

Be visible

Every bicycle, when ridden at nighttime, must be equipped with a lamp on the front, visible for at least 500 feet, and a red reflector on the rear. A red light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear may be used in addition to a red reflector.

Wichita Municipal Code Sec. 11.48.090 (a)

Every bicycle when in use at nighttime shall be equipped with a lamp on the front which shall emit a white light visible from a distance of at least five hundred (500) feet to the front and with a red reflector on the rear of a type approved by the Secretary of Transportation which shall be visible from all distances from one hundred (100) feet to six hundred (600) feet to the rear when directly in front of lawful lower beams of head lamps on a motor vehicle. A lamp emitting a red light visible from a distance of five hundred (500) feet to the rear may be used in addition to the red reflector.



Always ride with traffic

It is both illegal and dangerous to ride against traffic. Ride on the right-hand side of the road with the flow of traffic. If the travel lane is too narrow to accommodate a motor vehicle and person bicycling, then ride your bicycle in the center of the lane. This is the safest place since motorists are required by law to pass bicyclists by a distance of at least 3 feet.

FOR PEOPLE BICYCLING AND DRIVING

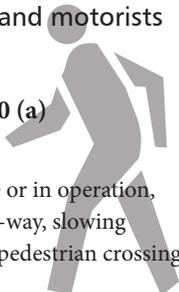
Bicyclists/Motorists yield to pedestrians

The law requires that bicycle riders and motorists yield to pedestrians.

Wichita Municipal Code Sec. 11.44.020 (a)

Yield to pedestrians

“When traffic control signals are not in place or in operation, the driver of a vehicle shall yield the right-of-way, slowing down or stopping if need be to so yield, to a pedestrian crossing



the roadway within a crosswalk when the pedestrian is upon the half of the roadway upon which the vehicle is traveling, or when the pedestrian is approaching so closely from the opposite half of the roadways to be in danger.”

Wichita Municipal Code Sec. 11.44.035

“Notwithstanding other provisions of this chapter, every driver of a vehicle shall exercise due care to avoid colliding with any pedestrian...”

Call 911

No matter how careful we are to follow traffic laws and ride defensively, we can't control others' driving habits; accidents may happen. In the event you are involved in an accident call the police. If a police report is filed based on information gathered at the scene, the story can't change later on if you need to submit an insurance claim.



LINKS

Kansas Department of Transportation (K.D.O.T.)
<http://www.ksdot.org/bureaus/burRail/bike/default.asp>

City of Wichita > Bicycling
<http://www.wichita.gov/Bicycle>

Kansas Wildlife & Parks
<http://ksoutdoors.com/Outdoor-Activities/HIKING-BIKING-HORSEBACK-RIDING>

Wichita Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (W.A.M.P.O.)
<http://www.wampo.org/Pages/default.aspx>

For more information contact:

Wichita-Sedgwick County
Planning Department
316-268-4421
email: swadle@wichita.gov



Street Smarts: Rules & Guidance FOR Driving & Bicycling in Wichita



for People on Bicycles



for People in Cars

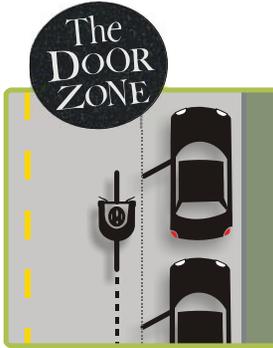
STREET SAFETY:
RULES & GUIDANCE FOR
DRIVING AND BICYCLING IN WICHITA

FOR PEOPLE DRIVING



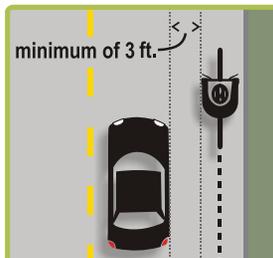
The Door Zone

When opening your car door, you are required to make sure that it is safe to do so and that it can be done without interfering with the movement of other traffic, including people bicycling.



Wichita Municipal Code Sec. 11.38.340

No person shall open the door of a motor vehicle on the side available to moving traffic unless and until it is reasonably safe to do so, and can be done without interfering with the movement of other traffic, nor shall any person leave a door open on the side of a vehicle available to moving traffic for a period of time longer than necessary to load or unload passengers.



Three-foot law

People driving are required by law to pass people bicycling with a clearance of at least 3-feet.

K.S.A. Article 15 Ch. 8-1516 (c) (1)

The driver of a vehicle overtaking a bicycle proceeding in the same direction shall pass to the left thereof at a distance of not less than three feet and shall not again drive to the right side of the roadway until safely clear of the overtaken bicycle.



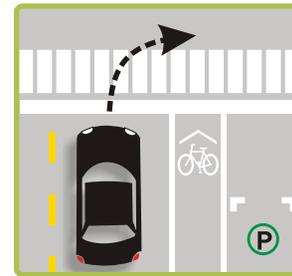
Bike Lanes

A pavement line and bike lane symbol (bicycle with single arrow) indicate that the portion of the roadway has been designated for preferential or exclusive use of people bicycling. People are not allowed to park motor vehicles in the bike lanes. In some locations bike lanes have been painted green to increase awareness and visibility of the bike lane.



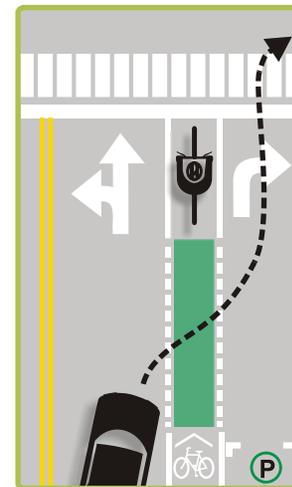
Solid Bike Lane Line-

When the bike lane is marked with solid lane lines, then motor vehicles should only travel through the bike lane when accessing a driveway or parking space. When the bike lane at the intersection is a solid lane line, then motor vehicles should make a right turn from the travel lane to the left of the bike lane. People driving should be aware of their surroundings, look for people in the bike lane, and yield to people bicycling straight through the intersection.



Dashed Bike Lane Line-

When the bike lane is a dashed line, then motor vehicles can transition through the bike lane to access a designated right turn lane. Bike lanes are an official traffic control device, per the U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD).



Wichita Municipal Code Sec. 11.20.030(a)

The driver of any vehicle shall obey the instructions of any official traffic-control device applicable thereto, placed in accordance with the provisions of this title, unless otherwise directed by a police officer, subject to the exceptions granted the driver of an authorized emergency vehicle in this title.

Shared Lane Markings

Shared lane markings (sharrows) are pavement marking symbols that indicate an appropriate bicycle positioning in a shared travel lane. They are carefully placed to guide bicyclists to the best place to ride on the road, avoid car doors and remind drivers to share the road with cyclists. Unlike bicycle lanes, sharrows do not designate a particular part of the street for the exclusive use of bicyclists. They are simply a marking to guide bicyclists to the best place to ride and help communicate to motorists that they should expect bicyclists on the roadway. In some locations sharrows have been installed with green paint underneath. The green paint is used to increase visibility and awareness of the sharrow.



FOR PEOPLE BICYCLING



When riding a bicycle on a roadway, a bicyclist has the same rights and responsibilities as a motorist. This includes obeying traffic signals and stop signs. Bicyclists must know and obey all traffic laws and are subject to the same fines as motorists.

Wichita Municipal Code Sec. 11.48.100

Traffic laws apply to persons riding bicycles. Every person riding a bicycle upon a roadway shall be granted all of the rights and shall be subject to all of the duties applicable to the driver of a vehicle.