



# GUIDELINES FOR TAXI DRIVERS SHARING THE ROAD WITH BICYCLISTS



## LEARN TO AVOID CRASHES

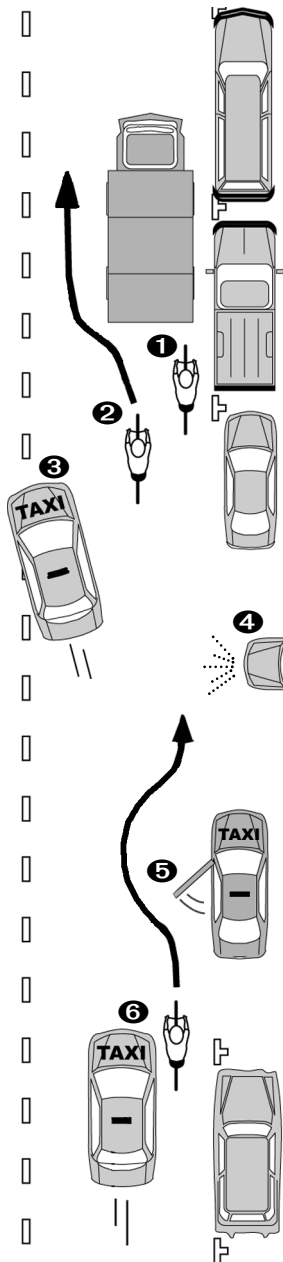
The City of Chicago is teaching taxi drivers how to share the road with bicyclists to prevent crashes and save lives. The law requires bicyclists to ride in the street with cars and trucks, which pose the biggest danger to bicyclists. Crashes with motor vehicles cause more injuries than any other type of bicycle crash.

**HELP SAVE LIVES AND PREVENT INJURIES. USE YOUR SKILLS TO AVOID CRASHES.**

## BICYCLING IS GOOD FOR CHICAGO. HERE'S WHY:

- **LESS CAR TRAFFIC:** Bicycling is a practical way to travel, get work done, and deliver packages with less traffic.
- **CLEAN AIR:** Chicago faces big problems with pollution from cars. When people ride bikes instead of driving, it helps keep the air clean in Chicago.
- **EXERCISE:** Bicycling helps people stay healthy.
- **FUN:** Bicycling is good recreation for residents and tourists.

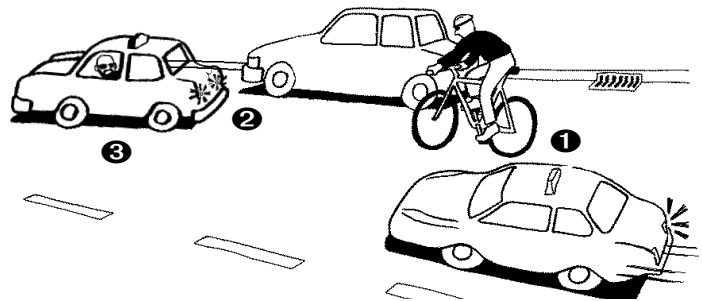
## SHARING THE ROAD



- 1 This truck is a hazard for bicyclists. **AVOID DOUBLE PARKING.** And use your hazard lights when you pull over.
- 2 Bicyclists often must **MERGE** with fast-moving traffic to avoid hazards. When bicyclists merge in front of you, let them in.
- 3 If you can, you should change lanes before passing bicyclists. Always slow down and pass them with at least **THREE FEET** of space. Then, wait until you can see them in your mirror before going back into the lane.

- 4 Avoiding a **DRIVE-OUT:** Before exiting an alley or driveway, stop, sound your horn, and look for bicyclists and pedestrians on the sidewalk and street.
- 5 Avoid a **DOORING.** Always warn passengers to exit curbside and watch for bicycles. Always look for approaching bicycles when exiting your cab.
- 6 This taxi is passing too closely for the bicyclist to avoid hazards (like opening car doors). To avoid a crash, always leave at least **THREE FEET** of space between any bicyclist and your car.

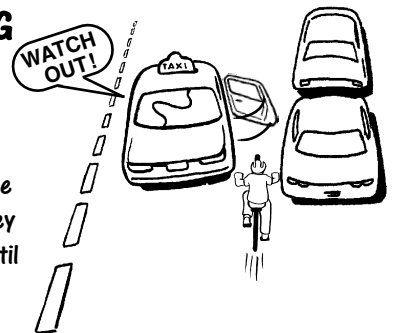
## PICKING UP OR DROPPING OFF FARES: DON'T FAIL TO YIELD



- 1 Before you pull over, put on your **TURN SIGNAL**, then look over your shoulder to check for bicyclists. If you see any bicyclists, let them pass before you pull over.
- 2 When you stop temporarily, put on your **HAZARD LIGHTS** so bicyclists know what to expect.
- 3 Before you pull out, check your mirror and look over your left shoulder for bicyclists in your **BLIND SPOT**.

## LETTING PASSENGERS OUT SAFELY: AVOID A DOORING

Pull your cab as far over to the curb as possible. **WARN PASSENGERS** to look behind for bicyclists before opening the door. If they see a bicyclist, they should keep the door closed until the bicyclist passes.



Created for the Public Chauffeur Training Institute at Harold Washington College by the Chicago Dept. of Transportation Bicycle Program, 30 N. LaSalle St., Ste. 500, Chicago IL 60602, 312/742-2453, 800/526-0844 (TDD only), [www.chicagobikes.org](http://www.chicagobikes.org).

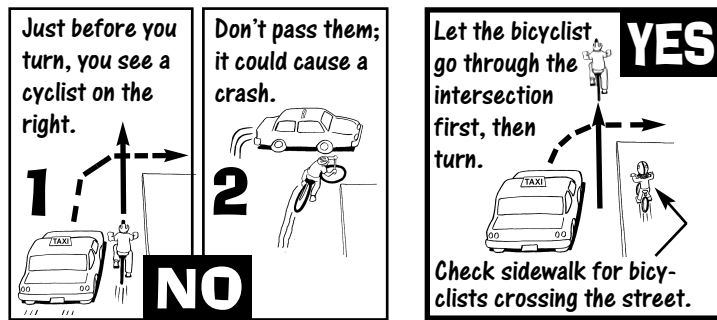


Funded by the Illinois Dept. of Transportation, Division of Traffic Safety, and the Chicago Dept. of Transportation.

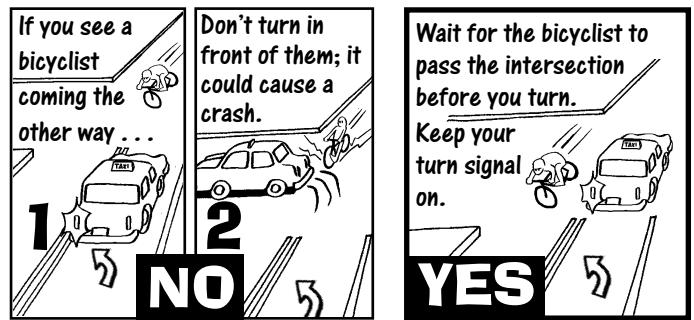
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PLEASE SEE THE OTHER SIDE

## TURNING RIGHT: Always look for and yield to bicyclists.



## TURNING LEFT: Bicyclists can move faster than you think.



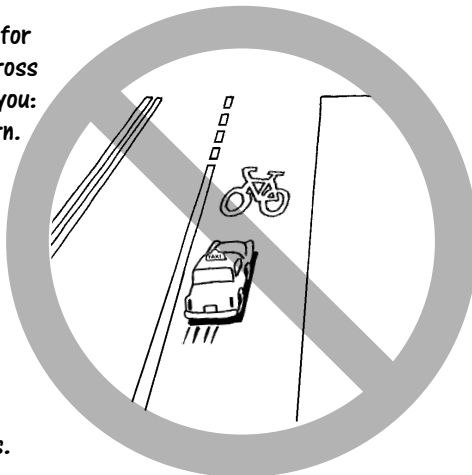
## DON'T DRIVE OR PARK IN BIKE LANES

You can be fined \$100 for violating a bike lane. Cross into a bike lane only if you:

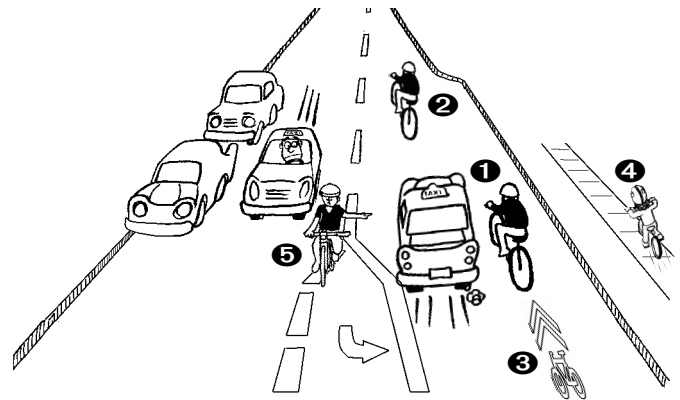
- Are just about to turn.
- Are picking up or dropping off passengers.

In bike lanes:

- When entering, use your turn signal.
- When stopping, use your hazard lights.
- Yield to all bicyclists.

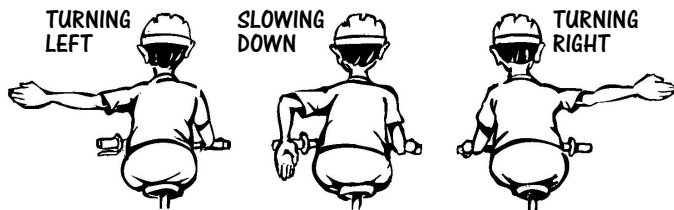


## BE AWARE OF BICYCLE TRAFFIC



- 1 Bicyclists usually ride just to the right of faster-moving traffic. Don't honk at bicyclists; you might scare them and cause a crash.
- 2 Where a lane is too narrow, a bicyclist may ride in the middle. Change lanes before you pass them and leave at least **THREE FEET**. Don't follow closely, because bicyclists can stop suddenly.
- 3 If you see this symbol on the pavement, it means you will likely have to share a lane with a bicyclist.
- 4 Kids under 12 may bicycle on **SIDEWALKS**. When you see kids in crosswalks or near intersections, get ready to stop for them.
- 5 The law says bicyclists may use the **LEFT LANE** to turn. Let them merge and don't follow too closely. Before moving into a left lane, check over your left shoulder for bicyclists.

## WATCH FOR BICYCLISTS' TURN SIGNALS



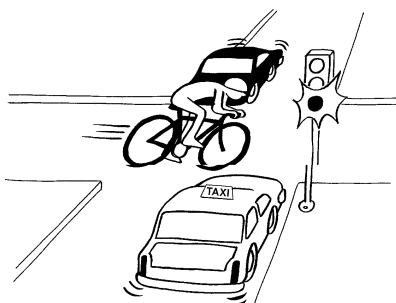
Bicyclists often use these hand signals to let you know when they are going to turn. (To signal a right turn, instead of the signal shown here they might point their left arm up from the elbow.)

## BICYCLISTS MIGHT SURPRISE YOU

The law says that adult bicyclists must ride in the street and obey all of the same rules as cars. **But many don't!** Use your professional driving skills to avoid crashes with bicyclists who break the law.

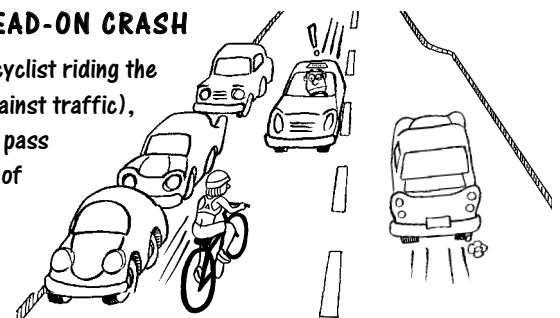
### AVOID A SIDE HIT

When you see a bicyclist on a cross street coming to a red light or stop sign, get ready to brake; the bicyclist might cross in front of you.



### AVOID A HEAD-ON CRASH

If you see a bicyclist riding the wrong way (against traffic), slow down and pass them with lots of room.



PLEASE SEE THE OTHER SIDE