



Detroit BIKE Resource Guide

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City of Detroit Office of Mobility Innovation

prepared by the Detroit Health Department Safe Routes Ambassadors Program

SAFETY

It is imperative to protect yourself while riding. Using the proper gear and being knowledgeable about the laws is a great place to start.

Fitting Your Bike Helmet

Adults and children are advised to wear a bicycle helmet each time they ride. Wearing a helmet each ride can encourage the same smart behavior in others. Your helmet should:

» **Sit flat on your head** – make sure it's level and isn't tilted back or forward. The straps on each side of your head should form a "Y" over your ears, with one part of the strap in front of your ear, and one behind – just below your earlobes.

» **Buckle the chinstrap securely at your throat** so that the helmet feels snug on your head and doesn't wiggle up and down or from side to side.

» **Replace your helmet when it has been in a crash**; damage is not always visible. Helmets must be in good condition and properly fit in order to work as designed.



OVERVIEW OF MICHIGAN STATE BIKING LAWS

In the State of Michigan, cyclists are required to follow a set of laws to ensure the safety of pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists who share state and local roadways. To the right is a list of laws or provisions that cyclists should adhere to on local and state roads.

Cycling Provisions:

- 1. Ride Bike Close to the Right Curb**
a. If traveling below the normal speed of traffic, you must ride as close to the right-hand curb or edge of the road.
- 2. Riding Bicycles on Sidewalks**
a. Bicycles may be ridden upon a sidewalk, but you must yield the right-of-way to pedestrians and are required to give an audible signal before overtaking and passing a pedestrian.
- 3. Riding Two (2) Abreast a Bicycle**
a. You must not ride more than two (2) bicycles side by side.
- 4. Use of Hand Signals While Riding a Bicycle**
a. You are required to signal by law
- 5. Use Lights When Riding a Bicycle at Night**
a. If riding one-half hour after sunset, or one-half hour before sunrise, you must use lights
- 6. Carrying Packages While Cycling**
a. You may not carry any package that prevents you from keeping both hands on the handlebars.

CYCLISTS' RIGHTS

Bicycles are not considered vehicles in Michigan. However, according to the Michigan Vehicle Code:

"Each person riding a bicycle...upon a roadway has all the rights and [is] subject to all of the duties applicable to the driver of a vehicle."

Meaning you will be treated as a "driver" of your bike in any legal instances.



BIKE SIGNALS

While drivers of motorized vehicles use their blinkers or backup lights to communicate, as a driver of a bicycle, you will do this with hand signals. It is important to learn these signals so you'll be able to communicate with other road users.



Right Turn
Extend your left arm out sideways bent at a 90-degree angle at the elbow joint, hand pointing upward and the palm facing forward.



Left Turn
Extend your left arm out sideways with all fingers extended or use your index finger to point left.



Alternative Right Turn
Extend your right arm out straight with all fingers extended or use your index finger to point right.



Stopping or Slowing
Extend your left arm or right arm sideways and bend your arm at a 90-degree angle at the elbow joint, hand pointing downwards and the palm of your hand facing backward.

HOW TO MOUNT YOUR BIKE ON A BUS

There is no additional fare for utilizing DDOT bicycle racks. You are responsible for mounting the bike securely on a bus.

1. Let the bus driver know you are going to use the bike mount.
2. Lower the rack.
3. Pick an empty bike rack and make sure the bike wheels are firmly placed in.
4. Place the bar/hook on the front tire before taking a seat.

When exiting a bus, remind the driver you need to remove your bike.

1. Take your bike off the rack.
2. Raise the rack back towards the bus.



MAINTAINING & REPAIRING A BIKE

You should ensure your safety and make sure your bike has great maintenance before you decide to cruise the city:

1. You must check your bike for any kind of looseness by lifting the bike an inch or so off the ground and gently drop it to identify what may need attention.
2. Then check and make sure the air in your tires feels as firm as a fully inflated basketball.

3. Also, brakes should stop the bike when pushed forward or pulled backward. Brake levers should stop short of reaching the handlebar when pulled.

4. Furthermore, confirm that the chain moves freely, and rust-free, and lightly oiled. Be sure to carry spares and a tool kit to keep riding essentials Tool Bag, Bike Repair Tool Kit, Safety Emergency Tools.

Some spares and tools to carry while biking long distances:

- » Spare Chain Lube
- » Cleaning Rag
- » Spare Tire Tubes
- » Tire Patch Repair Kit
- » Spare Schwalbe Marathon Mondial Folding Tire
- » Spare Spoke
- » Spare Chain Powerlinks and a short section of the chain
- » Various Spare Nuts and Bolts
- » Cable Ties
- » Bicycle Repair Bag
- » Bicycle Tire Pump or Inflator
- » Home Bike Tool Portable Patches Fixes
- » Leatherman
- » Adjustable Wrench
- » Allen Key Set

WHERE TO BIKE

The biking community in Detroit is growing fast. For the people just starting here's a prepared list of bike trails and shops in the local area for you to enjoy.

The blue lines on the map are all the local trail lines. It also includes routes not in association with parks.

Where To Park Your Bike

Cyclists can park their bikes on sidewalks where permitted. Prohibited areas are designated by an official traffic control device. Where permitted, parked bikes should not obstruct the movement of pedestrians and other traffic flows.



Bikes can be parked on streets where permitted by the City of Detroit and the State of Michigan. In any location where parking is allowed for motor vehicles, For on-street parking, cyclists should park their bikes at an angle to the curb, edge of the street, or alongside another parked bicycle. Bicycles should not be parked on a street in a way that impedes the movement of motorized vehicles.

DETROIT BIKE SHOP LOCATIONS

Back Alley Bikes

3611 Cass Ave,
Detroit, MI 48201
313-879-5630
thehubofdetroit.org/
back-alley-bikes

Bike Tech

18401 E Warren Ave,
Detroit, MI 48236
(313) 884-2453
biketech.us/vintage-bicycles

Detroit Bikes

1216 Griswold St,
Detroit, MI 48226
(313) 502-5883
detroitbikes.com

Downtown Detroit Bike Shop

412 Petersboro St,
Detroit, MI 48201
(313) 818-0075
downtown-bikeshop.com

G&R Bike Shop

21706 Grand River Ave,
Detroit, MI
(313) 531-1146
gandr bikeshop.com

Livernois Bike Shop

16657 Livernois,
Detroit, MI 48221
(313) 770-4243

Metropolis Cycles

2117 Michigan Ave,
Detroit, MI 48216
(313) 818-3248
metropoliscycles.bike

Southwest Rides

1824 Springwells St,
Detroit, MI 48209
(313) 315-2360
swridesdetroit.com

The Hub of Detroit

3611 Cass Ave,
Detroit, MI 48201
(313) 833-0813
thehubofdetroit.org/
the-hub-of-detroit

Wheelhouse Detroit

1340 E. Atwater Street,
Detroit, MI 48207
(313) 656-2453
wheelhousedetroit.com

Emergency Kit Essentials

Find them at your nearest bike shop listed above.

- » Water
- » Protein Bar
- » A Cell Phone
- » A Flashlight
- » Rain Gear
- » A Knife

ACCESSING TRIP PLANNING TOOLS

The best biking route is sometimes different from the best driving route. Consider using one of the following resources to help plan your trip:

- » **Mogo** has station maps with recommended routes
- » **Google Maps** can be used (via app or web browser) to plan bike routes by setting your trip to bike mode
- » **The Strava app** can be used to track your biking route and to connect with other people in the biking community to share routing information.

Additional Considerations while Planning your Biking Trip:

- » Consider riding on residential streets when starting, even if they take you a bit out of the way.
- » When riding at night, make sure to wear visible bright colors and have bike lights installed on your bike.
- » Ride on streets with bike lanes and enough room to ride outside of the "door zone" when riding alongside parallel parked cars.
- » Cross major streets at traffic signals.

THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS:



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