Street Markings

Bike Lanes give bicyclists and riders their own assigned and separate spaces on the road. Bicycle riders should always ride in the direction indicated by the arrow painted on the street.

Sharrow markings indicate that the street is planned for bike traffic but is too narrow for separate bike lanes. Sharrows indicate to drivers and bicyclists that they must share the road and use the same space on the street as they travel.

Green Bike Boxes indicate where bicycle riders should position themselves ahead of vehicle traffic at an intersection. This makes bicycle riders more visible to drivers when turning. The first Bike Box in Lawrence is at 14th and Massachusetts Streets.

Be Visible

Light your Bike - Use a strong fixed beam headlight and rear flashing light and/or rear reflector at night and when visibility is poor. Wear light-colored clothes with reflective tape for extra protection. Reflector-equipped includes a white light visible from at least 500 feet & a red rear reflector visible from all distances 100-400 feet. Additional red rear lights are recommended as well.

Hand Signals - Use signals to tell drivers what you intend to do. Signal as a matter of law, courtesy, and self-protection.

Be Predictable

Obey All Traffic Signs and Lights - Bicycle riders must follow the same laws as drivers. Stop at red lights and stop signs just as you would in a car.

Ride Consistently - Ride in a straight line. Always look and signal prior to turning. Avoid swerving and sudden changes. Stay at least a car door length away from parked cars. Bicycle riders shall not ride more than two abreast.

Don’t Pass on the Right - Drivers may not see you passing on the right and you could be seriously injured.

Be Safe

Wear a Helmet - Helmets should sit flat on your head just above the eyebrows and fit snugly. Riders under 15 are required by law to wear a helmet.

Scan the Road Around You - Look ahead and anticipate what other traffic is likely to do. Ride with both hands ready to brake and do not ride with headphones.

Be Pedestrian Friendly - Sidewalks are designed for pedestrians. It is highly recommended that you avoid riding on sidewalks. If you do ride with the direction of traffic, dismount, and walk your bike across all intersections and driveways. Lawrence City Ordinance 17-702 prohibits cyclists from riding on sidewalks in Downtown Lawrence. On shared use paths, trails and sidewalks, give an audible warning before passing pedestrians on the left. It is your responsibility to ALWAYS yield to pedestrians.

Position on the Road - Ride as close to the right side of the roadway as practical—in the same direction as traffic—except when passing another vehicle, preparing for a left turn, or avoiding hazards. Take a position centered in the lane if the road width is too narrow for cyclists and cars to share the lane or if motor and bicycle traffic is traveling at the same speed. At intersections, proceed in line and turn as you would in a car. Before intersections and turns, take a position in the lane that maximizes visibility and makes your intention clear.

Community Resources for Bicycle Riders

Street Maintenance and Traffic Safety - To report problems on Lawrence streets, call the Lawrence Municipal Services and Operations office at (785) 832-5293. To report problems on County routes, call the Douglas County Public Works office at (785) 832-7800.

Parks & Recreation - Trail Maintenance - To offer suggestions or improvements for trails in Lawrence, call the Parks & Recreation Administrative Office at (785) 832-3450. For information about bike repair, classes, and other resources, visit lawrenceks.org/mpo/bicycle_planning.

Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) - For more information about state bicycle laws, trails, route information and maps, visit ksdot.org/bike.

For more information about bicycle planning, visit lawrenceks.org/bicycle_planning.

Take Your Bike on the Bus

Combining biking and transit can get you farther in Lawrence. Racks are available on a first-come, first-served basis. For route maps and schedules, visit lawrenceks.org/bike.

• To lower the rack, squeeze the handle and pull it down.
• Place your bike in the rack closest to the bus and raise the support arm over the front tire to secure it.
• Remember to remind the driver that you will be removing your bike when you get off the bus.

TIP:
Always remember to lock your bicycle and record the serial number in case of theft. Look for your serial number underneath the bottom bracket or on the headset / rear stays.