

Commuter Advisory

New Balance Hubway Bikeshare Begins Thursday July 28th

The Hubway bikesharing program is an exciting initiative that will provide new options for residents, commuters, and visitors to get around Boston. This means more cyclists will be hitting the streets, so it's important for everyone to follow the rules of the road. ABC has compiled a few helpful hints for both cyclists and drivers.

Tips For Cyclists

Stay clear of the door zone

- To avoid getting "doored" by a car, travel on the very edge of the bike lane (or about 4 feet away from a parked car)
- Watch out for cabs that may pull over at any time and for passenger doors opening

Stay alert and anticipate what cars are going to do

- If you are in a lane that is for cars traveling straight and for right turns, anticipate a right turn by either moving safely to the left as you approach the intersection or slowing down and letting the car make the turn first
- Make eye contact with cars that are pulling out so you know they see you and are letting you go; Do not wear headphones that could distract you
- Be polite: You may know your rights, but drivers may not

Bikes are vehicles and must follow the same rules of the road as cars

- Stop at stop signs and red lights, yield to pedestrians, and ride in the same direction as traffic
- Communicate with drivers by using hand signals when turning or stopping
- Do not ride on the sidewalks in pedestrian-heavy areas; walk your bike instead
- If you use the pedestrian walk signal, walk your bike across the crosswalk
- Do not weave in and out of traffic; travel in a straight line as much as possible

Bike lanes are to keep cars out, NOT to keep bikes in

- If it is unsafe to travel in the bike lane, (i.e. blocked by parked cars or full of pot holes), look first then move left
- When approaching an intersection, it may be safer to position yourself further to the left so cars can see you. For further information see: <http://bicyclesafe.com/>
- Don't be afraid to take the lane if necessary (especially on a narrow street)

Be visible and safe! Especially at night

- Wear plenty of bright clothing and reflective gear
- Lights are required at night for both the front (white light) and rear bike (red light)
- Keep a helmet at work for when you need to use Hubway for business purposes

Additional resources for cyclists

- If you are new to cycling, avoid busy streets. Refer to the Boston Bikes Map color coded by cycling ability: http://www.cityofboston.gov/Images_Documents/bike%20map_tcm3-14074.pdf
For more safety tips visit: <http://www.cityofboston.gov/bikes/bikesafety/>, <http://massbike.org/srsr/>
OR sign up for a safety class sponsored by MassBike and the City of Boston
Wednesday, August 3, 5-6 pm at Urban AdvenTours ; Sunday, August 14, 10-11am at Landry's Bicycles
Saturday, August 20, 5-6pm at Ferris Wheels Bike Shop



Cyclist in the "Door-Zone"
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/door_zone

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TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

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Tips For Drivers

Look out for Cyclists

- Before pulling away from the curb, check your blindspot for a passing bike.
- When turning, yield to bikes that may be traveling straight
- Before opening your door, check for passing bikes, (there is a \$100 fine for dooring a bike)

Be predictable

- Use your indicators to signal where you are going, don't weave in and out of lanes

Share the road

- Even when a bike lane is present, cyclists frequently have to move left into the travel lane in order to be safe. Slow down when approaching a cyclist and give some space or safely pass around them. The general rule of thumb is to allow at least 3 feet of clearance between your car and the cyclist when passing.
- When the road is narrow, cyclists can take up the entire lane; in that case, motorists must change lanes to pass or wait until it is safe to do so
- Yield to cyclists at a stop sign or walking their bike across an intersection

Don't Speed

- Speeding endangers pedestrians and cyclists
- Don't speed up in order to make a turn in front of a cyclist. It's easy to misjudge their speed and cause them to crash into the passenger side of your vehicle
- Give yourself enough time to get to your destination so you're not rushing

Be Courteous

- Cyclists come from all walks of life, the majority just want to enjoy a healthy and safe commute. Be courteous to cyclists as you may be on your bike or using Hubway on your next trip and would want the same courtesy
- Don't block the bike lane or double park
- Don't drive distracted or text while driving; texting is illegal and unsafe
- Try not to honk unless you absolutely have to; honking can startle cyclists



Sign up for a New Balance Hubway Membership today! www.thehubway.com

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