

September 2016

# Sharing the road: Motorists and bicyclists

# More than half a million collisions occur between motorists and bicycles.

Did you know that more than half a million collisions occur between motor vehicles and bicycles in the United States each year? According to AAA many of these incidents are the result of motorists failure to properly yield to bicyclists. Motorists need to increase their overall awareness of bicyclists.

Both cyclists and motorists can cause a crash. Here are some critical points for bicyclist and motorists to remember.

#### From the CA DMV Handbook **Motor vehicles must:**

 Look carefully for cyclists before opening doors next to moving traffic or before turning.

- Allow bicyclist enough room to avoid colliding with vehicle doors that are opened into traffic.
- Merge toward the curb or into the bike lane only when it is safe.
- Not try to pass a cyclist just before making a turn. Merge safely where it is allowed, then turn.
- Not drive in a bike lane unless initiating a turn at an intersection or driveway, and not more than 200 feet in advance.
- Make a visual check for bicyclists when changing lanes or entering traffic. Bicycles are small and may be hidden in a vehicle's blind spot.
- Be careful when approaching or passing a bicyclist on a two-lane highway or freeway.

#### **Bicyclists must:**

• Obey all traffic signs and traffic signal lights.

- Ride in the same direction as traffic.
- Signal when changing lanes or turning.
- Yield to pedestrians.
- Wear a helmet (It's the law for those under 18 years old.)

Remember, bicyclists are entitled to share the road with other drivers. Bicyclists have the same rights and responsibilities as vehicles and motorcycle drivers.



#### The three feet safety act

#### Are you aware of the three feet safety act of 2014?

California Vehicle Code 21760

A driver of a motor vehicles shall not overtake or pass a bicycle proceeding in the same direction on a highway at a distance of less than three feet between any part of the motor vehicle and any part of the bicycle or its operator.

If the driver of a motor vehicle is unable to comply, due to traffic or roadway condition, the driver shall slow to a speed that is reasonable and prudent, and may pass only when doing so would not endanger the safety of the operator of the bicycle, taking into account the size and speed of the motor vehicle and bicycle, traffic conditions, weather, visibility, and surface and width of the highway.



#### Share the sidewalk

Bicyclists are allowed to ride on most sidewalks in Roseville, as long as they give pedestrians the right of way.

However, bicycles are not allowed on sidewalks along the following downtown and historic district streets:

- ⇒ Downtown Vernon Street, between Judah and the intersection of Atlantic and Vernon Streets;
- ⇒ Lincoln Street between Atlantic Street and Oak Street;
- ⇒ Grant Street between Atlantic Street and Oak Street;
- ⇒ Lincoln Street between Pacific Street and Main Street;
- ⇒ Main Street between Lincoln Street and Placer Street;
- ⇒ Church Street between Lincoln Street and Washington Boulevard.

#### **Bicycle crash statistics**



According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, more than 500,000 people are treated in emergency departments as a result of bicycle-related injuries each year. Not all injuries are a result of a crash; some are caused from simply falling over. Head injuries are the most common cause of death and injury. Helmet use is the single most effective way to reduce bicycle-related fatalities. Here are a few more interesting facts:

- Bicycle crashes are most likely to occur close to home.
- More children ranging from age 5 to 14 are treated in hospital emergency rooms with

injuries related to biking than any other sport.

- In 2013, most cyclist fatalities occurred between 3 and 11 pm.
- Among children boys ages 10 to 15 have the highest rate of bicycle-related injury.



### Helping victims of a disaster: floods, hurricanes... Make sure your donation counts.



You've probably seen the news. The flooding victims in Louisiana losing their homes, businesses, and lives. The images of the victims are heartbreaking, and you want to help by making a donation. However, you have to be careful. Unfortunately, scammers are also busy exploiting tragedies. They are trying to find ways to appeal to your sense of generosity and take the money intended for the victims.

If you are looking for a way to give, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) urges you to be cautious of potential charity scams. Do some research to ensure that your donation will go to a reputable organization that will use the money as promised. The FTC offers these tips if you plan to give to any organization:

- Donate to charities you know and trust with a proven track record with dealing with disaster like the American Red Cross.
- Be alert for charities that seem to have sprung up overnight in connection with current events. Check the charity with the Better Business Bureau's Wise Giving Alliance, Charity Navigator, Charity Watch or GuideStar.
- Designate the disaster so you can ensure your funds are going to disaster relief, rather than a general fund.
- Never click on links or open attachments in e-mails unless you know who sent it. You could unknowingly install malware on your computer.
- Don't assume that charity messages posted on social media are legitimate. Research the organization yourself.
- When texting to donate confirm the number with the source before you donate. The charge will show up on your mobile phone bill, but donations are not immediate. It

can take as long as 90 days for the charity to receive the funds.

 Find out if the charity or fundraiser must be registered in your state by contacting the National Association of State Charity Officials (http:// www.nasconet.org). If they should be registered, but they're not, consider donating through another charity.

Resources for checking out a charity:

- Better Business Bureau's Wise
  Giving Alliance—www.give.org
- Charity Navigator www.charitynavigator.org
- Charity Watch www.charitywatch.org
- GuideStar-www.guidestar.org



### File a complaint about a charity



## National charity complaints

If you have a complaint about a charity that solicits nationwide, you can file your charity complaint online with the BBB Wise Giving Alliance (www.give.org).

You may also file a complaint via postal mail by writing to:

BBB Wise Giving Alliance 3033 Wilson Blvd., Suite 600 Arlington, VA 22201

#### Local charity complaints

If you have a complaint about a charity that only solicits in your local area, you can file the complaint with your local BBB (http://www.bbb.org/sacramento).



Sources: Federal Trade Commission, AAA, California DMV, Centers for Disease Control & Prevention

Police Department 1051 Junction Blvd. Roseville CA 95678 (916) 774-5000 www.roseville.ca.us/police

> Call 9-1-1 EMERGENCY IN PROGRESS

Abandoned Vehicle Hotline (916) 746-1022 Alarms/Alarm Permits (916) 774-5093 Animal Control (916)774-5090 **Community Events & Neighborhood Watch** (916) 774-5050 PDCommunityServices@roseville.ca.us

**Graffiti Abatement** (916) 746-1021 Police News & Crime Alert Emails: www.roseville.ca.us/enotify

RCONA (Roseville Coalition Of Neighborhood Associations) www.RCONA.org



The "9-1-1" is published for City of Roseville's residents by the Community Relations Division of the Roseville Police Department. Please send comments or suggestions to pdcommunityservices@roseville.ca.us, (916) 774-5050. Vol. 16 Issue 09