



Leading the movement to create a bicycle-friendly America for everyone

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Model Where to Ride Law

The League of American Bicyclists created this Model Where to Ride Law to help states and communities craft laws protecting bicyclists. For more information on why this type of law is needed and the features of this Model Law please visit: <http://bikeleague.org/content/model-where-ride-law>.

1. A person operating a bicycle upon a roadway at less than the normal speed of traffic shall ride in the right hand lane of the roadway subject to the following provisions:
 - a. If the right hand lane is wide enough to be safely shared with overtaking vehicles, a person operating a bicycle shall ride far enough to the right as judged safe by the bicyclist to facilitate the movement of such overtaking vehicles unless other conditions make it unsafe to do so.
 - b. A person operating a bicycle may use a lane other than the right hand lane when:
 - I. Overtaking or passing another vehicle proceeding in the same direction;
 - II. Preparing for a left turn at an intersection or into a private road or driveway;
 - III. Reasonably necessary to avoid conditions, including, but not limited to, fixed or moving objects, parked or moving vehicles, bicycles, pedestrians, animals, surface hazards or lanes that are too narrow for a bicycle and a motor vehicle to travel safely side by side within such lanes;
 - IV. Approaching an intersection where right turns are permitted and there is a dedicated right turn lane, in which case a bicyclist may ride on the left-hand side of such dedicated lane, even if the bicyclist does not intend to turn right;
 - V. Riding on a roadway designated for one-way traffic, when the bicyclist may ride as near to the left-hand curb or edge of such roadway as judged safe by the bicyclist; or
 - VI. Riding on parts of roadways set aside for the exclusive use of bicycles, including, but not limited to, contra-flow bicycle lanes, left-handed cycle tracks or bicycle lanes on one-way streets and two-way cycle tracks or bicycle lanes.
2. A person operating a bicycle shall not be expected or required to:
 - a. Ride over or through hazards at the edge of a roadway, including but not limited to fixed or moving objects, parked or moving vehicles, bicycles, pedestrians, animals, surface hazards, or narrow lanes; or
 - b. Ride without a reasonable safety margin on the right-hand side of the roadway.
3. A person operating a bicycle in compliance with this section and not violating any other section of law is not impeding traffic.

