



Share the Road



THE CITY OF
COLUMBUS
MICHAEL B. COLEMAN, MAYOR

DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC SERVICE

Share the Road – Safely

Under Ohio law* and Columbus City Code, bicycles belong on the roadway. So, motorists and bicyclists **must** share the road safely. Bicyclists, like motorists, must obey all relevant traffic laws. *ORC 4511.07 (A)(B)

Tips for Bicyclists

- **Obey all traffic laws**, including stopping for red lights and stop signs.
- **Ride with traffic**, and pass with care, allowing at least three feet between you and motorists.
- Try to make **eye contact** with motorists in your path.
- Keep **your eyes and mind on the road**.
- **Wear a properly fitting helmet**, even on the shortest of rides.
- **Ride in the street**. Under Columbus City Code, only young children are permitted to ride on sidewalks.
- **Keep your bike in working order**, especially your brakes and chain.
- **Ride predictably**. Use proper hand signals for turning and stopping.
- **Ride respectfully**, single file or no more than two abreast.
- **Ride outside the “door zone”** of parked cars, even if there is a bike lane or traffic trying to pass you.
- **Ride far enough from the curb** to avoid potholes, debris and storm grates.
- **Be visible**. Wear bright clothing.
- **Use a bicycle headlight and taillight at night**, required under Columbus City Code, as well as in rainy or other inclement weather.



Photo credit: *The Columbus Dispatch*

Remember, call the City of Columbus Police Dispatch at **614-645-4545** if you see an immediate issue, violation or accident. You can call 24/7/365.

Tips for Motorists

- **By law, bicyclists belong on the road and have the right to a full lane, just like motorists.**
- **Pay attention**. Expect bikes and motorcycles on the road, and pedestrians in crosswalks.
- **Pass with care**. Allow at least three feet between you and bicyclists.
- **Wait** until it's safe to **pass** bicyclists.
- Try to **make eye contact** with bicyclists in your path.
- When making left turns, **yield to oncoming bikes**.
- Before making right turns, **check for approaching bicycles** on your right.
- **Use your mirrors!** Look for approaching bicyclists before opening your car doors.
- **Watch for and yield to bicyclists** when pulling out of a driveway.



Photo credit: *The Columbus Dispatch*

We want to hear from you! Please send comments and suggestions to: **311@columbus.gov**, call **614-645-3111** or **311**. Learn more at **ShareTheRoad.columbus.gov**.