

INDUSTRY ARTICLE

NEW BICYCLE PARKING GUIDELINES FOR NEW DEVELOPMENTS

New planning guidelines covering bicycle parking and other cycling-related facilities have come into effect for all new developments.

The new guidelines cover:-

- provision of bicycle parking during the development or redevelopment of apartments and popular 'destination' buildings such as workplaces, shops, educational institutions and entertainment facilities;
- provision of bicycle rails for short-stay parking for visitors and shoppers, and secure long-stay parking such as fully enclosed bicycle lockers for employees and residents; and
- showers and change facilities for new buildings.

The guidelines apply to all activities that require development approval under the Land (Planning and Environment) Act 1991. Single residences, dual occupancies, townhouses, etc. do not require bicycle parking as most are designed with storage space suitable for bicycles, such as garages and sheds.

To minimise compliance costs for the developers:-

- showers and change facilities are only required for larger new buildings;
- many small commercial developments will only need a small amount of low-cost visitor bicycle parking; and
- developers have the option to provide general purpose storage space, instead of employee and resident bicycle parking, in many residential developments and other smaller commercial developments.

The ACT Planning and Land Authority's Chief Planning Executive, Neil Savery, said the new bicycle parking guidelines were specifically aimed at minimising the barriers to cycling by ensuring the availability of safe and convenient end-of-trip cycling facilities at residences and common and recreational locations.

"The industry plays a critical role in meeting this aim. By providing good bicycle parking facilities, the industry can better meet its cycling customers' needs, whilst helping to reduce the overall cost of Canberra's transport system by reducing congestion, air pollution, greenhouse gas emissions and traffic accidents."

The new guidelines replace the existing bicycle parking requirements in the *Apartment Guidelines* and the *ACT Parking and Vehicle Access Guidelines*. A public consultation exercise was held in the middle of the year to solicit feedback on the guidelines.

Copies of the guidelines are available from the Authority's Dickson Customer Service Centre and online at www.actpla.act.gov.au in the Territory Plan section.