**City of College Station Bike Map & Info Guide**

**FREE**

**MAP INCLUDES:**  Bike lanes & routes  Multi-use paths & sidewalks  Public Transportation  Parks & Information

This document was prepared by City of College Station staff from a variety of sources and is intended as a guide to bicycling opportunities within College Station. It reflects knowledge and information as of publication date but cannot anticipate changes. Accuracy cannot be guaranteed.

**Use caution during rain events.**

Avoid road hazards

Watch for parallel-slat sewer grates, slippery manhole covers, oily pavement, detour signage, gravel, and other debris. Cross railroad tracks carefully at right angles.

For better control as you move across bumpy or other hazards, stand up on your pedals.

Go slow on sidewalks

Pedestrians have the right of way on sidewalks and in crosswalks. You must give an audible warning when you pass. Cross driveways and intersections at a walk’s pace and look carefully for traffic.

Be especially aware of small children, people with pets, and people with disabilities and their service animals.

Keep clear of door zone

Try to ride a door’s width away from parked cars. If you have to ride in the door zone, ride very slowly. You have the sun in their eyes, drivers may not see you.

Also, watch for cars pulling out of driveways.

Obey traffic signs, signals

Bicyclists have the same rights and responsibilities as motorists.

Respect pedestrian rights

Pedestrians on sidewalks and in crosswalks have the right of way. When entering or exiting driveways, bicyclists must yield to pedestrians on the sidewalk.

Never ride against traffic

Motorists and pedestrians are not looking for bicyclists riding against traffic on the wrong side of the road. Ride in the same direction as the flow of traffic even on sidewalks.

Bicycle traffic prevention

Locking your bike to a bicycle rack can prevent most bicycle thefts. Use a good quality “case-hardened” or “hardened” U-bolt lock. Lock the frame and rear wheel of your bike to the bicycle rack. Do not lock your bike to trees, parking meters, sign posts, hand railings, etc.

If you are a Texas A&M faculty, staff or student, you must register your bicycle with Texas A&M Transportation Services for FREE. Help authorities recover your bike if it is lost or stolen and be a part of the greenway program at Texas A&M! For more information, visit Transport.Lamus.edu.

**Tips for on-street bicycling**

**Use hand signals**

Signal all turns and stops ahead of time to signal motorists what you intend to do. Look over your shoulder for any traffic, then make your intended move only when it is safe to do so.

**Choose the best way to make a left turn**

There are two ways to make a left turn on roadways:

1. Like a vehicle: Look back for oncoming traffic, signal, then move into the left turning lane. Turn left when it is clear.

2. Like a pedestrian: You can always get off your bike and walk across one or both crosswalks. Yield to pedestrians.

**Make eye contact**

Confirm that you are seen. Establish eye contact with motorists to ensure they know you are on the road. Look over your shoulder regularly or use a mirror to scan the road behind you.

Although bicyclists have equal right to the road, be prepared to move over for safety. Assume they don’t see you until you are sure you do. When the sun is in their eyes, drivers may not see you.

**In front or far behind, not beside**

To ensure drivers of large vehicles (buses, trucks, and motor homes) can see you, stay out of their blind spots. Never pass on the right side.

Ride far enough behind for the driver to see you, and at least four feet from the sides to avoid falling under a large vehicle.

**Be careful at intersections**

Proceed with care since most crashes occur at intersections. Stay in the turn-only lane if you want to go straight through an intersection. In narrow lanes or slow traffic, it may be safer to take the whole lane.

Also take care when overtaking cars while in a bike lane. Drivers don’t always signal when turning.

**Ride to see and be seen**

Make yourself as visible as possible. A strong headlight and rear reflector or tail light at night is recommended. Wear light colored clothes with reflective tape for extra protection at night.

Wear a hard-shell helmet and always get off your bike and walk when you enter or exit a building. If valuables are left in a vehicle, always get off your bike and walk when you enter or exit a building.

**SAFETY on multi-use paths**

- Keep fully alert and aware of your surroundings while exercising outdoors.
- Obey all multi-use path and road signs and use care when crossing streets that intersect with multi-use paths.
- Don’t leave valuables in your private vehicle. If valuables are left in a vehicle place them in a location that is out of sight.
- Carry identification, and tell someone where you are going and when you will return, or exercise with a companion.
- Report suspicious or criminal activity to the College Station Police Department.
- Use caution during rainy events.

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A bike lane is...

A designated part of the roadway, typically 5-7 feet wide, that is striped, signed, and has pavement markings to be used exclusively by bicyclists. Parking is not allowed in a bike lane.

A bike route is...

A roadway designated with signage that is shared by both bicyclists and motor vehicles. Typically, the road will have lower traffic speeds and volumes or may be a common route for bicyclists through high-demand areas.

TIPS FOR ON-STREET BICYCLING

- Share the path. Respect for other users.
- Bicyclists must yield to pedestrians. Pedestrians have the right-of-way on multi-use paths and sidewalks.
- All path users must keep to the right half of the path except when passing or turning left.
- Signal when passing. Bicyclists sound your bell or horn if you are passing a person or animal.
- Respect Nature. Ride or walk only on designated paths to protect parks, natural areas, private property, habitat, and yourself.
- Look both ways at path crossings.
- Keep pets on a leash and clean up after them.
- No motorized vehicles are allowed on the trail.
- Bicyclists should slow down when path is busy, on hills, curves and under/over bridges.

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