

Bicycle Routes to Plaza Super Jet - A Centrally Located and Bicycle Friendly Grocery Store

by Charles Hickenbottom

The Plaza Super Jet is a small grocery store in Wenatchee. But it competes with any grocery store for friendly service. For bicyclists who can manage taking home some groceries, it is centrally located, being near Memorial Park and the Chelan County Courthouse. Well constructed bike racks that meet current standards to support the bike frame (and panniers) and easy locking up capability are located in front of the store and behind the store. No grocery store in greater Wenatchee comes even close in welcoming a bicyclist to come and shop.





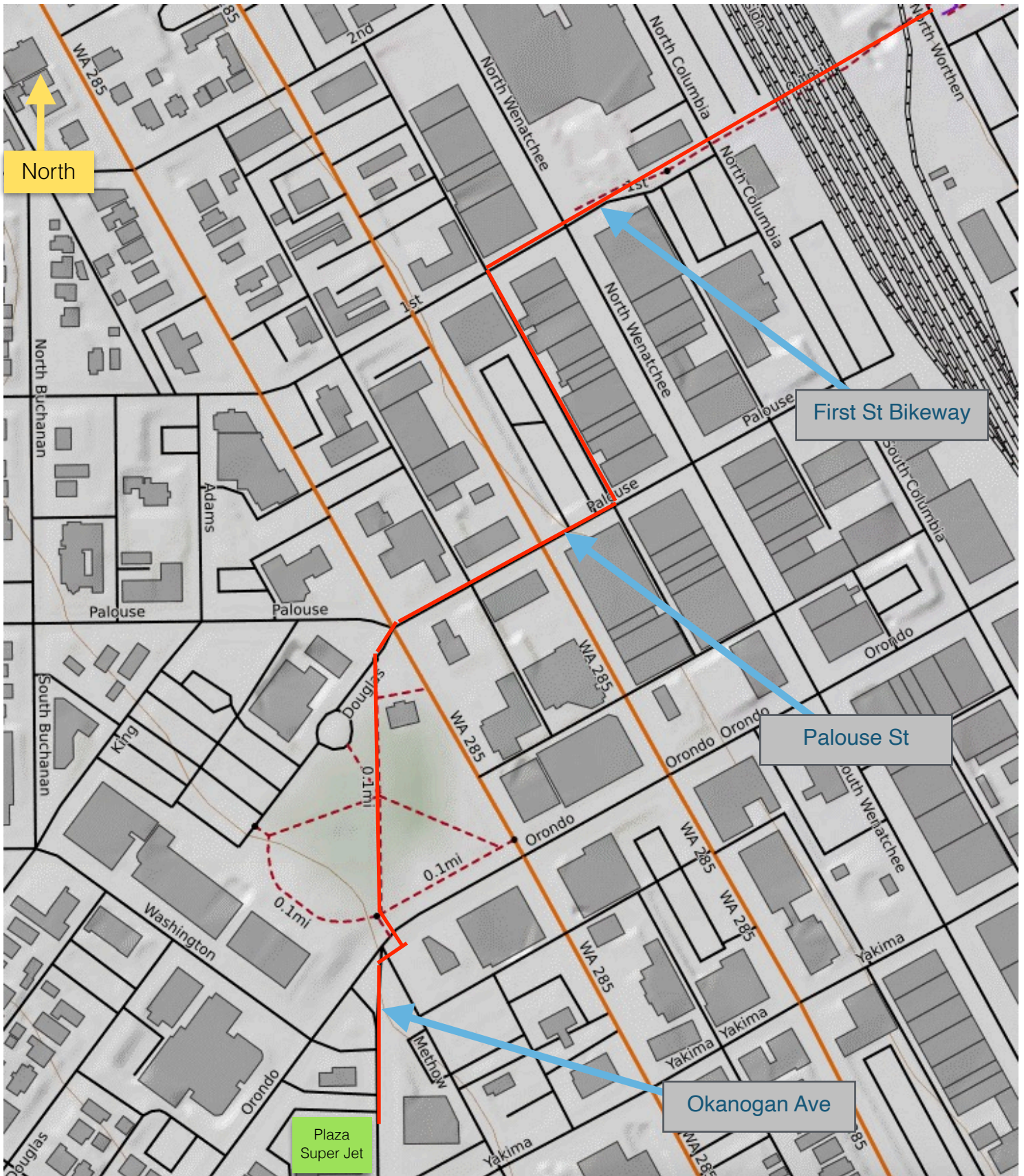
Three bike racks are in front of the store to the left of the front door. These are quality racks that support the bike frame and provide easy locking up capabilities.

To the right of the front door is another bike rack. Do not be confused by the handicapped parking sign. This sign is for nearby motor vehicle parking.

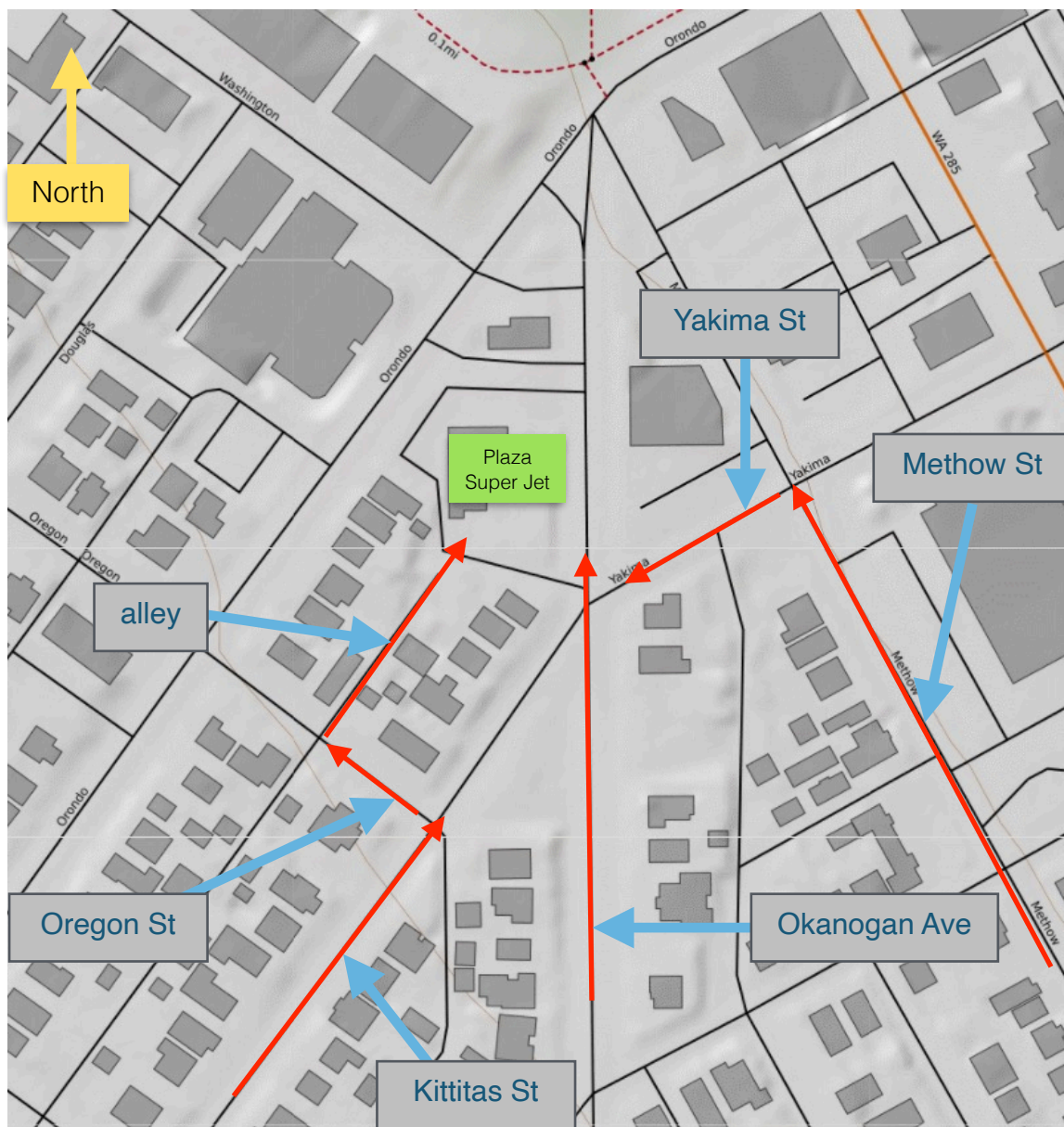
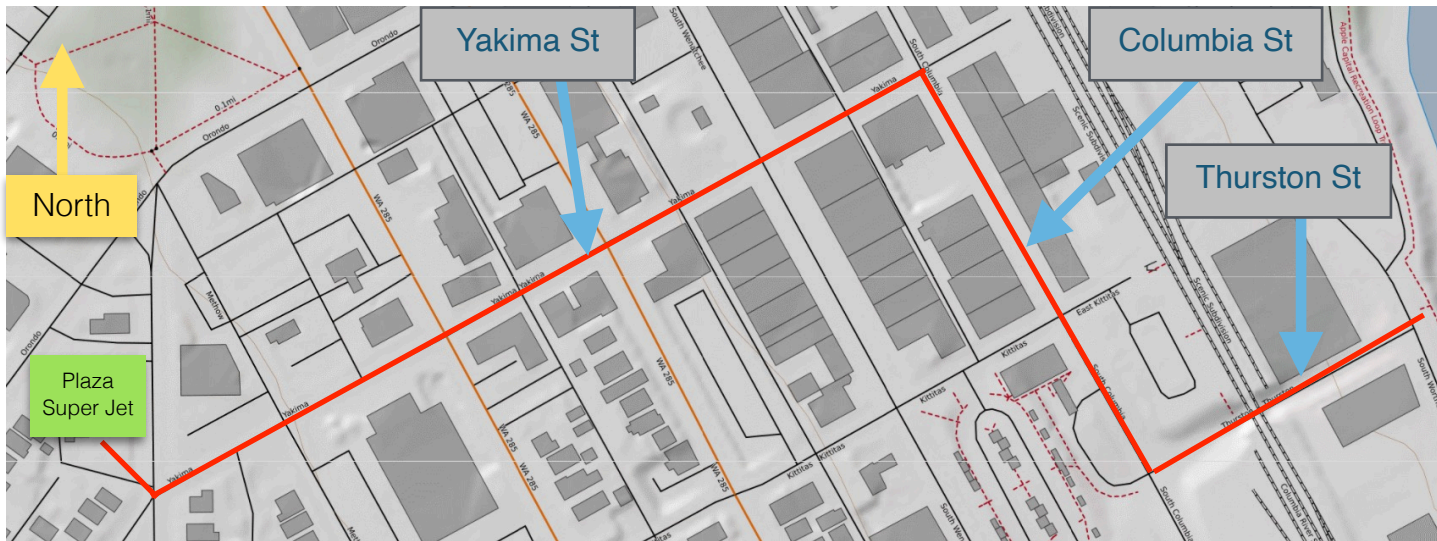


In the parking lot in the back of the store is another bike rack. If a bicyclist is loading up a couple of panniers worth of groceries, this would be the best spot to park.

There are some good routes to bicycle to Plaza Super Jet. From the Loop Trail (below), cross into downtown Wenatchee on the Riverwalk Crossing. Use a combination of First St, an alley, and Palouse St to reach Memorial Park. Cross through Memorial Park on a sidewalk, then use crosswalks to cross Orondo Ave, Methow St, and Okanogan Ave. Use the bike lane going south on Okanogan Ave to reach the parking lot of Plaza Super Jet.



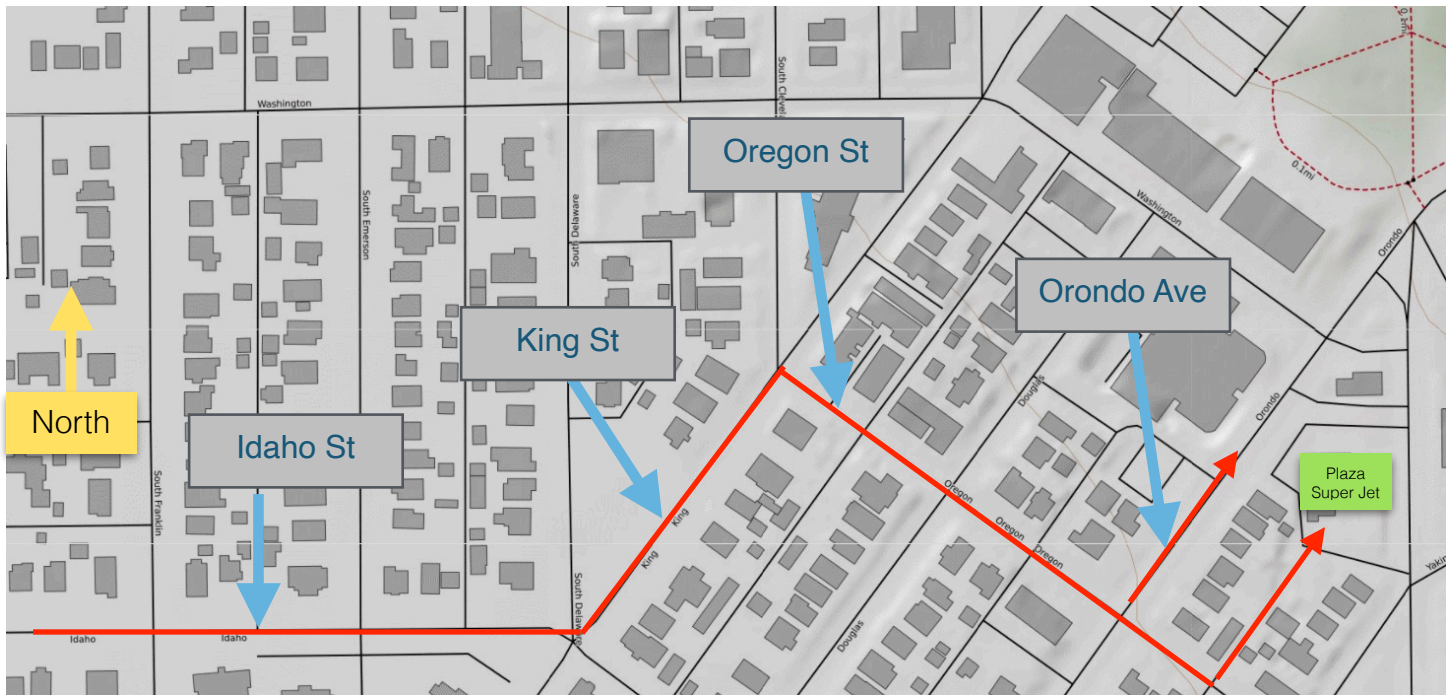
From the Loop Trail (below), travel underneath the BN Railroad Tracks on Thurston St to reach Columbia St. Ride north on Columbia St, then head west on Yakima St. Cross Yakima St and ride into the back parking lot, where a bike rack is available. If riding in the opposite direction, use a sidewalk on Yakima St between Methow St and Chelan Ave to avoid riding the wrong way on a one-way street.



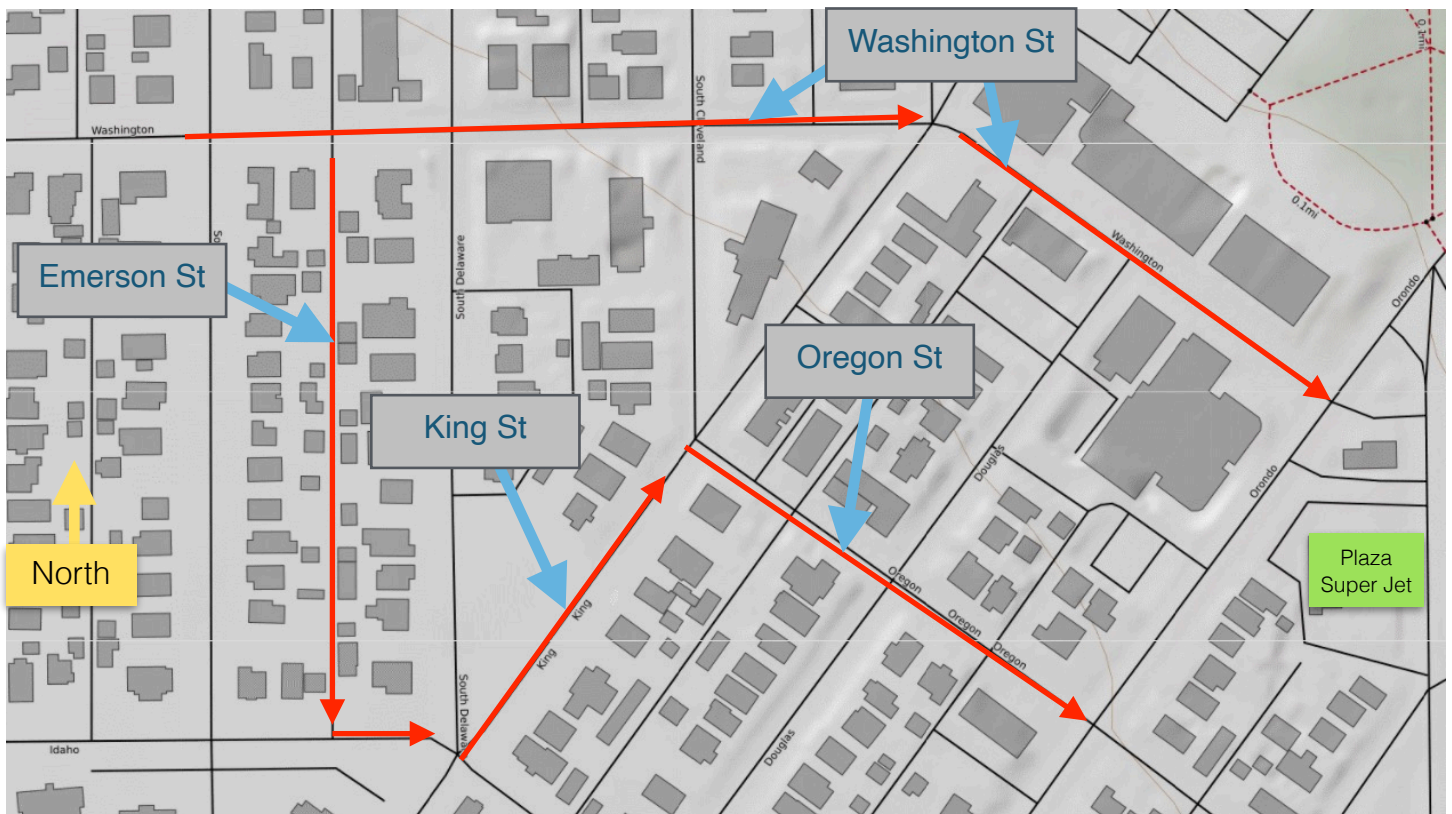
Coming from the south, Methow St and Okanogan Ave (right) are direct routes leading towards Plaza Super Jet.

From Kittitas St and Oregon St, the alley between Orondo Ave and Yakima St can be used to reach the parking lot behind Plaza Super Jet.

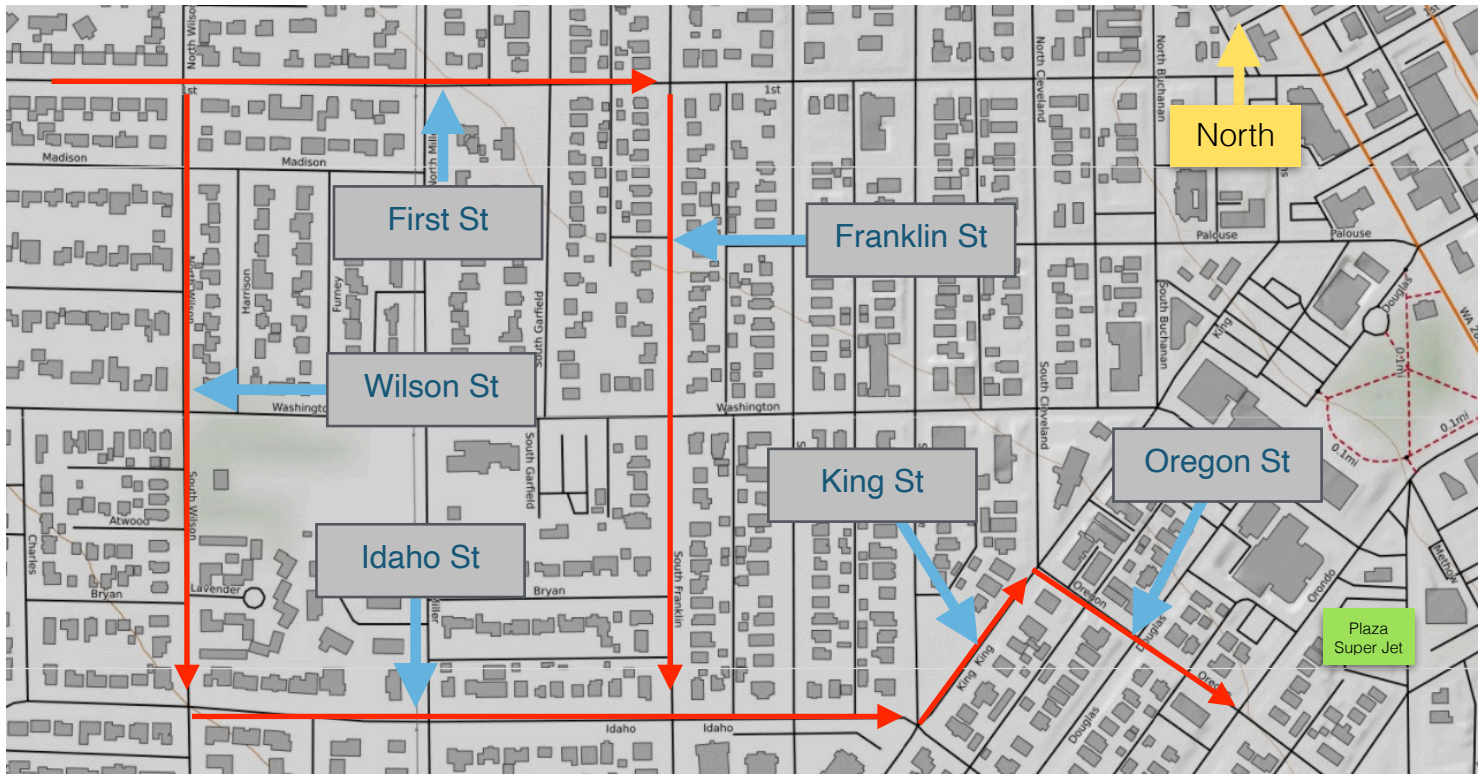
Coming from the west on Idaho St (below), head east on Idaho St, use King St for a couple of blocks, then head southeast on Oregon St. A bicyclist has a choice of heading downhill on the Orondo St bike lane to access the front of the store, or use the alley between Orondo Ave and Yakima St to access the back of the store. The alley is a bit bumpy, but has less traffic than the busier Orondo Ave.



If heading east on Washington St (below), there are a couple of options. One can ride the arterial all the way to Orondo Ave, then use the sidewalk to cross Orondo Ave. A quieter, less busy route uses Emerson St, King St, then finishes as described above.



If using the First St Bikeway (below), there are options to reach Plaza Super Jet. Both Wilson St and Franklin St provide access south to Idaho St, King St and Oregon St.



Charles Hickenbottom is the author of *Greater Wenatchee Bicycle Routes - A History Told Through Maps, Drawings, and Pictures* (2022). The book is available for purchase through the Wenatchee Valley Museum, with proceeds from sales donated to the museum. The book can be checked out from North Central Washington Libraries. Hickenbottom has served for 25 years on local bicycle advisory boards and committees. For two decades he commuted by bicycle to Lewis & Clark Elementary School from his home near Chase Park. Most of his errands and travel around town is done by bicycle. Since the completion of the book in 2022, Hickenbottom has completed several writing projects about various bicycling topics pertinent to Wenatchee, hosted by the Wenatchee Outdoors website. 5-21-2024