

share the road



if you are a motorist:

- **Bicycles belong on the roadway** and have just as much right to road space as motorists. Look carefully for bicyclists before turning right or merging into bicycle lanes.
- When passing a bicyclist, be patient, slow down, and **pass only when it is safe**. Do not squeeze the bicyclist off the road. If road conditions and space permit, allow clearance of at least three feet when passing a bicyclist.
- **Bicyclists may ride in the middle of the lane**. Wait until it is safe to pass and then pass with care and change lanes if needed.
- **Be cautious at intersections**. When turning right, slow to allow bicyclists to merge left.
- **Look carefully for bicyclists** before pulling out of a driveway or parking space.
- It is illegal to open a car door in a manner that endangers others. **Look before opening your vehicle doors**.

if you are a bicyclist:

- **Ride with the flow of traffic**. Stay alert, ride carefully, and scan the road to be aware of the traffic around you. Watch for motorists opening vehicle doors.
- Be aware of traffic laws and **don't ride under the influence**. Bicycles belong on the roadway only when they are operated legally.
- **Bicyclists must obey stop signs and red signal lights**. It's a good idea to stop for yellow lights too—rushing through a yellow light may not leave you enough time to make it across the intersection before the light changes.
- If there is no shoulder or bicycle lane and the traffic lane is narrow, ride closer to the center of the lane. This will prevent motorists from passing you when there is not enough room.
- **The law requires lights on bicycles when riding at night**. At minimum, use a white front light, red rear reflector, and white or yellow pedal reflectors. Wear bright or reflective clothing for visibility.

The information presented in this pamphlet, and more, can be found in the California Vehicle Code, dmv.ca.gov (under Publications), Division 11, Chapter 1, Article 4.