

According to the city of Austin, as of 2012, there are over 1,200 miles of bicycle facilities installed throughout the city.



According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, in 2012, Texas had 56 pedalcyclist fatalities, the third highest in the nation.



The most common way for a cyclist to be hit by a car is pulling out of a side street, parking lot or driveway on the right.



More than half of commute trips, and three out of four shopping trips, are under five miles...ideal for cycling; 40% of all trips are under two miles.



National polls have reflected that 17-20% of adults say that they would sometimes bike to work if they had safe routes, workplace parking and workplace changing facilities.

The Travis County Sheriff's Office is committed to keeping all Travis County residents safe. The diverse population and community interests help make Austin-Travis County Metro one of the coolest places to live; our population explosion over the past decade is testament.

We encourage the community to join us in our commitment that all passengers on the road Motorists, Bicyclists and Pedestrians look out for each other, so that we can all reach our destination safely.



LOCAL RESOURCES

Report Emergencies 9-1-1

www. austintexas.gov/page/bicycle-laws-codes

www.bikeaustin.org

www.austinyellowbike.org

www.txdot.gov/driver/share-road/bicycles

——Ride Smart——— TOGETHER



TRAVIS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

P.O. Box 1748 / Austin, TX 78767 512.854.9770 / www.tcsheriff.org



SAFETY TIPS

for CYCLISTS & MOTORISTS

from the TRAVIS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE





MOTORIST Safety

- Cyclists have the same rights and responsibilities as drivers of motor vehicles. As a motorist, drive carefully around cyclists and be observant...the slightest mistake can result in death.
- >>>> Reduce your speed when passing a cyclist, especially on a narrow road. Do not honk your horn at a cyclist, you may startle them and cause an accident.
- DO NOT pass cyclists if oncoming traffic is near; wait as you would with any slow-moving vehicle.
- Allow at least three feet of passing space between the RIGHT side of your vehicle and a cyclist. After passing a cyclist on your RIGHT, check over your shoulder to make sure you allowed enough room before moving over...experienced cyclists often ride 20-35 mph and may be closer than you think.
- >>> Before opening your car door, look for cyclists who may be approaching, especially when parallel parking.

CYCLIST Safety



HELMET HEAD

Always wear a helmet...protect your brain! Make sure the helmet and straps fit securely to your head.



CROSSWALKS

Pedestrians ALWAYS have the right of way. Leave crosswalks free and clear for safe walking. Be just as observant of pedestrians as you are of vehicles.



OBSERVE THE LIGHTS

Bicycles must operate like other vehicles on the road. Observe the traffic lights to safely protect yourself as well as motorists.



RIDE RIGHT

Ride in the direction of traffic...motorists aren't looking for cyclists on the wrong side of the road. Pass on the LEFT side like other vehicles and DO NOT turn LEFT from the right lane.



OBEY TRAFFIC SIGNS

You share the road, you share the rules! Remember to obey all traffic and/or warning signs while riding...SAFETY FIRST.



HAND SIGNALS

Hand signals let motorists and pedestrians know what your intentions are. The use of hand signals are not only courteous and protect you, but they are the LAW!



CHOOSE A LANE

Claim space on the road, not the sidewalk. Do not weave in and out of traffic lanes or ride out from between parked cars... motorists may not see you.



NO ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Pay attention on the road and do not use cell phones or headphones. These distractions compromise your awareness of vehicles and warnings around you.

More tips...

- ✓ Be visible Wear bright colors in daylight and use lights or reflective gear at night.
- ✓ Keep your bicycle in good condition Make sure it is fit
 to you and is working properly; check the brakes and tires
 regularly.
- ✓ Scan the road behind you and be observant at all times!

