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.

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.

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.