BIKING IN MADISON

1. Plan your Trip
   - Using Maps and Biking Map of Madison
   - Taking Your Bike on the Bus

2. Traffic Safety: Bikes
   - Communicate
   - Pay Attention
   - Be Visible
   - Signal to Others
   - Be Aware of Hazards
   - Obey Traffic Laws
   - Rides with Traffic
   - Three Feet Rule
   - Helmets and Gear
PLAN YOUR TRIP

- Google Map
- Apple Map
- Waze
  - Live Traffic Reports
PLAN YOUR TRIP

https://www.cityofmadison.com/bikeMadison/planTrip/map.cfm
PLAN YOUR TRIP

Bike Racks on Metro Buses

Waiting to Board

- As the bus approaches have your bike ready to load
- Remove any items that could fall off (bike pump, water bottle, etc).
- Always approach the bus from the curb side.
- Tell the bus driver that you are loading a bike.

Loading Your Bike

1. Squeeze handle and pull down to release folded bike rack.
2. Lift bike onto the rack, putting the front and rear wheels in the marked slots. Load the rack nearest the bus first.
3. Raise the support arm, as far up on the wheel as you can. Make sure it is resting on your front tire, not on the fender or frame.

Unloading Your Bike

- Tell the driver you need to unload your bike.
- Move the support arm down and lift out your bike.
- Please fold up the rack if it is empty.

Rules of the Rack

- For safety reasons, the driver cannot get off the bus to assist you.
- Bike racks are first come, first served. Each bus can carry two bikes.
- The front wheel of the bike closest to the bus should face curbside. The front wheel of the second bicycle must face the bus driver’s side.
- There is no additional fare for using the bike rack.
TRAFFIC SAFETY

Bikes

• **Communicate with other road users.**
  - Even expert bicyclists need to be prepared for motorists, pedestrians, and other cyclists behaving unpredictably.

• **Be visible.**
  - Wear bright colors during the day.
  - Use good lights and reflectors at night.
  - Wisconsin law requires at least a white front light and a red rear reflector.

More on UWPD’s [Traffic and Safety webpage](#)
TRAFFIC SAFETY

Bikes

• **Communicate with other drivers.**
  - Make eye contact with them to be sure you have been seen. Signal turns and lane changes.

• **Signals common for bikers:**
  - Left turn
  - Right turn (two versions)
  - Stop

More on UWPD’s **Traffic and Safety webpage**
TRAFFIC SAFETY

Bikes

• Be aware of hazards.
  ◦ Watch ahead for surface hazards like broken glass, sand and potholes. Weather and light conditions create visual hazards, too.
  ◦ Watch for other traffic, including pedestrians, at intersections and driveways.

• Obey all traffic signs and signals.
  ◦ Bicyclists can be ticketed for traffic violations.

More on UWPD’s Traffic and Safety webpage
TRAFFIC SAFETY

Bikes

- **Always ride with traffic.**
  - Besides being illegal, riding against traffic in the roadway makes you unpredictable, especially to drivers turning at intersections, exiting driveways, or leaving parking spaces.
TRAFFIC SAFETY

Bikes

- **Follow the three feet rule.**
  - Ride at least three feet from parked cars to avoid being hit by a suddenly opened car door.
  - A motorist passing a bicyclist is also required to give a bicycle three feet of clearance when passing.

More on UWPD’s Traffic and Safety webpage
TRAFFIC SAFETY

Bikes

- **Railroad Crossing Tip:**
  - Cross railroad tracks at an angle to avoid catching your wheel and falling.

- **Wear a helmet.**
  - Head injuries cause 75% of bicyclist deaths. Protect yourself from the unexpected by wearing your helmet whenever you ride.

More on UWPD’s Traffic and Safety webpage WikiHow
• Ride defensively.
  ◦ Be aware of what is going on all around you, and watch out for other drivers’ mistakes. Some common situations to watch for include:
    ▪ a motorist coming toward you who turns left in front of you
    ▪ a motorist passing you and then turning right in front of you
    ▪ a motorist pulling out from a stop sign, driveway or parking space without yielding to you

• Remember: Madison and Wisconsin laws recognize bicycles as vehicles, granting cyclists the same rights as other drivers on the road.
  ◦ However, along with these rights comes the responsibility to follow all traffic laws, just as you would in a motor vehicle.

More on UWPD’s Traffic and Safety webpage
Welcome!

Badgers

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