The 8 riders started at Golden’s Whitewater Park off 10<sup>th</sup> St and proceeded to pedal along the Clear Creek Path up river turning left over the bridge. Riders made a number of stops along the 10 mile loop and Yelena Onnen, a planner with Jefferson County Transportation and Engineering, provided commentary on some of the planning that went into each site. Some of the riders also provided their comments on the facilities. The sites that the riders took note of were the following:

1. 19<sup>th</sup> St/SH 6 Park
2. Intersection of Johnson Rd/ SH 6 – Entrance to the SH 6 Shared Use Path
3. SH 6/ Poppy St
4. Orion St/10<sup>th</sup> Ave – from
5. S. Golden Rd/ into Pleasant View Community Park
6. Quaker/Golden Hills Rd and riders followed the Golden Bike Route signs back to Whitewater park

Summary of Observations and Comments

All riders were impressed by the natural beauty of the trail even as it parallels SH 6. The new intersection park is not only attractive but is effective at funneling riders east to the Government Center and/or up toward Lookout Mt. The new shared use path along SH 6 is a new and improved option for getting to 10<sup>th</sup> Ave, the W. Line Bikeway and beyond. The proposed Pleasant View Community Park shared use trail will be a welcome bypass around NREL for bike commuters and recreationalists. Recommendations are on the next page.



The contra flow bike lane on 10<sup>th</sup> Ave is an excellent route for getting east to Moss and McIntyre and then connecting with other routes ,such as the W Line Bikeway .

# Observations, Recommendations and Comments:

| Site/Location  | Observations and Comments   | Recommended Action   |
|--|---|--|
| <br>19 <sup>th</sup> St/ SH 6               | <p>First stop was at the 19<sup>th</sup> St/SH 6 intersection Park where we learned that Golden started this ambitious project in 2015. Neighbors requested a design that did not include left turns for safety reasons. The project was completed in 2017. <b>Kudos to Golden Public Works and Planning for this innovative facility.</b></p>  | <p><b>None.</b> The bicycle infrastructure functions very well in maintaining a high level of safety while funneling cyclists east to the Governmental Center and to the separated 19<sup>th</sup> St climbing lane. We would like to see addressed wrong way riders on 19<sup>th</sup>.</p> |
| <br>Johnson Rd/SH 6                         | <p>Riders did seem to have to wait through a couple cycles of the signal light as a light rail train arrived. Apparently that expunges the call from the queue. Riders end up assuming the signal is malfunctioning and cross. Riders were also confused by which call button was for which signal.</p>   | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Evaluate call button algorithm for both cross walks.</li> <li>2. Evaluate call button placement.</li> <li>3. It may look fine as a diagram on paper, but confusing for the user</li> <li>4. Destination signage should be considered.</li> </ol>   |
| <br>SH 6 Bikeway                           | <p>The sidewalk/bikeway along SH 6 provides a safe and comfortable new route option for getting to the Government Center or joining 10<sup>th</sup> Ave and beyond. <b>Kudos to Jeffco T &amp; E for coming up with this new facility.</b> Yelena mentioned this was a safety project in collaboration with T &amp; E and Golden and paid for through a TAP grant. It opened in 2018.</p>                                   | <p>Riders noticed the struts on the inside of the guard rail are exposed and look like they could be lethal if a cyclist crashed into them. The street side struts have a covering as should the sidewalk side.</p>  |
| <br>10 <sup>th</sup> Ave Bike Lane        | <p>The 10<sup>th</sup> Ave contra flow design is a very effective design for moving cyclists eastbound. <b>Kudos to Jefferson County T &amp; E for creating an innovative design that is effective and safe.</b> The curb cut for cyclists to continue on or past Moss Ave was at first considered odd but it works.</p>  | <p>Just some destination signage would be helpful.</p>   |
| <br>Proposed Pleasant View Comm Park Path | <p>Riding S. Golden Rd with its round-a-bouts and bike lanes that come and go is not for the unexperienced rider. Entering Pleasant View Community Park has one immediately aware of the historical significance of the park. The planned shared use trail out to Research Rd will be very effective in moving cyclists through the NREL area. This will be a great route for bike commuters using 20<sup>th</sup> Ave.</p> | <p>As this shared use trail will be an extension of a regional route, wayfinding and destination finding should be considered.</p>   |
|   | <p>Back on a better section of S Golden Rd, cyclists turned right on Quaker and then continued on the Golden Bike Route.</p>  | <p>What would make the multi-use path a real gem, would be a cut through and bridge across the culvert on to 13<sup>th</sup> and to Quaker. Given its regional significance, signage would be recommended.</p>   |

Bike Jeffco would like to acknowledge **Yelena Onnen**, Planner with Jefferson County Transportation & Engineering for joining the ride review and providing expert commentary at a number of sites along the route. Also, kudos to **Golden Public Works** for their thoughtful planning for bicycle accommodations.

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