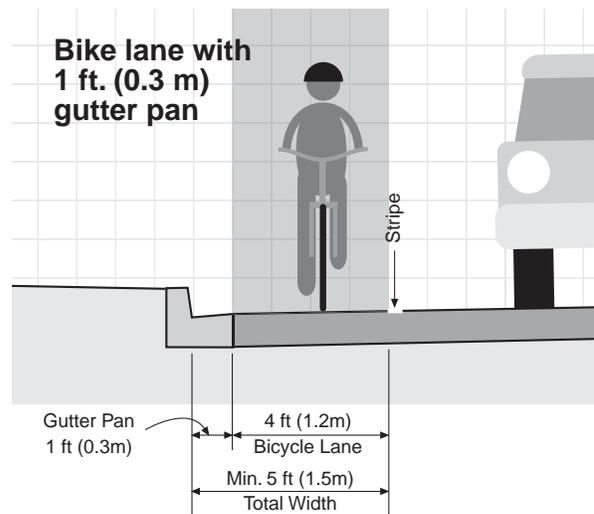


### 3.4 Bicycle lane width

Figure 3-12: A bicycle lane next to the curb on an asphalt roadway may be 4ft. wide. However, this should not include the gutter pan.

*Curbed asphalt street, no parking:* On a curbed asphalt street without parking, the standard clear width of a bicycle lane is 4 ft. (1.2 m), as measured from the inside of the stripe to the joint line with the gutter pan (fig. 3-12). Depending on whether a 1 ft. or 2 ft. (0.6 m) gutter pan is used, the total width from face of curb to the inside of the bicycle lane stripe would be either 5 or 6 ft. (1.5 - 1.8 m).



On an asphalt roadway, the width of the gutter pan is not included within the bicycle lane measurement because the gutter pan is not considered usable space. There are at least six reasons for this:

- *Riding in the gutter increases the likelihood that a bicyclist will hit a pedal on the curb;*
- *Joint lines between the roadway and gutter pan are often uneven and can cause a bicyclist to crash;*
- *Debris tends to collect in the gutter, having been swept there by passing motor vehicles;*
- *Drainage grates are most often located in the gutter pan;*
- *The gutter pan may have a greater cross slope than the rest of the roadway; this may cause problems for adult tricycles;*
- *A bicyclist riding close to the curb is less likely to be seen by motorists at cross streets and would have a more difficult time taking evasive action.*

Figure 3-13: A drain inset into a 1ft. curb head provides extra space in tight places.



*Where space is tight but drainage requirements dictate an 18 in. (0.45 m) drain, a special 1 ft. (0.3 m) curbhead may be used with a 1 ft. (0.3 m) gutter pan (fig. 3-13).*

*At drain locations, the width of the curb head is reduced to 6 in. (0.15 m) to make room for the grate.*