

# HOW TO RIDE IN TRAFFIC

## BE PREDICTABLE

RIDE SO DRIVERS CAN SEE YOU AND PREDICT YOUR MOVEMENTS. REMEMBER, BICYCLISTS HAVE THE SAME RIGHTS, DUTIES, AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF A MOTOR VEHICLE DRIVER.

## BE ALERT

RIDE PREDICTABLY AND DEFENSIVELY. SCAN THE ROAD FOR HAZARDS.

## BE EQUIPPED

ALWAYS WEAR A HELMET AND MAKE SURE YOUR BIKE IS IN GOOD AND PROPER WORKING CONDITION. WHEN NIGHT RIDING, THE LAW REQUIRES LIGHTS AND REFLECTORS.



### OBEY TRAFFIC SIGNALS AND LAWS

Bicyclists must follow the same laws as motorists. Stop at red lights and stop signs just as you would in a car.



### RIDE IN THE MIDDLE OF NARROW LANES

When the lane is too narrow for a car to pass you safely, ride in the middle of the lane.



### USE HAND SIGNALS

Hand signals tell others what you intend to do. Signal before turning.



### CHOOSE THE BEST WAY TO TURN LEFT

Like an auto: Signal, move into the left lane and turn left. Do not turn left from the right lane. Like a pedestrian: Use the crosswalks and walk your bike across the sidewalk.



### RIDING ON SIDEWALKS MAY BE PROHIBITED

Pedestrians have the right-of-way. Give them an audible warning before you pass. Watch for vehicles at driveways and intersections.



### RIDE WITH BOTH HANDS READY TO BRAKE

You may need to stop suddenly and unexpectedly. In rain, allow three times the normal braking distance.



### BE VISIBLE AT NIGHT

The law requires a strong headlight and rear reflector or taillight at night or when visibility is poor. Wear light-colored cloths with reflective tape.



### DO NOT PASS ON THE RIGHT

When approaching an intersection or driveway, be especially cautious and do not overtake a vehicle on its right; it may turn in front of you.



### RIDE IN A STRAIGHT LINE

Ride in a straight line and far enough from parked cars to avoid suddenly opened doors. Riding in a straight line allows others to anticipate what you are likely to do.



### SCAN THE ROAD AROUND YOU

To anticipate what other traffic is likely to do, watch for cars, people, road hazards, etc. Look back over your shoulder without losing balance or swerving.



### NEVER RIDE AGAINST TRAFFIC

Cyclists must ride with traffic. Approach velocities are unsafe! Motorists are looking for oncoming traffic from the left when turning right.



### FOLLOW LANE MARKINGS

Do not go straight in a lane marked right turn only.



### YOU MAY LEAVE A BIKE LANE

To avoid road hazards or any danger. You may merge WITH CAUTION into the adjacent lane to temporarily avoid an accident, gain better visibility or avoid a car turning into your path.