

Frequently Asked Questions

Can I ride where there are no signs or symbols?

Yes! Cyclists are encouraged to use the roadway and ride with the flow of traffic. You should follow the same rules as motorists including yielding right-of-way and signaling. Always ride in or near a travel lane; stay visible by riding where drivers are looking.

It is legal to ride your bike on the sidewalk?

It depends on where you're doing your sidewalk biking. City code prohibits bicycling only on sidewalks in business districts such as the downtown area. Although not encouraged, bicycling on the sidewalk is legal in all other parts of the city. Cyclists should always yield to pedestrians and stop at crosswalks. Cyclists should use caution at crosswalks and merging back into traffic.

What about riding at night?

When riding after dark, city code requires bicycles to have a front facing white light and a rear-facing red reflector.

Cyclists are also required to use reflective material and/or lights on any part of the bicyclist's pedals, crank arms, shoes or lower leg, visible from the front, rear, and both sides.



More information and helpful tips can be found through these organizations:



The League of American Bicyclists

<http://www.bikeleague.org/>



Missouri Bicycle and Pedestrian Federation

<http://mobikefed.org/>

Know the rules of the road

Cyclists have the same rights and responsibilities as drivers and are required to obey all traffic laws.

Make your intentions clear

Ride in a straight line, stay to the right, and don't swerve between parked cars. Use signals when turning and be aware of traffic behind you.

Stay visible

Wear bright or reflective clothing no matter when you are riding. Ride where people can see you and use the required lights and reflectors.

Be aware of your environment

Be aware the drivers and pedestrians around you. Watch for turning vehicles and ride outside the door zone of parked cars. Look out for hazards in the roadway, such as trash, potholes, railroad tracks, and storm grates.

Prepare

Wear a helmet and make sure it fits properly. Check the air in your tires, check your brakes, lights, and chain. Carry tools and supplies that are appropriate for your ride.

Have fun!

The Jefferson City area offers several greenway trails, bikable streets, and parks. Get out there and enjoy yourself!



For more information please call the Jefferson City Engineering Division, 573-634-6410 or visit www.jeffersoncitymo.gov

Updated 10/12/2016

Jefferson City

Bike Lanes

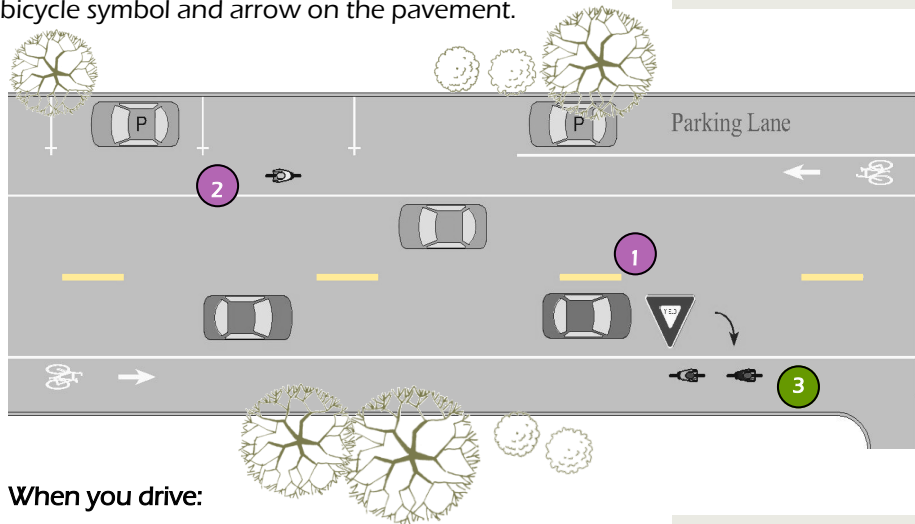
An informational guide
for motorists and bicyclists.



September 2016

Dedicated Bike Lanes provide reserved space on the roadway for bicycles to use and are designated by a solid white line with a white bicycle symbol and arrow on the pavement.

WHETHER BICYCLING OR DRIVING, ALWAYS FOLLOW TRAFFIC LAWS.

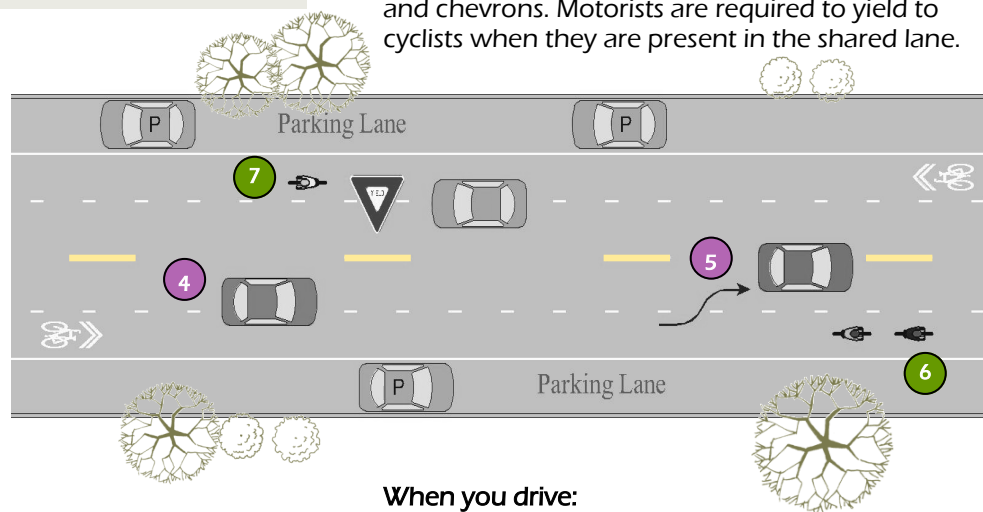


When you drive:

- 1 Before you cross a bike lane when preparing for a turn or to park, always yield to bicyclists.
- 2 Always look for approaching bicyclists before opening your door when you park next to a bike lane.
- Bicyclists are not required to ride in a bike lane, expect to see bicyclists in other lanes particularly at intersections.

When you bike:

- 3 As you approach an intersection, use caution and assume turning or merging motorists do not see you.
- Wait behind motorists who are in the shared spaced preparing to turn.
- Always travel in the same direction as traffic.
- You may use adjacent lanes to pass other cyclist, to avoid being too close to parked cars, to avoid obstructions or unsafe conditions, or to prepare for a turn.
- When you enter or exit a bike lane, make sure to look behind you, signal, and yield to vehicles already in adjacent travel lanes

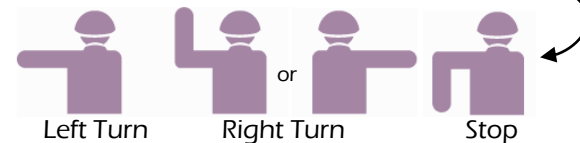


When you drive:

- 4 You must yield to cyclist when they are present in the shared lane but you may drive in the shared lane when bicyclists are not present.
- 5 If a bicycle is in the shared bike lane remain behind the cyclist until it is safe to pass. When passing move completely out of the shared lane and pass at a safe speed and distance from the cyclist.

When you bike:

- Watch for motorists driving in or merging into the shared lane.
- Always use caution and assume that turning or merging motor vehicles may not see you.
- 6 Always travel in the same direction as traffic.
- 7 When leaving the shared bike lane look behind you, yield to vehicles in adjacent travel lanes, and use **hand signals**.



Bicycle Symbols and Signs



Sharrows

Designates a shared bike lane.



May or may not be used in conjunction with a dashed line.



Bike Lane Symbol

Designates a dedicated bike lane.



Used in conjunction with a solid line.

Common Bike Signs - provide useful information to all road users about how to share the road and where to expect bicyclists to be safely riding.

