

**Useful Phone Numbers**

- Arizona Department of Transportation – (520) 388-4200
- Marana Parks and Recreation – (520) 382-1950
- Marana Planning Department – (520) 382-2612
- Oro Valley Bicycle Coordinator – (520) 229-5057
- Pima Association of Governments Regional Bicycle Coordinator – (520) 792-1093
- Pima County Bicycle and Pedestrian Program – (520) 724-BIKE (724-2453)
- Pima County Clean Air Program – (520) 724-7446
- Pima County Natural Resources Parks and Recreation – (520) 877-6000
- Sahuarita Public Works – (520) 344-7100
- Tucson Bicycle and Pedestrian Program – (520) 791-4371

**Reporting Road Maintenance Needs**

- Arizona Department of Transportation Street Maintenance – (520) 388-4200
- Marana Streets Department – (520) 382-2667
- Oro Valley Street Maintenance – (520) 229-5070
- Pima County Street Maintenance – (520) 724-2639
- Sahuarita Public Works – (520) 344-7100
- South Tucson Public Works – (520) 770-0032
- Tucson Street Maintenance – (520) 791-3154

**To get involved in bicycle transportation issues, contact:**

tucson-pima county **BAC** bicycle advisory committee

Call 724-BIKE or 791-4371 • Visit [www.bikeped.pima.gov](http://www.bikeped.pima.gov)

**PIMA COUNTY REGIONAL**

**FREE bike map**



**PIMA COUNTY**  
BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN PROGRAM  
[www.bikeped.pima.gov](http://www.bikeped.pima.gov)

- Shared Use Path**  
Paved 8 ft. to 16 ft. wide path open for two-way use by pedestrians, cyclists, and equestrians.
- Bike Route**  
On lower volume street, with "Bike Route" signs. Maximum speed limit of 30 mph.
- Bike Route with Striped Shoulder, Bus/Bike Lanes**  
On major street with white edge line, approx. 4 ft. to 12 ft. wide paved shoulder, with speed limits of 25 mph or more. Includes Bus/Bike Lanes on major streets that are 10 ft. to 12 ft. wide.

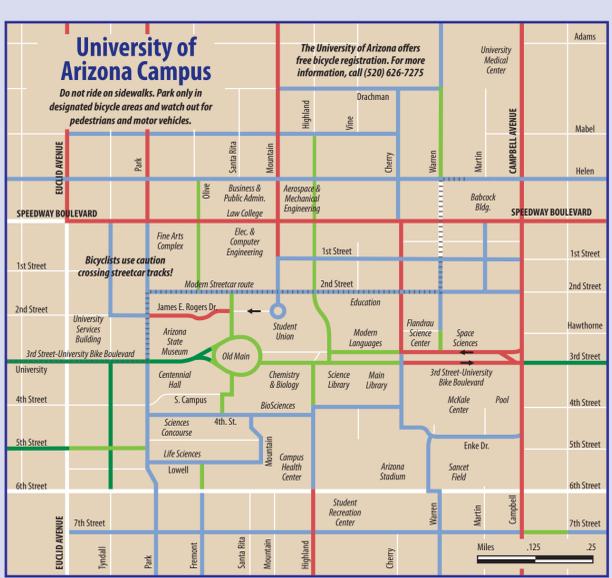
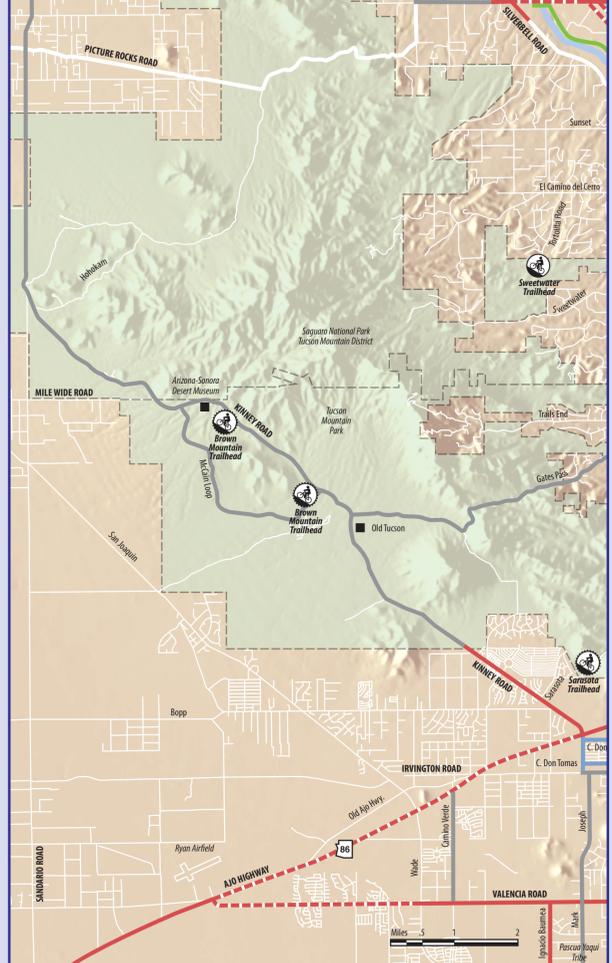
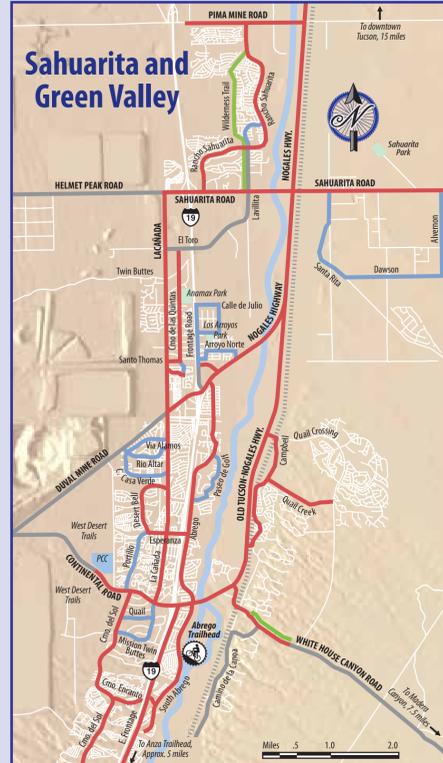
- Residential Streets**  
Residential and collector streets with max. speed limit of 35 mph.
- Key Connecting Streets**  
Streets that provide connectivity on popular bicycling routes. May be acceptable for experienced riders. These streets have more traffic, higher speeds and less width. Choose streets appropriate for your abilities.
- Major Streets**  
Major streets with no bike lanes or paved shoulders.
- Planned Improvements**  
Roadway or bikeway planned for improvement or under construction. Consider alternate routes during construction. Call (520) 724-BIKE for more information.
- Mountain Bike Trailheads and BMX Tracks**
- Bike Boulevards**  
Low-volume and low-speed streets that have been optimized for bicycle travel with traffic calming, traffic reduction, signage, pavement markings and intersection crossing treatments.

Cyclists are urged to use roads and paths that are suitable for their individual cycling skills and to be aware that during certain times of the day, traffic volumes may be unsuitable for their cycling abilities. Visit [www.bikeped.pima.gov](http://www.bikeped.pima.gov) for the latest version of this map.



Created by the Pima County Bicycle and Pedestrian Program, Program Manager Matthew Zoll.

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**Sharing the Road Safely**

When riding your bike always be polite and be smart. Show respect for all users of the road, and you'll get respect back. Cyclists and motorists use the same roads, with the same rules, same rights and responsibilities.



**A word about stop signs**  
Arizona traffic law defines a stop as "Stop, if required, means complete cessation from movement." While bicyclists are required to stop at stop signs, it is not necessary to put your foot on the ground to comply with the law.  
Running stop signs on major streets is dangerous and can result in a fine of \$225 and points added to your driver's license.  
Riding through stop signs sets a bad example for younger riders and hurts the image of all bicyclists.

**Never ride against traffic**  
Ride on the right with the flow of traffic. NEVER ride against traffic on the road, in a bike lane, or on a sidewalk. Drivers turning from the side cannot see you and approaching drivers will not expect you to be riding the wrong way (A.R.S. 28-815).

**Watch for car doors in the bike lane**  
Motorists in parked vehicles may be unaware that you're coming up on them from behind. If they open their door suddenly you could be injured.  
You could be forced into the streetcar tracks where you could catch your wheels. Always slow down in congested areas and watch for people sitting in cars who might suddenly exit the car.  
Where possible, stay at least 5 feet from the side of parked cars.

**Protect your head**  
Bike helmets greatly reduce your chances of injury in a crash. Pima County and City of Tucson laws require all bicyclists under age 18 to wear a helmet.  
According to national studies, 85% of brain injuries to bike riders can be prevented by wearing a helmet.

**Use caution when a bike lane merges**  
Use extreme caution when merging across right turn only/drop lanes. These lanes require special care by bicyclists. Well before you reach the intersection, scan over your left shoulder and signal your intention to merge left across the lane. Always watch for fast-moving drivers who may not see you.

**Watch for cars turning through gaps**  
Riding too fast past a line of stopped cars can get you injured. When passing a line of vehicles SLOW DOWN AND BE ALERT, especially near driveway entrances. Motorists often can't see past the line of vehicles and won't know you're there.

**Take the lane when appropriate**  
Remember that you may "take the lane" if the lane is not wide enough for both a car and a bike (A.R.S. 28-815). Check behind to make sure it's safe, signal your intentions, and take the lane by riding 1/3 to 1/2 of the way into the lane. When safe, move to the right to allow a vehicle to pass you.

**Be visible**  
Riding without a headlight at night could result in a fine of \$115.  
Wear white or brightly colored shirts and consider reflective clothing for nighttime riding. A white front headlight and red rear reflector are required on your bike if you ride at night. (A.R.S. 28-817). You should also use a red rear taillight.

**Be a defensive bike 'driver'**  
Be aware of your surroundings and especially of turning and side traffic. Make eye contact with drivers and be sure to get their attention. Even with eye contact, the driver may not see you or realize the speed you are going, so be prepared!  
Don't use headphones or a cell phone when riding your bike because they reduce your ability to hear traffic. That could cost you your life.

**Sunrise and sunset can be dangerous times to ride**  
When the sun is low in the sky, at sunrise and sunset, motorists may be blinded and not able to see you. Watch for cars ahead of you and coming up from behind. Consider different routes if you can during this time. Prepare yourself for cars pulling out unexpectedly into your path.

**Be cautious when riding side by side**  
Riding two abreast is permitted by law (A.R.S. 28-815). You can help drivers pass on two-lane roadways without bike lanes by riding single-file when safe to do so (stay at least 2 to 3 feet from the edge of the road). It's always nice to give a friendly wave when drivers pass safely.

**Show respect to pedestrians**  
On a shared pathway, reduce speeds when approaching pedestrians, give a verbal warning such as "Passing!", or ring a bell when you're about to pass, and provide at least 5 feet of passing clearance. Remember! The pedestrian you treat well on the pathway may be the driver who treats you well when you're riding on the roadway.

**Cross tracks carefully**  
Look ahead for hazardous railroad and streetcar tracks. Look behind you to make sure it's safe, signal your intentions, then cross tracks as close to a right angle as possible (A.R.S. 28-815).

**Know the Laws**

**Arizona Bicycle Laws**

- 28-735. Overtaking bicycles: civil penalties**
  - When overtaking and passing a bicycle proceeding in the same direction, a person driving a motor vehicle shall exercise due care by leaving a safe distance between the motor vehicle and the bicycle of not less than three feet until the motor vehicle is safely past the overtaken bicycle.
  - If a person violates this section and the violation results in a collision causing:
    - Serious physical injury as defined in section 13-105 to another person, the violator is subject to a civil penalty of up to five hundred dollars.
    - Death to another person, the violator is subject to a civil penalty of up to one thousand dollars.
    - Subsection B of this section does not apply to a bicyclist who is injured in a vehicular traffic lane when a designated bicycle lane or path is present and passable.
- 28-756. Method of giving hand and arm signals**
  - Except as provided by subsection B, a person shall give all hand and arm signals required by this article from the left side of the vehicle in the following manner, and the signals shall indicate as follows:
    - Left turn. Hand and arm extended horizontally.
    - Right turn. Hand and arm extended upward.
    - Stop or decrease speed. Hand and arm extended downward.
  - A person operating a bicycle may give a right turn signal by extending the right hand and arm horizontally to the right side of the bicycle.
- 28-811. Parent and guardian responsibility: applicability of article**
  - The parent of a child and the guardian of a ward shall not authorize or knowingly permit the child or ward to violate this chapter.
  - Except as otherwise provided in this article, this chapter applies to a bicycle when it is operated on a highway or on a path set aside for the exclusive use of bicycles.
- 28-812. Applicability of traffic laws to bicycle riders**

A person riding a bicycle on a roadway or on a shoulder adjoining a roadway is granted all of the rights and is subject to all of the duties applicable to the driver of a vehicle by this chapter and chapters 4 and 5 of this title, except special rules in this article and except provisions of this chapter and chapters 4 and 5 of this title that by their nature can have no application.
- 28-813. Riding on bicycles**
  - A person propelling a bicycle shall not ride other than on or astride a permanent and regular seat attached to the bicycle.
  - A person shall not use a bicycle to carry more persons at one time than the number for which it is designed and equipped.
- 28-814. Clinging to vehicle**

A person riding on a bicycle, coaster, sled or toy vehicle or on roller skates shall not attach the bicycle, coaster, sled, toy vehicle or roller skates or that person to a vehicle on a roadway.
- 28-815. Riding on roadway and bicycle path; bicycle path usage**
  - A person riding a bicycle on a roadway at less than the normal speed of traffic at the time and place and under the conditions then existing shall ride as close as practicable to the right-hand curb or edge of the roadway, except under any of the following circumstances:
    - If overtaking and passing another bicycle proceeding in the same direction.
    - If preparing for a left turn at an intersection or into a private road or driveway.
    - If reasonably necessary to avoid conditions, including fixed or moving objects, parked or moving vehicles, bicyclists, pedestrians, animals or surface hazards.
    - If the lane in which the person is operating the bicycle is too narrow for a bicycle and a vehicle to travel safely side by side within the lane.
  - Persons riding bicycles on a roadway shall not ride more than two abreast except on paths or parts of roadways set aside for the exclusive use of bicycles.
  - A path or lane that is designated as a bicycle path or lane by state or local authorities is for the exclusive use of bicycles even though other uses are permitted pursuant to subsection D or are otherwise permitted by state or local authorities.
  - A person shall not operate, stop, park or leave standing a vehicle in a path or lane designated as a bicycle path or lane by a state or local authority except in the case of emergency or for crossing the path or lane to gain access to a public or private road or driveway.
  - Subsection D does not prohibit the use of the path or lane by the appropriate local authority.
- 28-816. Carrying article on bicycle**

A person shall not carry a package, bundle or article while operating a bicycle if the package, bundle or article prevents the driver from keeping at least one hand on the handlebars.
- 28-817. Bicycle equipment**
  - A bicycle that is used at nighttime shall have a lamp on the front that emits a white light visible from a distance of at least five hundred feet to the front and a red reflector on the rear of a type that is approved by the department and that is visible from all distances from fifty feet to three hundred feet to the rear when the reflector is directly in front of lawful upward beams of head lamps on a motor vehicle. A bicycle may have a lamp that emits a red light visible from a distance of five hundred feet to the rear in addition to the red reflector.
  - A person shall not operate a bicycle that is equipped with a siren or whistle.
  - A bicycle shall be equipped with a brake that enables the operator to make the braked wheels skid on dry, level, clean pavement.
- 28-2516. Motorized electric or gas powered bicycles or tricycles; definition**

A. Notwithstanding any other provision of this title:  
1. A certificate of title is not required for a motorized electric or gas powered bicycle or tricycle.  
2. Registration is not required for a motorized electric or gas powered bicycle or tricycle.  
3. Vehicle license tax is not imposed on a motorized electric or gas powered bicycle or tricycle.  
4. A motorized electric or gas powered bicycle or tricycle is exempt from the provisions of section 28-964 relating to required equipment on motorcycles and motor-driven cycles and from the provisions of title 49, chapter 3, articles relating to vehicle emissions inspections.  
5. A driver license is not required to operate a motorized electric or gas powered bicycle or tricycle.  
6. A motorized electric or gas powered bicycle or tricycle may use rights-of-way designated for the exclusive use of bicycles.  
7. A motorized electric or gas powered bicycle or tricycle is not subject to chapter 9 of this title.  
B. This section does not prohibit a local authority from adopting an ordinance that regulates or prohibits the operation of motorized electric or gas powered bicycles or tricycles, except that a local authority shall not adopt an ordinance that requires registration and licensing of motorized electric or gas powered bicycles or tricycles.  
C. For the purposes of this section, "motorized electric or gas powered bicycle or tricycle" means a bicycle or tricycle that is equipped with a helper motor that has a maximum piston displacement of forty-eight cubic centimeters or less, that may also be self-propelled and that is operated at speeds of less than twenty miles per hour.
- Pima County Bicycle Laws**
  - 10.43.010 Requirement for helmet use**  
No person under eighteen years of age shall ride a bicycle or be a passenger on a bicycle, ride in a restraining seat attached to a bicycle, or ride in a trailer towed by a bicycle unless that person is wearing a properly fitted and fastened bicycle helmet which meets the current standards of the American National Standards Institute for protective headgear. (Ord. 1995-12 § 1 (part), 1995)
  - 10.43.030 Civil penalties**  
Any person in violation of this chapter shall be found guilty of a civil infraction and be required to pay a minimum fine of fifty dollars that cannot be suspended except pursuant to Section 10.43.040. (Ord. 1995-12 § 1 (part), 1995)
  - 10.43.040 Waiver of fine**  
The penalty provided in this section for a violation of Section 10.43.010 may be waived if an offender presents purchased or otherwise obtained since the time of the violation and that the minor uses or intends to use said helmet whenever required to do so by this chapter. (Ord. 1995-12 § 1 (part), 1995)
- Tucson Bicycle Laws**
  - SEC. 5-1. Parking of bicycles**  
It shall be unlawful to park a bicycle upon any public sidewalk or street in a manner that substantially impedes pedestrian or vehicular traffic or obstructs access to public or private facilities.
  - SEC. 5-2. Riding on sidewalks and pedestrian paths, and through underpasses**  
A. It shall be unlawful to ride a bicycle on any public sidewalk, or upon a designated pedestrian path in any public park, unless signs are posted specifically permitting bicycling.  
B. It shall be unlawful to ride a bicycle through any underpass when signs are posted prohibiting bicycling.  
SEC. 20-29. (1). **Bicycle helmets**  
No person under eighteen (18) years of age shall ride a bicycle or be a passenger on a bicycle, ride in a restraining seat attached to a bicycle, or ride in a trailer towed by a bicycle unless that person is wearing a properly fitted and fastened bicycle helmet which meets the current standards of the American National Standards.  
**Motorized Bicycles**  
Due to the length of legal requirements affecting motorized bicycles, City of Tucson code is not provided in this section. Information on City of Tucson motorized bicycle law can be found at:  
[http://www.tucsonaz.gov/files/bicycle/moto\\_bikes.pdf](http://www.tucsonaz.gov/files/bicycle/moto_bikes.pdf)  
Any motorized bicycles driven at 20 mph or higher may be subject to fines of up to \$1,263. Consult City code and State law for rights and responsibilities regarding operation of motorized bicycles.