

# Smart Cycling

IN SANTA MONICA

BE SMART. BE VISIBLE. BE ATTENTIVE. **HAVE FUN!**



*Safety Tips and Rules of the Road for Cyclists*

**SANTA MONICA  
POLICE DEPARTMENT**



# Rules of the Road



Drivers, bicyclists, and pedestrians all share the same roadways – and a responsibility to travel safely. Cyclists must obey the same rules of the road as drivers, and officers will enforce these rules as necessary. The goal is for everyone to have fun, enjoy the fresh air, and act in a predictable manner so our roadways and paths provide safe passage for all.

## CONTROL YOUR BIKE

- Communicate intentions: scan and signal so drivers know where you are going
- Yield before moving laterally
- Always pass on the left and avoid the driver's blind spot on the right

## BE VISIBLE

- When riding at night, a front white headlight, rear red reflector, and wheel and pedal reflectors are required by law
- Wear bright clothes to enhance visibility

## FOLLOW THE RULES

- Obey traffic laws and signs at all times
- Sidewalk riding is prohibited
- Stop at stop signs, signal turns, travel with traffic, and use correct lanes
- Always yield to pedestrians

## RIDE READY

- Maintain your bike and keep it in good working condition
- Carry ID, phone, money, and a flat repair kit
- Plan your route

## SECURE YOUR BIKE

- Always carry a bike lock and secure your bike



## USE YOUR HEAD

- Wear a helmet at all times – accidents happen, and a helmet can save your life
- Never ride while texting or talking on your phone
- Never ride under the influence of drugs/alcohol





Always ride in the direction indicated.  
Do not veer into oncoming hazards or  
ride against traffic.

Keep to the right except  
when passing slow moving  
riders and traffic.



YIELD TO  
PEDS



## Path Riding

- Yield to pedestrians
- Ride at a safe pace
- When necessary, verbally advise others when passing



- Riding on pedestrian-only paths is strictly forbidden

Pay attention to trail types:

- On shared paths, be aware of pedestrians and others who move slowly
- On separated paths, use only the path designated for bicycles.

# Smart Cycling in Santa Monica

# Why Go By Bike?



## GET HEALTHY

3 hours of biking per week can reduce the risk of heart disease and stroke by 50%!



## SHOP LOCAL

66% of bike riders use a bicycle to travel to a destination where they will spend money.



## GO GREEN

82% less CO2 enters the atmosphere for every mile pedaled rather than driven.



## SAVE TIME

People with bicycles report driving 40% less since they purchased a bike.



## GET REGISTERED: [NATIONALBIKeregistry.com](http://NATIONALBIKeregistry.com)

Register your bike in the National Bike Registry. They will send you a Certificate of Registration and a label to identify your bike. This way, if your bike is ever stolen and recovered, it can be returned to you.

*Ride smart. Act responsibly. Enjoy.*



**BIKE**  
santa monica

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