

# Preface



*Bicycle commuter, Lafayette Street bicycle lane.*

The *New York City Bicycle Master Plan* is the final report of the first phase of the Bicycle Network Development (BND) Project, a joint Department of City Planning (DCP)-Department of Transportation (DOT) effort. The goal of the BND Project is to increase bicycle ridership in New York City, and the purpose of the *Plan* is to articulate the City's action plan. The BND Project is partially financed through the Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) program of the federal Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA). The federal program provides funding for the planning, design and development of bikeways as a means of improving air quality, reducing energy costs, reducing congestion on existing roadways, and helping to provide for lower overall transportation costs.

The *Bicycle Master Plan* is divided into nine sections:

- The Benefits of Cycling
- Cycling in New York City
- The On-Street Network
- Bridges
- The Greenway System
- Access to Mass Transit
- A Comprehensive Bicycle Program
- Design Guidelines
- Next Steps

Much of the information in this report is derived from BND Project tasks, including the Citywide network; the All-Agency Bicycle Policy; bicycle facility design guidelines; and a map of recommended routes for public distribution. New York City is committed to making cycling part of the City's transportation system and encourages individuals and communities to participate in the implementation of this *Plan*.