BOSTON

Bicyclist Safety Bill

Yes, it's true: the Bicyclist Safety Bill is law after eight years and four legislative sessions. **What it does:** requires police training on bicycle law and dangerous behavior by bicyclists and motorists; explains how a motorist should safely pass a bicycle; explains how a motorist should safely make a turn in front of a bicycle; makes "dooring" (opening a car door into the path of a bicycle or other vehicle) subject to ticket and fine; permits bicyclists to ride two abreast when it does not impede cars from passing; and adds legal protections for bicyclists who choose to ride to the right of other traffic. www.massbike.org

Map Methodology

The first edition of this map was created in 2009 with input from more than 200 cyclists.

Cyclists assigned suitability ratings to segments based on whether they felt a given road was appropriate for cyclists of all levels, or only for more experienced cyclists. Their subjective opinions take into account factors such as vehicle speed, pavement quality, road width, hilliness, intersection safety, bike accommodations, parking turnover and more.

To objectify this data, we took a weighted average of their recommendations, collected and added feedback from local cycling groups, and visited all the roadways ourselves before assigning a final suitability rating for each segment. The suitability levels of this map, therefore, represent a consensus opinion.

We understand that individuals may disagree with the ratings. To update the map for the 2010 Second Edition, we asked for feedback from cyclists who use the map. In response to more than 100 comments, we adjusted some suitability ratings, filled in some gaps in the routes, and added some new markings. We also added much more information about routes and bike facilities in surrounding cities, including Cambridge, Somerville, Brookline, Newton and Milton.

Massachusetts Law States That Bicycles Are Vehicles

The top five things you need to know about bikes and the law:

- Bicycles are considered vehicles, and therefore they belong on the road.
- Bicycles must stop at all stop signs and red lights, ride in the same direction as traffic, and obey all other
- Front and rear lights are required if riding after dark. • Bicycles may use the entire lane of traffic if need
- be for safety. • Bicycles may only ride on sidewalks outside of business districts, unless otherwise prohibited. Riding in the road is

Within the State of Massachusetts, a cyclist's rights allow:

- Riding on any public road, street, or bikeway in the Commonwealth, except limited access or express state highways where signs specifically prohibiting bikes have
- Riding on sidewalks outside business districts, unless local laws prohibit sidewalk riding.
- Using either hand to signal stops and turns. • Passing cars on the right.

BikeShops (Boston)

231 Grove St., West Roxbury_____617-325-2453

_617-247-2336

_617-783-5636

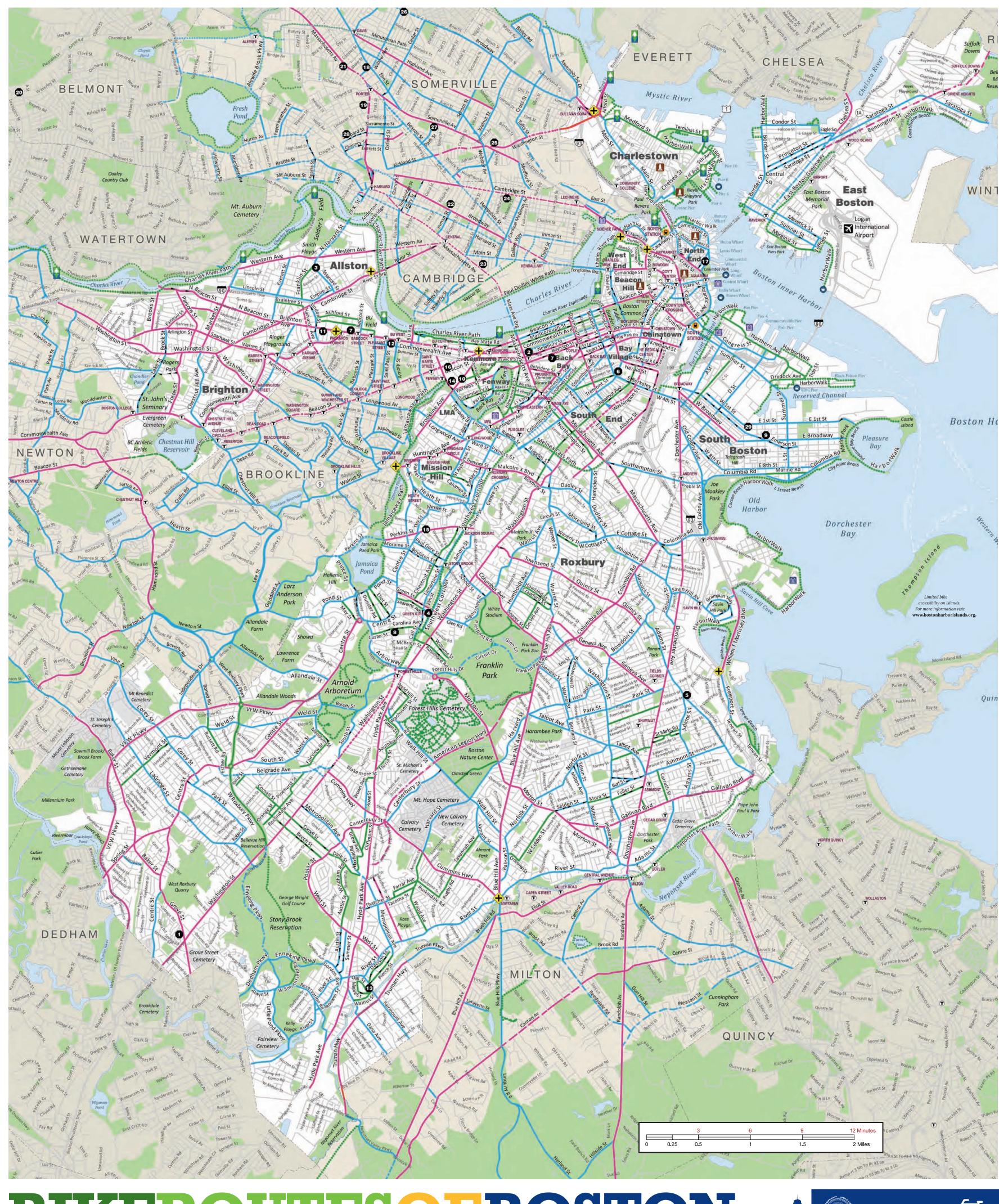
I Adis Bike World

2 Back Bay Bicycles

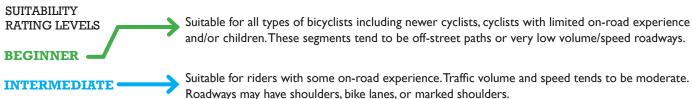
3 Bicycle Bill's

366 Comm Ave., Boston

	617-783-5636
4 Bikes Not Bombs 18 Bartlett Sq., Jamaica Plain	617-522-0226
5 Codman Cycle Company 353 Adams St., Dorchester	
6 Community Bicycle Supply	
496 Tremont St., Boston 7 Eastern Mountain Sports	617-542-8623
1041& 1045 Comm Ave., Boston_ 855 Boylston St., Boston_	
8 Ferris Wheels Bike Shop 64 South St., Jamacia Plain	
9 Federico's Bike Shop	
126 Emerson St., South Boston 10 Giant Cycling World	617-269-1309
Kilmarnock St., Boston International Bicycle Center	617-424-6400
89 Brighton Ave., Brighton	
890 Comm Ave., Boston	617-232-0446
Mel's Hyde Park Bike 74 Fairmount Ave., Hyde Park	617-361-3441
29 MyBike 516 E2 nd St., #B15, South Boston_	888-738-1731
401 Park Dr., Boston	617-236-0746
15 Revolution Bicycle Repair	
383 Centre St., Jamaica Plain 16 Superb Bicycle	
842 Beacon St., Boston 17 Urban AdvenTours	617-236-0752
103 Atlantic Ave., Boston	617-670-0637
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BIKEROUTESOFBOSTONLLL



ADVANCED -

and/or children. These segments tend to be off-street paths or very low volume/speed roadways.

Suitable for experienced and traffic-confident cyclists. These are often the most direct routes. Traffic volumes and/or speeds can be high. Intersections might be complex.

BICYCLE ACCOMODATIONS

••••• Path, trail or car-free roadway

•-•-- Roadway marked for bicycles with bike lane or bike boulevard --- Roadway marked for bicycles with shared

road symbols and/or signage Recommended bicycle route with no bicycle markings on roadway

Dangerous Intersection

Water Ferry Stop

Train Station

Historic Site

Museum

T MBTA

East Coast Greenway

---- Town Boundary

9 Bicycle Shop ► - One Way Route

Park, Playground, Open Space

We welcome your feedback as a user of this map to help us continue to make it better.

Nicole Freedman, Boston Bikes Director Email: Nicole.Freedman.BRA@cityofboston.gov Telephone: 617-918-4456 www.cityofboston.gov/bikes

Cemetery

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Dear Boston Cyclists,

In September 2007, I formed Boston Bikes, a city-wide initiative to encourage citizens and visitors to use bicycles for fun, exercise, and transportation. Our goal is to make Boston a vibrant and healthy city that benefits all its citizens. By creating safe and inviting conditions for all residents and visitors, we seek to make our home into a world-class bicycling city.

The map you hold in your hand is the product of collaboration between Boston Bikes and cyclists in our city. We asked commuters, couriers, and other bike enthusiasts about the routes they prefer to use while traveling through the city. Then we combined all their input to create this new Boston bicycling map. Roads are colorcoded, indicating their rating for beginner, intermediate, or advanced riders.

Whether you are a lifelong cyclist or someone who has never ridden a bike before, this map will help you plan rides through the city and discover new routes or shortcuts.

This map will help you discover Boston in a way that's only possible by bicycle. Enjoy the unique landmarks, spacious parks, and the riverfront and shoreline that make our city so special.



Or call: 617-918-4456











Cyclists have the same rights and responsibilities as automobiles. You are a part of traffic and you have a right to expect to be treated the same as other drivers. Obey all traffic laws and regulations. Be visible, be aware, and always wear a properly fitting helmet.

- Go with the flow of traffic. Stay on the road; sidewalks are designed for pedestrians,
- Ride in a straight line. If you must deviate from that line to pass any impediment, check over your shoulder for approaching traffic, signal, then move to the left.
- Pick the correct position at **intersections.** Generally, you should stay to the right. If there is heavy right-turning traffic and you are going straight, move towards the center of the lane to prevent being "hooked" by a right-turning motorist. When turning left, ride on the right side of the lane if there is a dedicated turning lane; otherwise, ride on the left side of an unmarked lane.
- Lane positioning strategies. Ride on the right portion of the travel lane, being sure to allow I' of space from the edge of good pavement, 2' from a raised curb, and 3' from parked cars to avoid getting hit by an opening door. Ride in the center of a lane that is too narrow to share. Always pass other cyclists on their left.
 - Use lights when riding at **night!** Use both a white front light and a red (preferably blinking) rear light to be visible both to traffic approaching from behind and to yielding traffic in front.



BIKES NOT BOMBS

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Allston Brighton Bikes www.allstonbrightonbikes.bostonbiker.org

- Boston Cyclists Union www.bostoncyclistsunion.org
- Boston Biker
- www.bostonbiker.org Dot Bike
- www.dotbike.bostonbiker.org JP Bikes
- www.jpbikes.bostonbiker.org **Livable Streets** www.livablestreets.info
- Rozzie Bikes www.rozziebikes.org
- YOUTH Bikes not Bombs
- www.bikesnotbombs.org
- **Trips For Kids** www.tripsforkidsboston.wordpress.com

UNIVERSITY

Boston University Suffolk Bikes www.bubikes.org www.suffolkbikes.org

STATEWIDE Mass Bike

Walkboston www.massbike.org www.walkboston.org

NATIONAL

- Alliance for Biking and Walking www.peoplepoweredmovement.org
- Bikes Belong
- www.bikesbelong.org
- League of American Bicyclists www.bikeleague.org

RENTALS & TOURS

- **Urban AdvenTours**
- www.urbanadventours.com Bike Rides for Ordinary People
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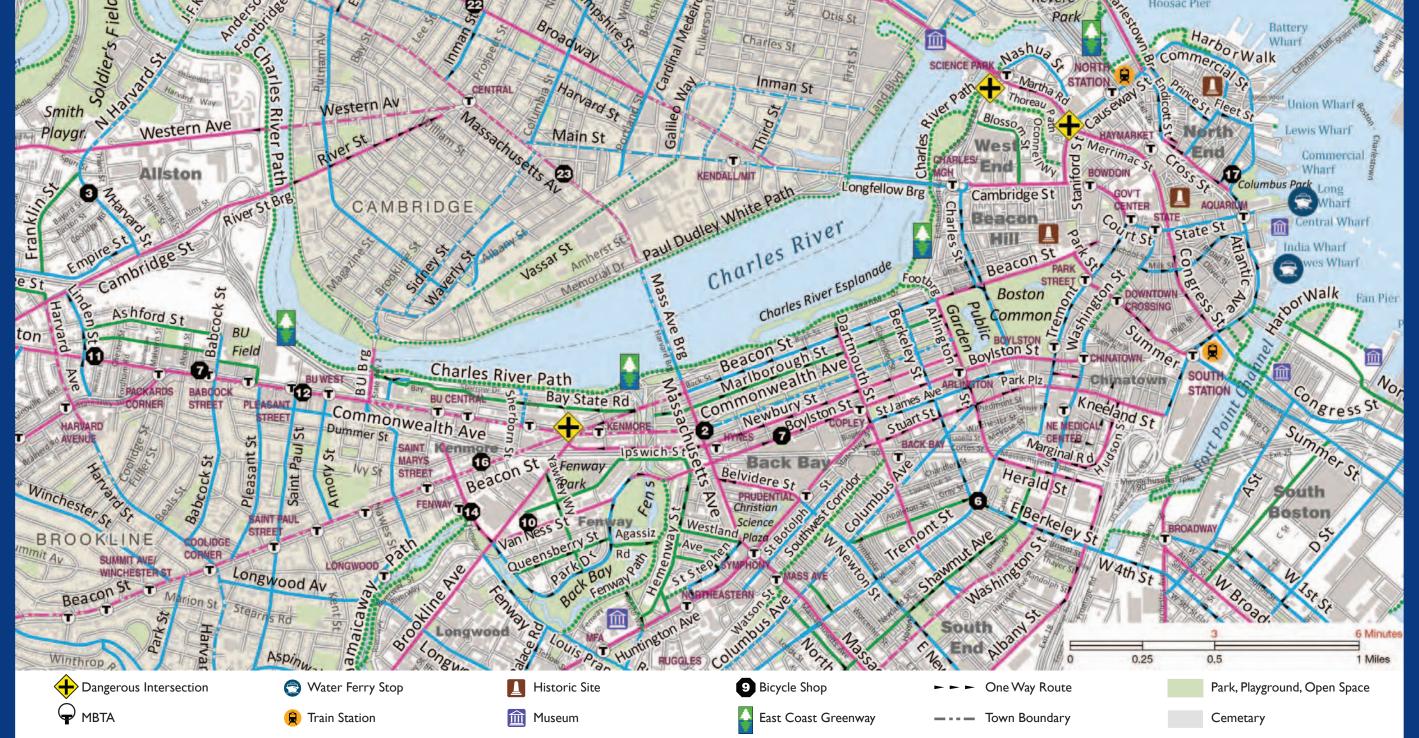
DOWNTOWN BIKE SHOP

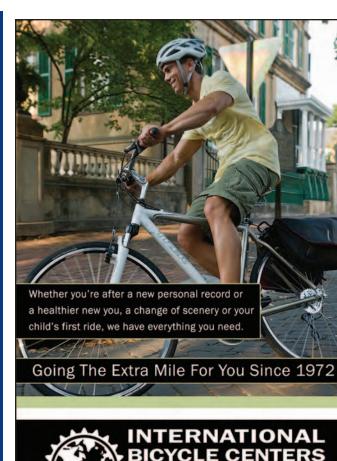
LOCATIONS

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BIKES ARE PERMITTED ON:

SUBWAY

Weekdays before 7 am, between 10 am and 4 pm, and after 7 pm. Weekends any time. Only 2 bikes per car.

Bikes are not allowed on the Green Line, the Mattapan Trolley, or the Silver Line.

BUS

Only on buses equipped with external racks. Not permitted on buses that substitute for rail

COMMUTER RAIL

All trains except during weekday peak hours in the peak direction.

T BOATS AND FERRIES ALL times.

Folding bikes

Folding bikes are allowed on Subway, Commuter Rail and buses at any time when folded.

Exceptions apply during holidays and special events.

Further details are available at

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6. Clothing options If you have a short commute, ride at a relaxed pace in your work clothes. Cycling-specific clothing is an option for longer rides. **7. Showering** Many workplaces have showers located in the building; inquire about access. Some

1. Share the road Bicycles are vehicles and

should act and be treated as such on the roadways.

2. Signals and signs Obey all stop signs,

traffic lights, and lane markings. Use hand signals to

3. Safety Always wear a helmet. Be visible and

predictable at all times. Using a headlight and taillight

when riding anytime after sunset or before sunrise.

4. Picking a route Consider distance, traffic volume, road width and condition, and terrain.

immovable object in a visible area, or look for indoor

parking in your office. If no parking is available, ask

5. Bike parking Lock your bike to an

Always allow pedestrians the right of way.

indicate when you plan to stop or turn.

Take the lane if necessary.

your employer to provide it.

health clubs offer shower-only memberships for a **8. Maintenance** Any bike in good working order is suitable for commuting. Have your bike

you how to repair a flat, fix a chain, and inspect your brake pads for wear. **9. Weather** Fenders and rain gear keep out the rain. Use layers and wind proofing for cold days. Some cycling-specific gear can provide relief on hot days,

checked over by your local bike shop. Have them show



September 26, 2010

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