

CHAPTER 10.11 BICYCLES

10.11.010 Definitions

- 1) **Bike Lane:** A portion of a roadway designated for exclusive use by bicycles distinguished from the portion of the roadway to be used by motor vehicles by a painted stripe and other pavement markings. Bike lanes shall be at least 5-feet (5') wide and, as feasible, shall be kept clear of debris.
- 2) **Shared Use Path:** A pathway completely separate from roadways for use by bicyclists and pedestrians. Shared use paths shall be at least 10-feet (10') wide and be free from physical obstructions such as poles, trees, mailboxes, etc. They should have a minimum of 2-feet (2') separation from adjacent roadways. (Ord. 1017 §1, 2009).

10.11.020 Traffic Laws Applying to Persons Riding Bicycles

- 1) This Ordinance is not intended to replace State Law as it applies to the use of bicycles upon public rights-of-way except as specifically set forth in this Ordinance, but to serve as a supplement to Idaho Code. Other issues described in Idaho Code Section 49-7 are also intended for bicyclists in Rexburg, but have not been specifically set forth.
- 2) Every person riding a bicycle upon a roadway, public parking lot, sidewalk, bike lane or shared use path in the City of Rexburg shall be granted the same rights and shall be subject to the same responsibilities applicable to a motor vehicle operator by the laws of the State of Idaho as authorized under Title 49, Idaho Code, and the provisions of Title 10, Rexburg Municipal Code, except where provisions of those laws and ordinances by their very nature can have no application to bicycles, or where portions of these ordinances direct otherwise.
- 3) All rights and responsibilities applicable to bicyclists as authorized in Title 49, Chapter 7, Idaho Code apply except where portions of Title 10, Chapter 11, Rexburg Municipal Code direct otherwise.
- 4) Law enforcement officers shall be exempt from the requirements of this chapter, if necessary to effectively perform their official duties.

10.11.025 Speed

No person shall operate a bicycle at a speed greater than is reasonable and prudent under the conditions then existing. (Ord.1017 §2, 2009).

10.11.030 Riding on Roadways

- 1) No person shall operate a bicycle on a roadway against the flow of motorized traffic, except where specifically authorized by official signs or markings.

- 2) Every person operating a bicycle on a two-way roadway shall be entitled to use the right-hand lane and shall proceed in the same direction as the other vehicles in that lane.
- 3) The operator of a bicycle traveling at a rate of speed which delays a vehicle following in the same lane shall be required, when it is unlawful or unsafe for the following vehicle to pass, to move as far to the right of the roadway as is safe under existing conditions. (Ord. 1017 §3, 2009).

10.11.040 Using Provided Bike Lanes and Shared Use Paths

- 1) Wherever a bike lane is present upon a roadway, a bicyclist shall use that lane and shall not use the roadway; except
 - a) When the bike lane is insufficient width to permit safe bicycle operation; or
 - b) When the condition of the pavement, or the presence of water, dirt, glass, or other foreign objects upon the pavement prevents safe bicycle operation in the lane; or
 - c) When moving into position to make a left turn or to pass another cyclist moving in the same direction; or
 - d) When an opening car door or other obstruction in an adjacent parking lane requires movement out of the lane.
- 2) Wherever a shared use path has been provided adjacent to a roadway, a bicyclist shall use that path and shall not use the roadway if official signs and markings so direct; except
 - a) When the path is of insufficient width to permit safe bicycle operation; or
 - a) When the condition of the surface, or the presence of water, dirt, glass, or other foreign objects upon the surface prevents safe bicycle operation in the path, or
 - c) When the number of pedestrians using the path presents an obstacle to safe bicycle operation.
- 3) When approaching a person traveling the opposite direction on a shared use path, the other person shall move to and pass on the right.
- 4) No unauthorized motorized vehicle shall be allowed upon or across any bike lane or shared use path, except at intersections of the path within a public street or when necessary to leave an alley or driveway. (Ord. 1017 §4, 2009).

10.11.050 Riding on Sidwalks and Within Crosswalks

- 1) A bicycle may be operated upon a sidewalk and within a crosswalk, except where prohibited by official signs or traffic control devices. (Note: Due to the inherent risks associated with bike travel on sidewalks, cyclists over 14 years old or traveling at speeds in excess of 7 miles-per-hour are discouraged from riding on sidewalks.)
- 2) Any bicyclist riding upon a sidewalk, or within a crosswalk, shall yield the right-of-way to any pedestrian and, when overtaking and passing a pedestrian, shall observe a speed and distance sufficient to allow time to react to the pedestrian's possible sudden change in direction.
- 3) A bicyclist riding upon a sidewalk, or within a crosswalk, shall have all the rights and duties applicable to a pedestrian under the same circumstances. (Ord. 1017 §5, 2009).

10.11.060 Stopping-Stop Signs and Traffic Lights

- 1) A bicyclist may treat a stop sign as a yield sign (as described in section 49-720 Idaho Code).
- 2) A bicyclist approaching a red traffic control light shall stop before entering the intersection and yield to all other traffic. After yielding to other traffic, the person may proceed through the light or make a left-hand turn. When making a right-hand turn, the bicyclist may treat the stop light as a yield sign.
- 3) Whenever a bicycle operator is required to bring the bicycle to a stop in conformance with official traffic control devices, the bicyclist shall halt forward motion but shall not be required to dismount or remove his/her feet from the pedals. (Ord. 1017 §6, 2009).

10.11.070 Riding in Groups

Persons riding bicycles shall not ride more than two (2) abreast except upon shared use paths with widths of 12 feet (12') or more. Bicyclists operating two (2) abreast upon a roadway, or shared use path, shall move to a single file configuration when a vehicle approaches from behind in the same lane. (Ord. 1017 §7, 2009).

10.11.080 Bicycle Parking

Bicycles shall not be parked in such a manner as to obstruct or impede the movement of pedestrians, motor vehicles, or other bicycles, or to cause damage to trees, shrubs or other living plants. When bike racks exist nearby, they shall be the preferred location for bicycle parking. (Ord. 1017 §8, 2009).

10.11.090 Group Events

A bicycle race, parade or other group event for bicyclists may be conducted upon public rights-of-way in the City of Rexburg if a permit is obtained. Permit applications shall be made through the office of the City Clerk. (Ord. 1017 §9, 2009).

10.11.100 Brakes

No person shall operate a bicycle without brakes capable of causing the bicycle to stop within twenty-five feet (25') at ten (10) miles per hour on dry, level, clean pavement. (Ord. 1017 §10, 2009).

10.11.110 Light and Reflector Required in Darkness

Every bicycle in use in darkness (from sunset to sunrise and when visibility is under 500 feet) shall be operated with a white light visible from a distance of at least five hundred feet (500') to the front and with a red reflector clearly visible from the rear of the bicycle and two square inches of side reflectors displayed on the sides of each wheel consistent with quality of the rear reflector. (Ord. 1017 §11, 2009).