

Existing Bicycle Level of Traffic Stress

- LTS 1
- LTS 2
- LTS 3
- LTS 4

Bicycle level of Traffic Stress

Bicycle Level of Traffic Stress (LTS) is a metric used to quantify a cyclist's potential comfort level given the current conditions of the roadway and surrounding context. Different bicyclists have different tolerances for stress created by volume, speed, and proximity of automobile traffic. In general, lower stress facilities have increased separation between cyclists and vehicular traffic and/or have lower speeds and lower traffic volumes. Higher stress environments generally involve cyclists riding in close proximity to traffic, multi-lane roadways, and higher speeds or traffic volumes.

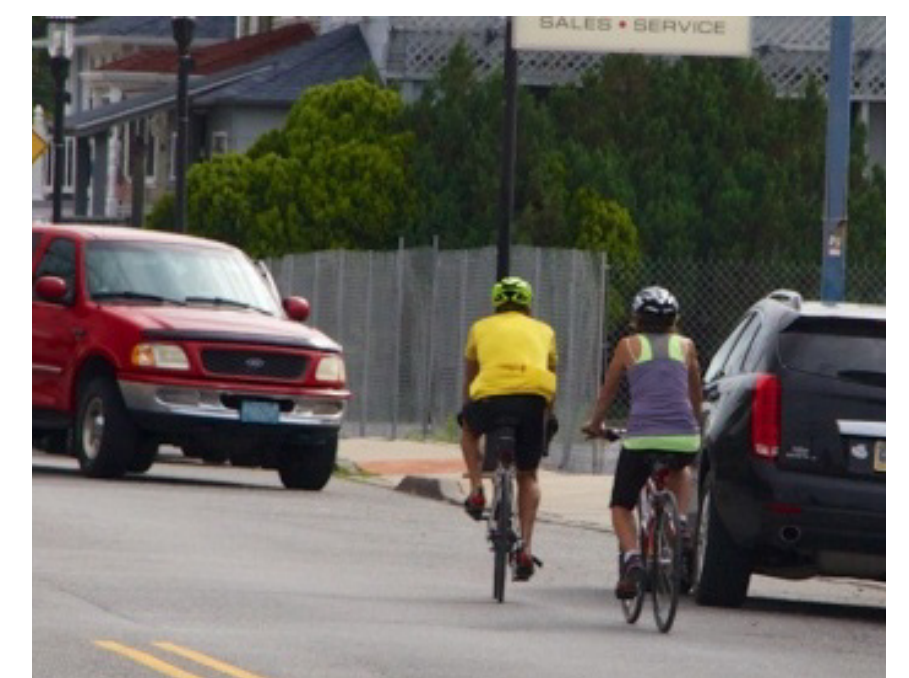
LTS Categories



Stress Level 1: Suitable for all cyclists, including children. Cyclists are either physically separated from traffic, in a dedicated bicycle lane next to slow traffic, or on a shared-street with a low speed differential



Stress Level 2: Suitable for most adults, but demands more attention to traffic than might be expected from children or other vulnerable users



Stress Level 3: Acceptable for enthusiastic riders. Cyclists either ride in an exclusive on-street lane next to moderate speed traffic or on shared lanes on non-multi-lane streets



Stress Level 4: Suitable only for experienced riders or not suitable for any riders. Characterized by high travel speeds, multiple lanes, and/or are lacking in dedicated bicycle facilities

