

**TOWN OF WESTFIELD
WESTFIELD, NEW JERSEY**

GENERAL ORDINANCE NO. 2025-23

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE LAND USE ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF
WESTFIELD REQUIRING THE PROVISION OF BICYCLE PARKING AND
ESTABLISHING STANDARDS THEREFOR**

WHEREAS, the Unified Land Use and Circulation Element of the Westfield Master Plan adopted by the Planning Board of the Town of Westfield by resolution dated July 7, 2021 includes a recommendation that the Town adopt an ordinance requiring new development of a certain size to provide bicycle parking, both short- and long-term; and

WHEREAS, the Unified Land Use and Circulation Element of the Westfield Master Plan states that bicycle parking is essential to support bicycling and increase the number of bicycle trips for commuting, shopping, and social visits; and, states that bicycle parking ordinances can help increase the availability, convenience and quality of bicycle parking, creating a more bike-friendly environment and, over time, reduce demand for car parking as trips shift modes; and

WHEREAS, the plan entitled Bike Walk Westfield: Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan completed in November of 2019 states that the Town should consider adopting a bicycle parking ordinance to further integrate bicycling into the Town’s planning process and development regulations ensuring that appropriate bicycle parking is provided as redevelopment occurs, thereby supporting additional parking capacity throughout the community and increasing the convenience of bicycling; and

WHEREAS, it is important to provide not only for short-term bicycle parking needs of local residents out shopping, eating, or attending appointments, but also the long-term bicycle parking needs of employees, residents, and students who park their bikes at work, school, or home for many hours or overnight; and

WHEREAS, bicycling is a feasible alternative to driving for many trips and replacing car trips with bicycling can reduce pollution and congestion, can increase air quality, and is a healthy alternative; and

WHEREAS, the Council wishes to amend its Land Use Ordinance to establish requirements for the provision of bicycle parking in connection with private development and to establish standards therefor, bringing the Land Use Ordinance of the Town of Westfield into conformity with the Town Master Plan; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Town Council of the Town of Westfield in the County of Union as follows:

SECTION I. Article 2, Section 2.05 titled “Definitions: B”, hereby amended and supplemented to include a new definition for Bicycle Parking Space which shall be inserted as a new subsection E which shall read as set forth herein. The existing subsections E through O shall be re-lettered respectively.

E. Bicycle parking space. An area within which one intact, full-sized bicycle may conveniently and securely be stored and removed, with one or

both wheels resting upon a stable surface such that the whole bicycle is stable in its storage position, without requiring the use of a kickstand, and without requiring the movement of other parked bicycles, vehicles or other objects to access the space. Bicycle parking spaces may be classified as either long-term or short-term. Long-term bicycle parking is intended primarily to serve residents, employees or other persons who require storage of a bicycle for a substantial portion of the day, overnight, or for multiple days and is secure and sheltered. Short-term bicycle parking is intended primarily to serve visitors and customers, such as retail patrons, expected to use bicycle storage for a few hours and is convenient in proximity and easy to use.

SECTION II. Article 17, titled “Off-Street Parking, Loading, Circulation and Access”, is hereby amended by adding a new section 17.02H, “Bicycle parking spaces required”, to read as follows

H. Bicycle parking spaces required. Bicycle parking shall be provided in accordance with the following requirements, unless more stringent requirements are provided in other articles of this ordinance. In the following provisions, “GFA” shall mean gross floor area.

1. Applicability.

a. The bicycle parking requirement shall apply to the following:

- (1) The construction of a new building;
- (2) The expansion of or change of use within an existing building where the difference between the bicycle parking required for the proposed building and the bicycle parking that would be required for the existing building under this section equals two (2) or more bicycle parking spaces.
- (3) Where bicycle parking is required pursuant to this section, it shall be applied to the entirety of any use that is established, expanded, or enlarged within a building or lot and not only to the incremental increase in the intensity of such use.

2. Exceptions.

a. Detached single-family and two-family residences are not required to provide bicycle parking.

3. Minimum number of off-street bicycle spaces.

a. Schedule of requirements.

Use	Long-Term Bicycle Parking	Short-Term Bicycle Parking
Multifamily Residential	.5 spaces per dwelling unit	N/A
Office, medical	1 space / 3,000 SF GFA	1 space / 10,000 SF GFA

office, health related uses		
Retail/ wholesale sales and services	N/A	1 space / 2,000 SF GFA
Restaurant / Bar	N/A	1 space / 2,000 SF GFA
Educational or religious uses	N/A	1 space / 10,000 SF GFA

b. Fractions of spaces. Requirements for a fraction of a bicycle space shall be rounded down if the fraction is $\frac{1}{2}$ space or less, and rounded up if the fraction is greater than $\frac{1}{2}$ space.

4. Covered bicycle parking. Long-term bicycle parking requirements shall be satisfied by the installation of covered bicycle parking facilities. Short-term bicycle parking requirements may be thereby satisfied as well, in which case, appropriate signage shall be provided so that the availability of bicycle parking is clear to visitors and other users of short-term bicycle parking facilities. Covered bicycle parking shall be provided inside buildings, under roof overhangs or awnings, in bicycle lockers, or within or under other structures. A bicycle locker for this purpose shall mean an enclosed, lockable structure that may be opened and closed for the purpose of securely storing one or more bicycles. Where required covered bicycle parking is not within a building or locker, the cover must be permanent, designed to protect bicycles from precipitation, and be at least seven feet in height.

SECTION III. Article 10, titled “Design Guidelines, Standards and Construction Specifications”, is hereby amended by adding a new section 10.21, “Bicycle Parking”, to read as follows:

A. General Standards for bicycle parking.

1. Bicycle parking spaces shall be convenient and reasonably accessible, within a reasonable distance from the entrance to the use they are intended to serve, and appropriately lit.
2. The bicycle parking required shall be maintained exclusively for the parking of bicycles, and not for the storage of other objects unrelated to bicycles.
3. All bicycle parking facilities shall be sufficiently separated from motor vehicle parking areas to protect parked bicycles from damage by motor vehicles.
4. Each required bicycle parking space must be accessible by way of at least one primary access route and must be accessible without another bicycle needing to be moved.
5. Bicycle parking shall be located so as not to block the pedestrian path on a sidewalk or within a site.

- B. **Unacceptable bicycle parking designs.** A bicycle parking design shall not be acceptable where bicycles must be stored lying down or require a kickstand to remain upright.
- C. **Signs.** Where required bicycle parking spaces are not reasonably visible from the street or main building entrance of the use intended to be served, signage shall be posted at an appropriate location indicating the location of the bicycle parking storage facility.
- D. **Bicycle Racks.** Long-term or short-term bicycle parking requirements may be satisfied by the installation of bicycle racks. Bicycle racks shall be properly spaced to allow easy, independent access to each bicycle. Preference shall be given to the "inverted U" rack. Other acceptable designs include the "post and ring," and "wheelwell secure." Bicycle racks shall be securely anchored to the ground and appropriately spaced to accommodate a full-sized bicycle and space for access and maneuvering. Older style bicycle racks, such as those commonly known as the "comb/schoolyard," "toast" and "wave," shall not be permitted. As bicycle racks are replaced or additional capacity is added, new racks shall meet the following guidelines provided by the Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals (APBP):
1. Be intuitive to use;
 2. Support the bicycle upright by its frame in two locations;
 3. Prevent the wheel of the bicycle from tipping over;
 4. Enable the frame and one or both wheels to be secured;
 5. Accommodate a variety of bicycles and attachments, including bicycles without a diamond shaped frame and front or rear wheel;
 6. Resist the cutting or detaching of any rack element with hand tools;
 7. Allow both front-in and back-in parking with a U-lock through the frame and front or rear wheel.

SECTION IV. Article 9, Section 9.08 titled "Additional Requirements for Minor Site Plans", is hereby amended by adding a new section E which shall read as follows:

- E. Site plans and building floor plans shall show the proposed location of bicycle parking facilities. A construction detail of the proposed bicycle parking/storage facilities shall be provided.

SECTION V. Article 9, Section 9.09 titled "Additional Requirements for Preliminary Major Site Plans", is hereby amended by adding a new section O which shall read as follows:

- O. Site plans and building floor plans shall show the proposed location of bicycle parking facilities. A construction detail of the proposed bicycle parking facilities shall be provided.

SECTION VI. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict or inconsistent with any part of this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent that they are in conflict or inconsistent.

SECTION VII. In the event that any section, provision, or part of provision of this ordinance shall be held to be unenforceable or invalid by any court, such holding shall not affect the validity of this ordinance as a whole, or any part thereof, other than the part so held unenforceable or invalid.

SECTION VIII. This ordinance shall take effect after passage and publication in the manner provided by law.

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the foregoing ordinance was approved for final adoption by the Town Council of the Town of Westfield at a Regular Meeting held on December 9, 2025.

Maureen Lawshe, RMC
Town Clerk