

# THE LAW

## BICYCLE = VEHICLE

BICYCLES RIDING ON THE ROAD ARE CONSIDERED VEHICLES AND MUST:

- Obey all traffic controls and signals.
- Ride in the same direction of traffic.
- Have a front white light and rear red light while riding at dawn, dusk, or night.



### ROAD POSITIONING

Per Florida Statute, Section 316.2065(5)(a), any person operating a bicycle on a roadway at less than the normal speed of traffic shall ride in the lane marked for bicycle use or, if no lane is marked for bicycle use, as close as practicable to the right-hand curb or edge of the roadway except under any of the following situations:

- when passing another bicycle or vehicle proceeding in the same direction;
- when preparing for a left turn;
- when reasonably necessary to avoid any condition or potential conflict, including, but not limited to, a fixed or moving object, parked or moving vehicle, bicycle, pedestrian, animal, surface hazard; or
- where a turn lane, or lane that is too narrow for a bicycle and another vehicle to travel safely side by side within the lane.



A driver overtaking a bicycle must maintain a horizontal clearance of 3 feet.

### One-Way Street

A bicyclist operating on a one-way roadway with two or more marked traffic lanes may also ride as near to the left-hand curb or edge of such roadway as practicable.

### Width and Road Position

1. On roads with narrow lanes, ride far enough from the edge to discourage dangerously close passing.
2. On roads with wide lanes, riding just to the right of the stream of traffic will allow easy passing while reducing risks from turning or crossing traffic.
3. Ride on the smooth pavement just to the left of any gravel, debris, or potholes.
4. Always ride at least a door's width from parked cars.



### RIDING ON SIDEWALKS

Bicyclists may legally ride on sidewalks in Palm Beach County; however, riding on the sidewalk is a leading cause of bicycle crashes.

When riding on sidewalks or in crosswalks, a bicyclist has the same rights and duties as a pedestrian. A bicyclist riding on sidewalks or in crosswalks must yield the right of way to pedestrians and must give an audible signal before passing.

### ROAD SIGNS



# BE SAFE!



### BE PREDICTABLE

Ride so drivers can see you and predict your movements.

- Obey traffic signs and signals.
- Never ride against traffic.
- Use hand signals.
- Ride in a straight line.
- Follow lane markings.
- Choose the best way to turn left.
- Do not pass on the right.
- Do not weave between parked cars.
- Ride slowly on sidewalks and yield to pedestrians.

### BE COURTEOUS

- While riding on the road, keep to the right to let faster vehicles pass on the left.
- Do not ride more than 2 bicycles abreast on the road to let faster vehicles pass.
- Yield to pedestrians and call out or a ring bell before passing on the left while riding on a sidewalk.

### BE SEEN

- Always wear bright, reflective clothing while on your bicycle.
- A bicycle operated at dawn, dusk or night must be equipped with a front white light and both a rear reflector and red light. Additional lighting is permitted and recommended.

### BE PREPARED

- Carry a small tool kit with tire patch and frame pump – and know how to use them – this will help get you back on the road when your bike has a flat tire or other common minor breakdowns.
- Use good lock. Lock your bicycle's frame and any quick-release parts, or take them with you.

### BE ALERT

- Be aware of your surroundings and do not wear headsets, talk on the phone, or listen to music while bicycling.
- Avoid road hazards.
- Keep both hands ready to brake.



### A-B-C QUICK CHECK



**A:** Check your tires to see if they have enough AIR.

**B:** Check your BRAKES to make sure they are working properly.

**C:** Check your bicycle CHAIN to ensure it is in place and not damaged or rusty.

**Q:** If your bicycle has QUICK RELEASES, make sure they are in lock position.

**CHECK:** Check your bike for any loose parts such handlebars, bolts or cables



### GREENWAY

A Greenway is a type of shared use path typically physically separated from motor vehicle traffic with an open space or barrier. These facilities are designed to include both pedestrians and bicyclists.



### BUFFERED BIKE LANE

Buffered Bike Lanes are designated bicycle lanes paired with a buffer space separating the bicycle lane from the adjacent motor vehicle travel lane and/or parking lane. A subset of this group are Protected Bike Lanes which separate cyclists from vehicle travel by a physical barrier.



### DESIGNATED BIKE LANE

A Designated Bike Lane is a portion of the roadway that is identified through striping, signage, and pavement markings for the preferred or exclusive use of bicyclists.



### UNDESIGNATED BIKE LANE

Shoulders are the paved section of road outside of the travel lane. For most roadways, cyclists are legally allowed to ride on the travel lanes. A paved or partially paved shoulder offers cyclists an alternative to ride with some separation from vehicular traffic. This type of shoulder can also reduce risky passing maneuvers by drivers.



### Shared Lane Markings "SHARROW"

Shared Lane Markings or "sharrows," are road markings used to indicate a shared lane environment for bicycles and automobiles. Sharrows reinforce the lawfulness of bicycle traffic on the street while recommending proper cyclist positioning, and may be configured to offer directional and wayfinding guidance.



### SIGNALING TURNS AND STOPS

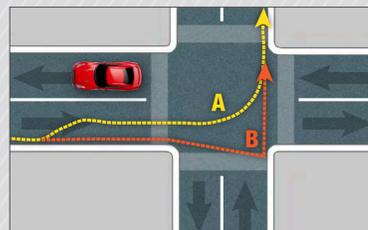
- Left turn: extend the left arm horizontally.
- Right turn: extend the right arm horizontally OR extend the left hand and arm upward.
- Stop or suddenly reduce speed: extend the left hand and arm downward



### METHODS FOR TURNING AT INTERSECTIONS

#### Left Turns

- **Method A:** A bicyclist intending to make a left turn is entitled to full use of the lane from which a driver may legally make a left turn. After scanning, signaling, and moving to the center of that lane, the bicyclist must check the traffic signal, if any, and proceed when it is green and safe to proceed.
- **Method B:** Instead of making a left turn as a motorist does, a cyclist may proceed through the right-most portion of the intersection and turn as close to the curb or edge as practicable at the far side. Before proceeding in the new direction of travel, the bicyclist must comply with any official traffic control device.



#### Right Turns

- The right turn should be made as closely as practicable to the right-hand curb or the edge of the roadway.



Helmet use is required by law in the State of Florida for bicyclists that are under 16 years of age.

It is essential to wear a helmet every time you ride. It can save your life. A properly fitted helmet is the most effective method to prevent head injuries & fatalities while biking.

### MAKE SURE YOUR HELMET MEETS NATIONAL STANDARDS AND REPLACE IT IF:

- No longer fits.
- Is damaged.
- Has expiration date on interior sticker that has already passed.



### FOLLOW 2-FINGER RULE TO ENSURE PROPER HELMET FIT:

You should be able to see the front edge of your helmet when you look up. It should be level, not tipped back, to protect your forehead. The neck strap should be snug, but not tight. Adjust the straps with the plastic slider; it should be just under your ear with no slack in the straps.

Make sure your helmet is the right size, and if necessary add interior pads to fine-tune the fit.



#### Railroad Tracks

Try to cross railroad tracks at a 90 degree angle. Otherwise the tracks may trap the front wheel, causing a fall.

#### Potholes

Avoid potholes. Hitting a pothole can cause a fall and injury or at a minimum, damage wheel rims, spokes and forks. A wide swerve around the pothole can send you into the path of an overtaking car.

#### Grates

Scan for traffic and move further into the lane to go around grates. Tires may fall through some sewer and drainage grates causing you to go over the handlebars.

#### Wet Surfaces

Watch out for slippery surfaces, especially leaves, motor oil and painted stripes. Turn corners slowly, avoid puddles, and brake early.

#### Sand, Gravel, Leaves

Steer around these when possible. If you must ride over them, steer a straight line and never brake or turn sharply.

# BIKE PALM BEACH



The Palm Beach Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Bicycle Suitability Map is intended to serve as a reference for bicycling on roads within the Palm Beach County area. The map includes the bicycle level of service (BLOS) for roads within the county. The BLOS is a calculation of how comfortable a bicyclist may feel on a particular roadway based on roadway speeds, traffic volumes and the amount of space provided for bicyclists to operate.

Bicyclists should remain alert for hazardous conditions at all times, and every bicyclist is encouraged to obtain appropriate safety equipment and observe all traffic laws.

The Palm Beach MPO, Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc., and the individuals involved in the development of this map assume no liability for the personal safety of individuals using this map.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

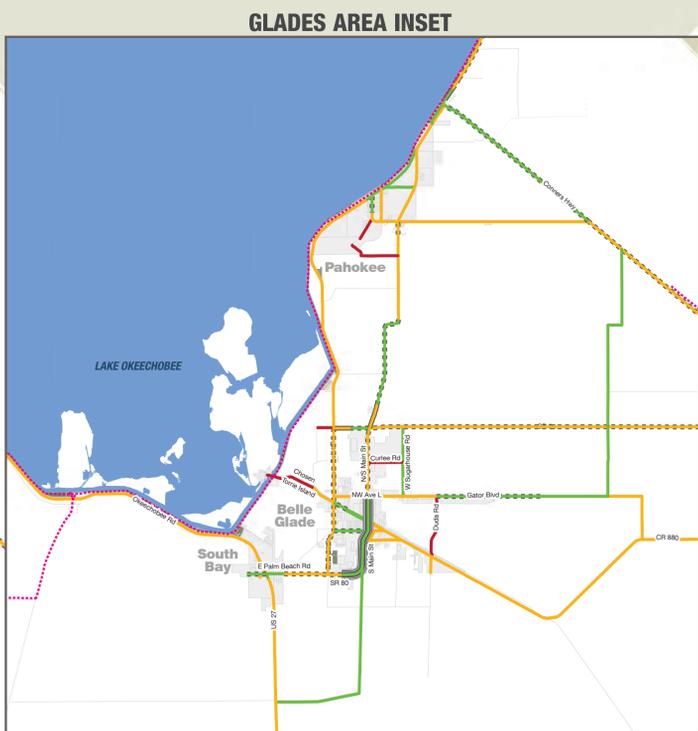
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- Palm Beach Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO).....PalmBeachMPO.org
- Bike Palm Beach.....BikePalmBeach.org
- Palm Beach County Parks & Recreation.....PBCgov.com/parks
- Florida Pedestrian and Bicycle Resource Center.....PedBikeSRc.ce.ufl.edu
- National Pedestrian & Bicycle Information Center.....PedBikeInfo.org
- Florida Bicycle Association.....FloridaBicycle.org
- League of American Bicyclists.....BikeLeague.org
- Alert Today Alive Tomorrow.....AlertTodayFlorida.com
- Florida Department of Transportation.....DOT.State.FL.us
- National Center for Safe Routes to School.....SafeRoutesInfo.org
- Bike to School Day.....WalkBikeToSchool.org
- Bike Florida.....BikeFlorida.org

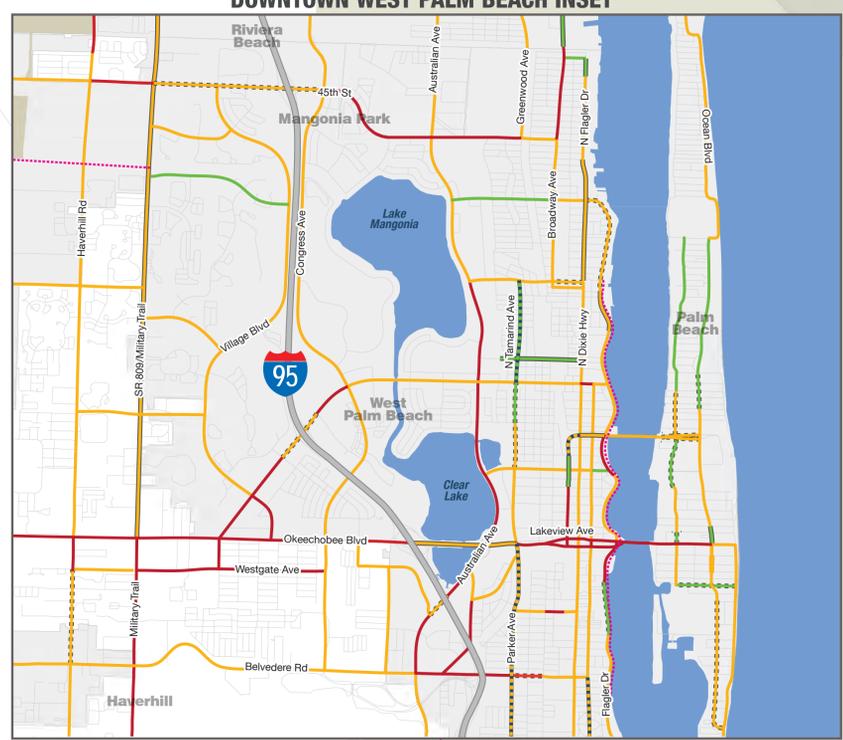


# PALM BEACH METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION BIKE SUITABILITY MAP



GLADES AREA INSET

SEE GLADES AREA INSET FOR WESTERN PORTION OF COUNTY



DOWNTOWN WEST PALM BEACH INSET



## LEGEND

- Caution** High vehicle traffic, and high speed roads (>35 mph) with no designated space for bicyclists to travel, and traffic from heavy vehicles, such as freight trucks.
  - Fair** Moderate to high vehicle traffic and low speed roads (<35 mph) with no designated bike facilities, or high speed roads (>35 mph) with some space for bicyclists to travel.
  - Good** Low to moderate vehicle traffic, and low speed roads (≤ 35 mph) with shared lanes or higher speed roads (<35) with designated bike facilities.
- Buffered Bike Lane
  - Designated Bike Lane
  - Undesignated Bike Lane
  - Sharrow
  - Limited Access Roads
  - Greenways
  - Water
  - Parks
  - Conservation Lands
  - County Boundary
  - Transit Hub



BROWARD

Bicycle facility and suitability information shown above is current as of November 2016. For the latest available data, go to [BikePalmBeach.org](http://BikePalmBeach.org).