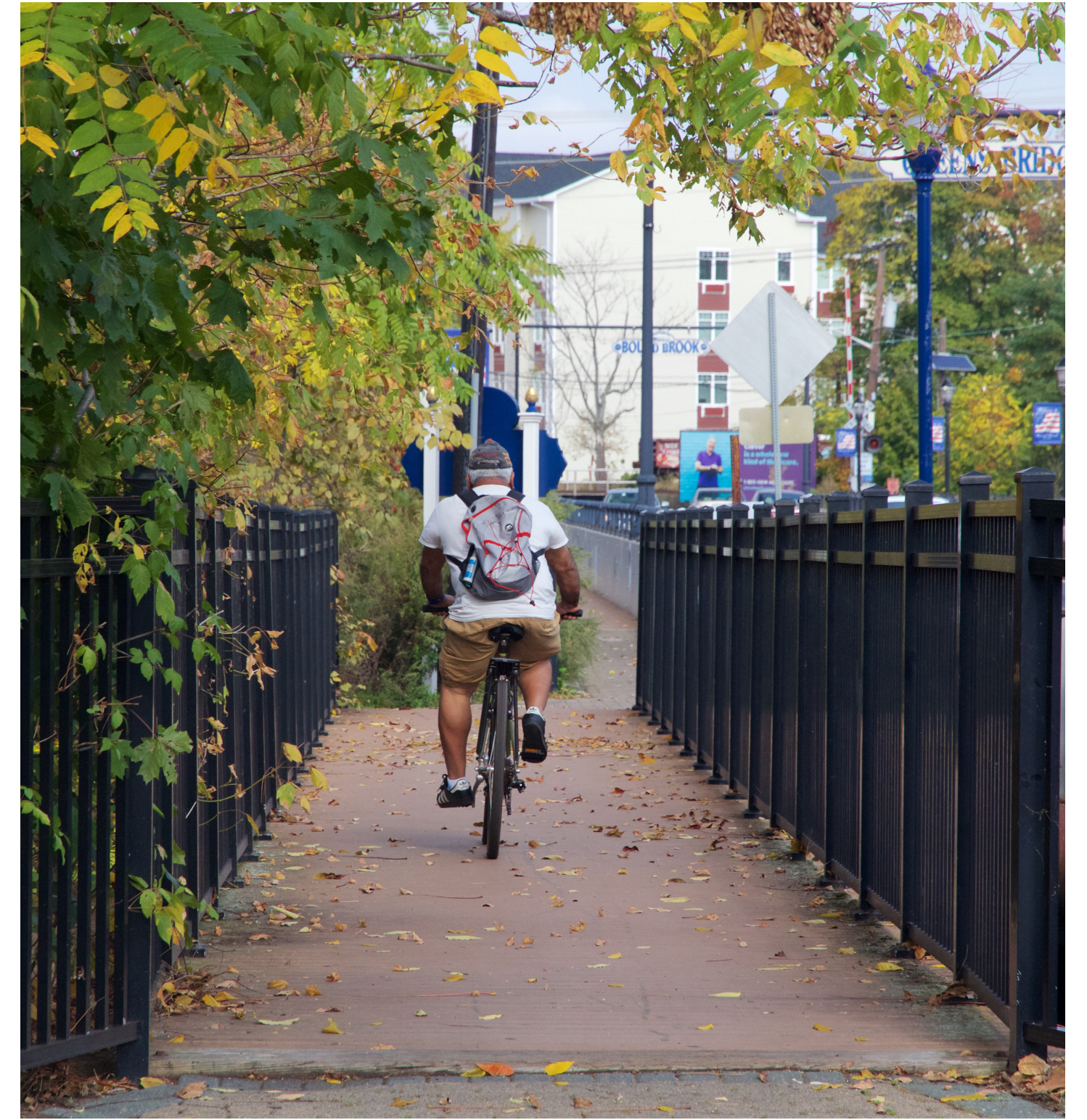


Definition

The term shared-use path is defined by AASHTO as “a bikeway physically separated from motorized vehicular traffic by an open space or barrier and either within the highway right-of-way or within an independent right-of-way. Shared-use paths may also be used by pedestrians, skaters, wheelchair users, joggers, and other nonmotorized users.” These facilities are most commonly designed for two-way travel. In many communities, shared-use paths may also be referred to as trails, multi-use trails, bike paths, hiker/biker trails, or other similar terms.



Easiest

Surface Type: Paved with cement or asphalt

Users: Generally appropriate for all ages and abilities. Often (but not always) wheel chair accessible. Can be used by most types of bikes.



Description

This type of trail is typically wide with smooth terrain and low gradients. Surface may be uneven, loose or muddy at times but free from unavoidable obstacles. Recommended for novice riders.

Easy

Surface Type: Natural, but often highly compacted or reinforced with mulch or gravel

Users: For beginners. Relatively easy terrain for children and pets. Can be used by most types of bikes.

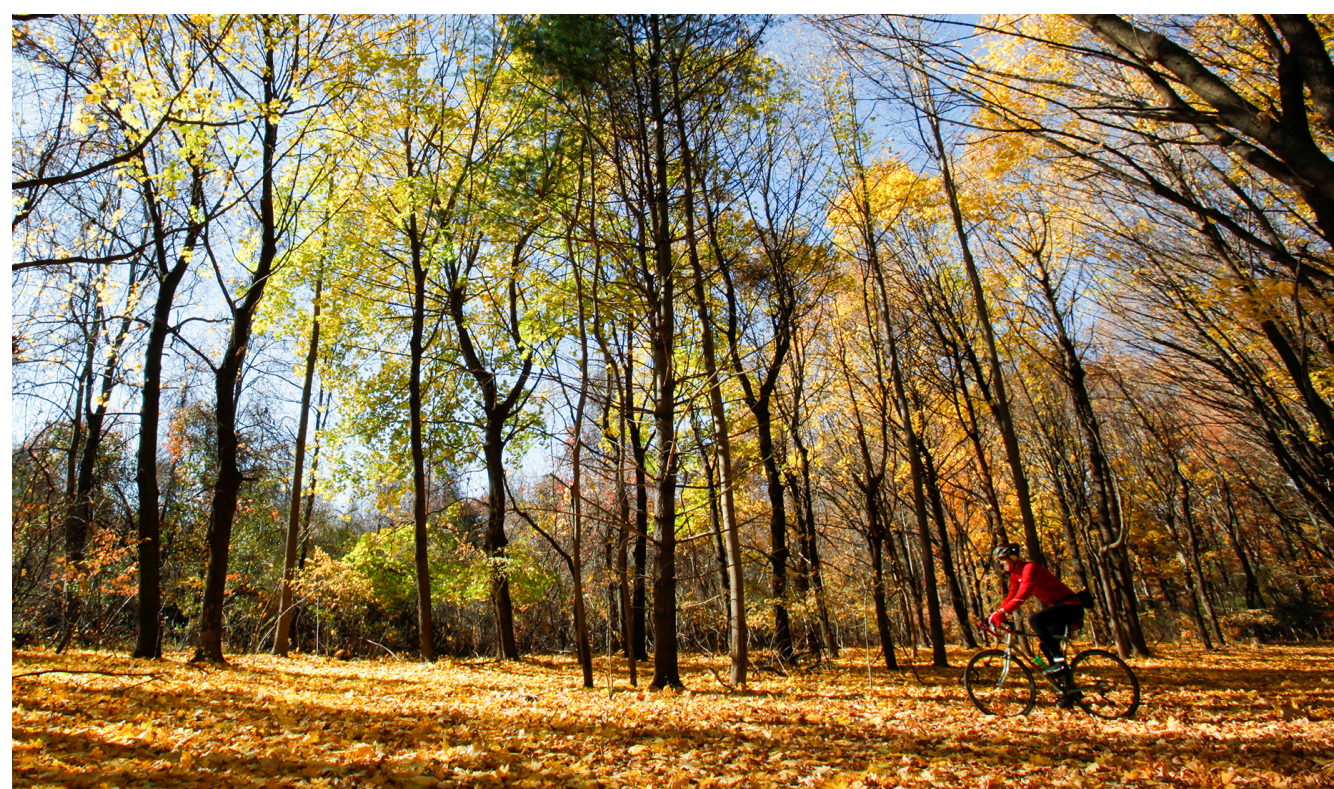


This type of trail is typically on firm terrain with gentle gradients. Surface may be uneven, loose or muddy at times. Riders may encounter small rollable obstacles and technical trail features. Recommended for beginner mountain riders.

Moderate

Surface Type: Natural surface, may be compacted by high use

Users: A greater challenge. Often more isolated trail amenities are limited. May be difficult for those with limited abilities. Basic mountain bikes needed for these trails.



This type of trail is typically narrow trail with loose, soft, rocky or slippery sections and hills with short steep sections. Riders will encounter obstacles and technical trail features. Recommended for intermediate riders with some technical mountain biking experience.

Difficult

Surface Type: Natural surface, rough, difficult to differentiate from surrounding area

Users: Strenuous and only for experienced riders. Good mountain bikes needed for these trails.



This type of trail is typically with variable surfaces and/or steep gradients. Riders will encounter large obstacles and technical trail features. Recommended for experienced riders with good technical skills levels.

Extreme

Surface Type: Natural rough surface, difficult to differentiate from surrounding area

Users: Strenuous and only for experienced riders. Quality off-road mountain bikes needed for these trails.



This type of trail may contain highly variable surfaces, very challenging terrain and/or very steep sections. Rides will encounter committing and unavoidable obstacles and technical trail features that may not be rollable. Recommended for very experienced riders with high level technical skill.

