

## Riding in Bike Lanes

Riding in bike lanes provides a certain amount of separation from the motor vehicle traffic, and gives cyclists an added sense of comfort while riding in urban areas. There are still rules that make riding safer in bike lanes.

### RIDE IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION

Always ride the same direction as other traffic. It is extremely dangerous, and illegal, to ride the wrong way in a bike lane.

### STAY OUT OF THE DOOR ZONE

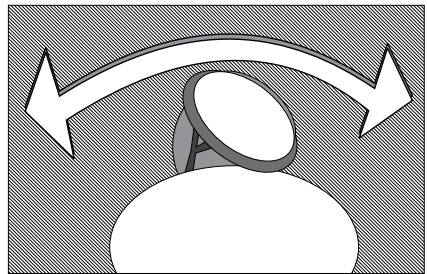
Some bike lanes may be close enough to parked cars, or cars may park so that their door reaches into the bike lane. You need to stay out of reach of opening car doors.



This bicyclist is out of the door zone, safely in the bike lane.

### DO NOT PASS ON THE RIGHT

Passing on the right is a dangerous practice and should always be avoided. Others do not expect it and it may cause dangerous conflicts.



Pivot Your Head, Scan your Surroundings

### ALWAYS SCAN FOR TRAFFIC AT INTERSECTIONS

Keep an eye out for turning vehicles at intersections. Drivers sometimes look for gaps in motor vehicle traffic, and only see cyclists once it is too late to stop, so you need to make sure that you see all of the intersection, all of the time.



This cyclist is riding straight through this Polk Street intersection.

### RIDE A STRAIGHT LINE THROUGH INTERSECTIONS

When riding straight through intersections, do not fade to your right toward the curb and crosswalks as you approach intersections. These moves tell motorists that you are turning and they may anticipate a turn you do not make. Ride in a straight line from one bike lane to the one on the other side of the intersection.



A shoulder check allows you to see traffic behind you.

### CHECK BEHIND YOU FOR TRAFFIC BEFORE LEAVING THE BIKE LANE

Before merging left into traffic to make a left turn, or even to go straight through an intersection when a bike lane is dropped at an intersection, you should check over your left shoulder behind you for traffic.



The BookMobile shares the dashed bike lane as it prepares to turn right.

**MOTORISTS ARE ALLOWED TO MOVE INTO THE BIKE LANE 200 FEET IN ADVANCE OF MAKING A RIGHT TURN**, and it is required for them to move right into the section of bike lane that is bordered by a dashed line (as shown in photo of the Bookmobile) as they prepare to make a right turn at an intersection. Cyclists should pass such motorists on the left, or wait behind them until they make their right turn.