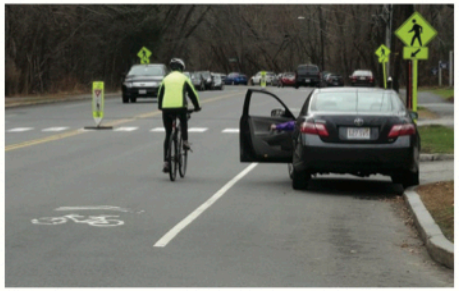
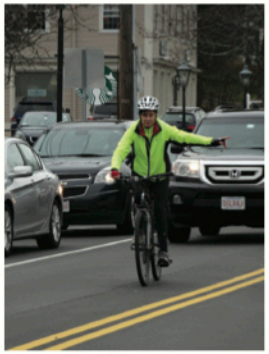
Taking the Lane

Why is that bicyclist out in the lane?

To avoid car doors.



To prepare for a left turn.



To avoid potholes, debris, or other obstructions, or because the lane is too narrow to share safely.

Massachusetts Law

Summarized from Massachusetts General Law, Chapters 85, 89, 90, available here:

https://malegislature.gov/Laws/GeneralLaws

- Cyclists must obey traffic laws in Massachusetts.
- Cyclists may pass on the left or right.
- Cyclists may ride on any road where not prohibited by posted signs.
- Cyclists must use a white headlight and red taillight or rear reflector from 1/2 hour after sunset until 1/2 hour before sunrise.
- Cyclists of age 16 or younger must wear a helmet unless carried in a trailer.

- Motorists must check for bicyclists before opening their car doors.
- Motorists must yield to oncoming bicyclists when making left turns.
- Motorists must not make an abrupt right turn immediately after passing a bicyclist.

Town Bylaw: Walk bicycles on Lexington center sidewalks (from Woburn St to the Minuteman statue).

BIKE LEXINGTON!

What you should know about driving and cycling in Lexington.

Brochure design by: Lexington Bicycle Advisory Committee, Friends of Lexington Bikeways, and Jennifer Melot

Printed thanks to: Friends of Lexington Bikeways

BICYCLE FRIENDLY COMMUNITY 2014-2018 BRONZE THE LEAGUE OF AMERICAN BICYCLISTS

Road Markings

Sharrows (share-the-road arrows) help cyclists position themselves in the lane.

Bike Lanes are marked by a bicycle symbol between painted lines. Only cyclists may use bike lanes, but they are not required to use them.

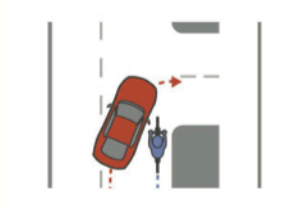
Bike boxes help cyclists position themselves safely when stopped at signalized intersections.

Signal Markings at intersections show cyclists where to stop to activate the traffic signal.

For more information, see: massbike.org

Safety Tips

At red lights, stop where motorists can see you and beware of drivers who neglect to signal. Be very careful around wide trucks and busses.

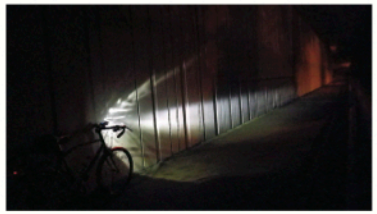


Opening doors can send you flying; keep away from the sides of stopped cars.

For more tips, visit: **http://bicyclesafe.com**

Lights and Visibility

Lights can improve your visibility during the day. After dark, a white front light, rear reflector or taillight, and reflectors on ankles or pedals are **required by law**. Lights with greater than 150 lumens will help you see.



Bikeway Courtesy

Keep to the right!

When passing, give an audible warning and do not squeeze through narrow gaps at high speed.

Be responsible with dogs!

Dogs must be kept on a short leash to avoid creating a hazard for cyclists. Pick up dog waste.

Be responsible with children!

Teach your children to stay to the right, and do not let them wander all over the path.

Use caution at intersections!

Do not assume drivers can see you. Come to a complete stop.

Be visible!

Cyclists must use front and rear lights at night. It is courteous to cover or point bright lights downward when approaching others. Pedestrians should have a reflective sash or rear blinker.

Lexington Bike Resources

Bike Lexington Newsgroup: To sign up, go to http://groups.yahoo.com and search for Bike Lexington.

Bicycle Advisory Committee info: See http://lexingtonma.gov/committees/bicycleadvisory.cfm

Friends of Lexington Bikeways: See www.folb.net and Like us on Facebook!