



# SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

## Bike-Lane Safety Guideline

2017

Assembled and Adapted by:

Green Love's Sustainable Transportation Committee

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# University Rules and Regulations

## **16.0** Bicycles, Skateboards, Roller Skates, Hover Boards, Scooters, Motorbikes, and Carts

**16.1** Bicycles may only be operated on streets and designated paths. In other locations, bicyclists shall walk their bicycles.

**16.1.1** All bicycles on campus shall properly display a valid SDSU Bicycle license issued by University Police. Unregistered bicycles may be impounded.

**16.1.2** Bicycles shall be parked only in designated stands and areas. Bicycles attached to railings or other fixtures not designated for bicycle parking are subject to removal and impound.

**16.2** Skateboards, roller skates, and similar personal wheeled conveyances may only be operated on designated bike paths, Aztec Circle Drive, Hilltop Way, Scripps Terrace, and Avenue of Arts. In other locations, skateboards or similar wheeled conveyances must be walked. (*Walking zones include the pedestrian bridge, which connects the Aztec Center to the East Campus Residential Community.*)

**16.3** Hover boards are not permitted in residence halls and may not be operated in university buildings.

**16.4** In no case shall bicycles, skateboards, roller skates, or similar personal wheeled conveyances be permitted, operated, parked or locked on ramps for disabled access. Individuals shall walk their bicycles, skateboards, or similar wheeled conveyance on any disabled access ramp.

**16.5** Pedestrians shall have right of way at all times. Pedestrians are defined as an individual walking or those who are disabled.

**16.5.1** Bicycles are expected to yield to all pedestrians.

**16.5.2** Skateboards, roller skates, and similar personal wheeled conveyances are expected to yield to all pedestrians, bicycles, wheelchairs, and motorized vehicles.

**16.6** An eight-miles per hour speed limit shall be observed, except for bicycles riding on curbed streets.

**16.7** Motor scooters, motorbikes, and motorcycles shall be operated only on curbed streets and vehicular thoroughfares. They shall not be ridden or walked elsewhere on campus, but shall be parked in areas designated for motorcycles and not in bicycle stands or in areas designated for bicycles.

**16.8** Motorized and non-motorized carts, trucks, or dollies approved for operation on campus and only officially permitted motor vehicles shall not be operated in the designated bike/skateboard paths.

**16.9** These prohibitions shall not apply to persons in wheelchairs, to children in carriages or strollers, or to persons using a motorized or non-motorized conveyance as an approved ADA accommodation.

**16.10** These prohibitions shall be enforced in accordance with the San Diego State University Public Safety Code, sec. 100, and the California Vehicle Code, sec. 21113(f).

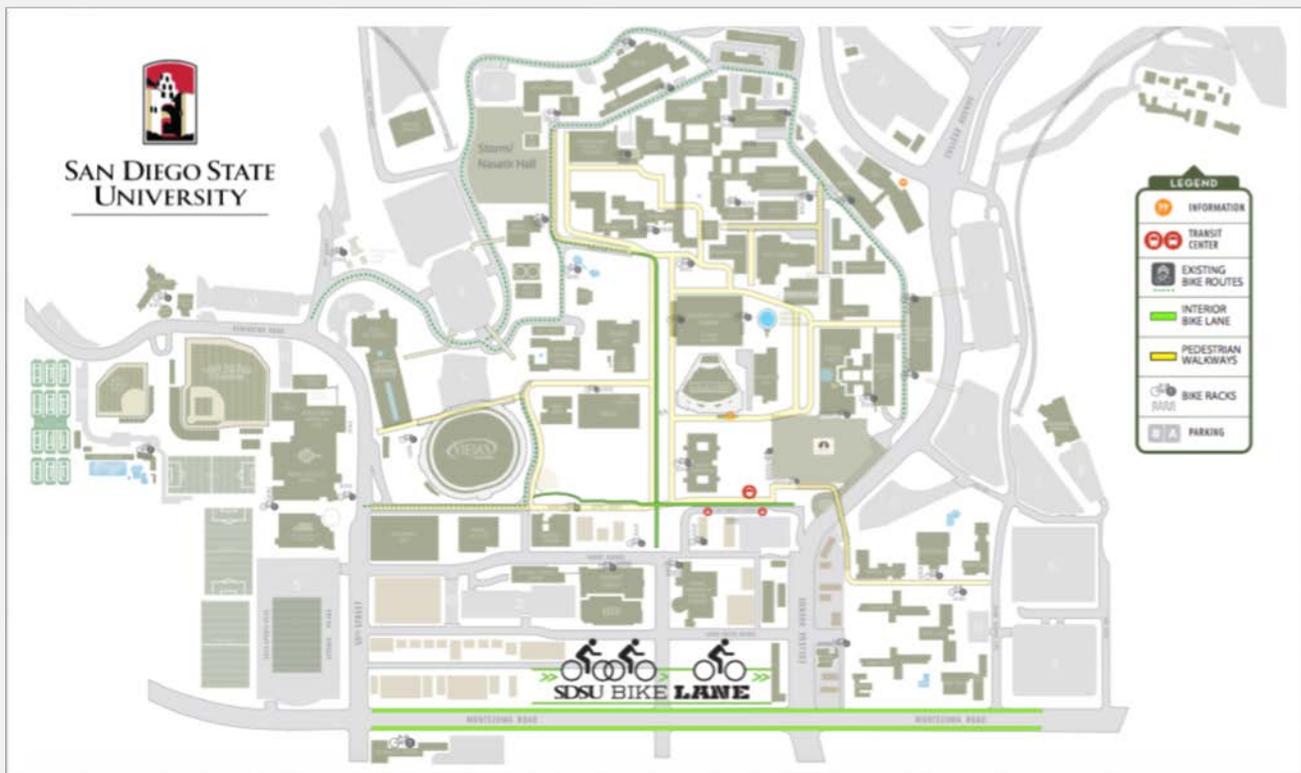
**16.10.1** Violators may be fined and/or cited for violations of the University Public Safety Code and/or the California Vehicle Code.

**16.10.2** In addition to fines and citations, student violations will be forwarded to the Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities for administrative review.

## Skateboard and Bicycle Tricks

- ❖ According to SDSU Code 100.03(d), equipment that is being used recklessly (e.g. performing skateboard, bicycle, and all other personal wheeled conveyance tricks) on campus may be impounded.
- ❖ If the tricks create damage, the rider may be subject to vandalism charges.
- ❖ If the tricks create noise or a disturbance, the rider may be subject to laws related to the legality of disturbing the peace.
- ❖ Check out the resources section of this guideline for a list of nearby skateboard parks, where such tricks are allowed.

## Campus Bike Lane Map



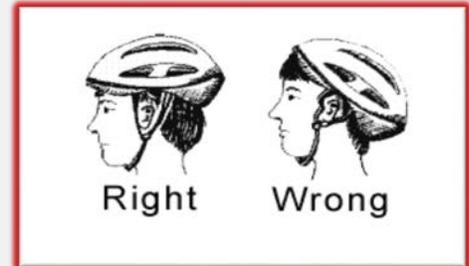
View a larger, interactive version of this map online here:

<http://www.myatlas.com/map/index.php?id=801#!ct/15205,18142,15207,18152,18155,15206,15998,15997,15543,15536?ce/15529>

# City of San Diego Bike Laws

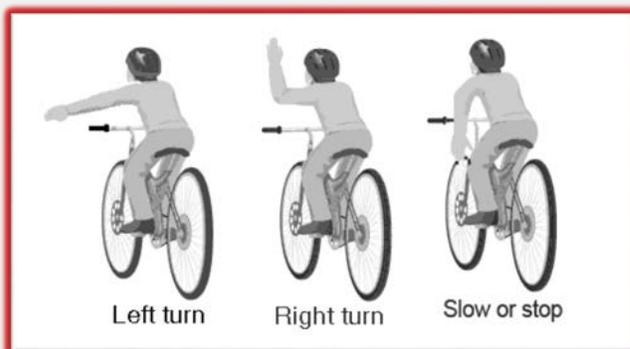
## Basic Rules

- ❖ Stop at all red lights and stop signs.
- ❖ Ride on the right side of the road near the curb.
- ❖ Stop for pedestrians in crosswalks.
- ❖ Wear helmets properly
- ❖ Routinely check for loose wheels, flat tires, a loose chain, and working brakes.
- ❖ Don't carry anything that prevents you from keeping at least one hand on the handlebars.
- ❖ Your handlebars should be placed so that your hands are not higher than your shoulders
- ❖ CA law requires bicyclists ride no closer than 3 feet next to a parked or driving car. Make sure you are riding at the appropriate distance at all times.



## Riding at Night

- ❖ Wear light or bright colored clothing at night to increase visibility.
  - Yellow and lime green work great.
  - Avoid red because it will appear black in fading light.
- ❖ Make sure your bike has the proper lighting equipment required by law.
  - A rear red reflector visible from 500 feet away
  - A white or yellow reflector on each pedal visible from 200 feet away
  - A front lamp that emits a white light visible from 300 feet away



## Riding without Bike Lanes

- ❖ On narrow roads, you may ride closer to the center of the lane so cars won't try to squeeze past you and create unsafe situations
- ❖ You may use the whole traffic lane when you and the cars around you are traveling around the same speed

## Turning and Changing Lanes

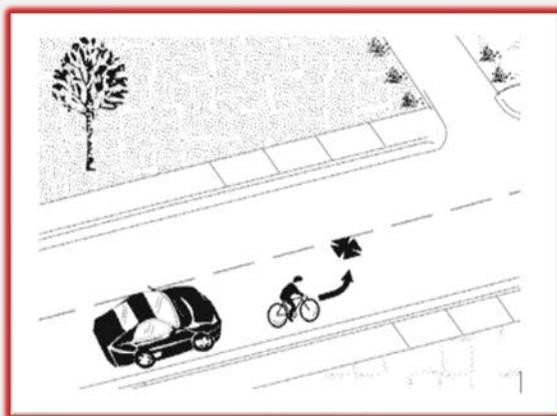
- ❖ Make sure the road conditions are safe enough to ride without one hand on the handlebar before signaling.
- ❖ Use hand signals before stopping, turning, and changing lanes.
- ❖ Always signal early and look over your shoulders to check for oncoming cars.
- ❖ Try to make eye contact with drivers to establish your intentions.

## Making Left Turns

There are two options.

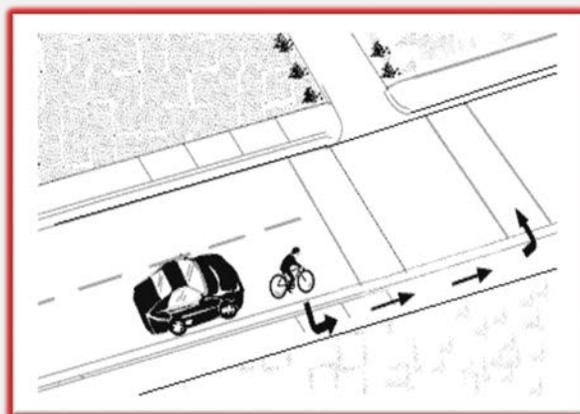
### ❖ Option 1:

- Look over your left shoulder and if clear, signal a left turn. Proceed to the left side of either the lane you are in, the left turn lane, or the center turn lane.
- Each time you change lanes to the left, look behind you and signal.
- Position yourself so that cars driving straight can't pass you on your left while making your left-hand turn.
- Yield to oncoming traffic before turning.



### ❖ Option 2:

- Approach the intersection staying on the right.
- Stop and either cross as a pedestrian in the crosswalk, or make a 90-degree left turn and proceed as if you were coming from the right.
- Wait for the green light or the *walk signal* before crossing.
- Always yield for pedestrians.



# Cycling Safety Tips

- 1. Obey traffic signs and signals -** Bicycles must follow the rules of the road like other vehicles. Refer to the "San Diego Bicycle Rules" section in this guideline for a list of rules bicyclists are expected to follow in San Diego.
- 4. Never ride against traffic -** Motorists aren't looking for bicyclists riding on the wrong side of the road. State law and common sense require that bicyclists drive like other vehicles.
- 6. Don't pass on the right -** Motorists may not look for or see a bicycle passing on the right.
- 7. Scan the road behind you -** Learn to look back over your shoulder without losing your balance or swerving. Some riders use rear-view mirrors.
- 9. Keep both hands ready to brake -** You may not stop in time if you brake one-handed. Allow extra distance for stopping in the rain, since brakes are less efficient when wet.
- 11. Wear a helmet and never ride with headphones -** Always wear a helmet. Never wear headphones while riding a bike since it obstructs your hearing.
- 12. Dress for the weather -** In rain wear a poncho or waterproof suit. Dress in layers so you can adjust to temperature changes.
- 14. Wear something bright, even during the day -** It may seem silly, but bikes are small and easy to see through even during the day. Yellow or orange reflective vests really make a big difference. Reflective leg bands are also easy and inexpensive.
- 16. Use hand signals -** Hand signals tell motorists and pedestrians what you intend to do. Signal as a matter of law, of courtesy, and of self-protection. Never move left without signaling. Be sure to check your mirror or look behind you before signaling (since a car passing too closely can take your arm out). Refer to the "San Diego Bicycle Rules" section in this guideline for a list of the motorist hand signals.
- 2. Ride in the middle of the lane in slower traffic -** Get in the middle of the lane at busy intersections and whenever you are moving at the same speed as traffic.
- 3. Choose the best way to turn left -** There are two choices: (1) Like an auto: signal to move into the left turn lane and then turn left. (2) Like a pedestrian: ride straight to the far side crosswalk. Walk your bike across.
- 5. Make eye contact with drivers -** Assume that other drivers don't see you until you are sure that they do. Eye contact is important with any driver who might pose a threat to your safety.
- 8. Look out for road hazards -** Watch out for glass, bumps, divots, parallel-slat sewer grates, gravel, ice, sand or debris. Glass is often found in the bike lanes
- 10. Use lights at night -** The law requires a white headlight (visible from at least 300 feet ahead) and a rear reflector or taillight (visible from at least 500 feet behind). If you can, try to get a flashing taillight so you can maximize motorists' awareness of your presence.
- 13. Keep your bike in good repair -** Adjust your bike to fit you and keep it working properly. (Check out the Bicyclist Resources section at the end of this guideline for a list of bike repair shops!) Routine maintenance is simple and you can learn to do it yourself.
- 15. Wave your arm if you can't make eye contact with drivers -** Also, if you have a bell, ring it before passing the driver so you can get their attention.
- 17. Slow down -** If you can't make eye contact with drivers (especially at night), slow down so that you're able to completely stop if you have to. You should also slow down before crossing drive-ins that are obstructed from view since cars won't be able to see you until they pull into your lane.

19. **NEVER text and bike** - You need to keep your eyes on the road and both hands on the handlebars. Riding and texting is very dangerous for yourself and pedestrians.
20. **Ride to the left** - Ride far enough to the left that you won't run into any parked car door that's opened unexpectedly. You may be wary about riding so far into the lane that cars can't pass you easily, but you're more likely to get doored by a parked car if you ride too close to it than you are to get hit from behind by a car which can see you clearly.
22. **Don't stop in blind spots** - Simply stop *behind* or *in front* of a car, instead of to the right of it. This makes you very visible to traffic on all sides. It's impossible for the car behind you to avoid seeing you when you're right in front of it.

18. **Never move left without looking behind you first** - Some motorists like to pass cyclists within mere inches, so moving even a tiny bit to the left unexpectedly could put you in the path of a car. Practice holding a straight line while looking over your shoulder until you can do it perfectly. Most new cyclists tend to move left when they look behind them, which can be disastrous.
21. **Use back streets on weekends** - The risk of riding on Friday or Saturday night is much greater than riding on other nights due to the higher likelihood of drunk drivers on the streets. If you do ride on a weekend night, make sure to take neighborhood streets rather than main streets.

## How to Keep Your Bike Safe

1. Install a quality "U" type lock.
2. License your bike and keep the serial number in a safe place.
3. Park in a well-traveled, well-lit area; report all thefts or suspicious activity.
4. Lock through frame and both wheels to stationary object at least 3 feet above floor.
5. Report suspicious persons cruising or surveying bike areas; get license number.
6. Etch a prominent ID in several different locations; record it.
7. Engrave serial number on all accessories including wheel rims, handlebars, etc.
8. Do report all thefts and attempts. It will assist [the police] in the proper implementation of a Crime Prevention program.
9. Remove front wheel when leaving bike if chain is too short.
10. Use chain of 3/8-inch hardened steel alloy with welded continuous links or steel cable at least 1/2-inch diameter to lock the wheels to the frame.
11. Use a padlock with 3/8-inch hardened steel shackle with double locking heel and toe mechanism tumbler and a key retaining feature whenever possible.
12. Put name and address in handlebars, then put grips back on.
13. Paint portions of bike in odd colors (inside bars, under bottom bracket).
14. A color photograph showing ID locations can be useful.
15. Bike insurance is a good investment; there is no absolute guarantee against the determined tool-equipped thief.

# Skateboard and Scooter Safety Tips

1. **Don't swerve in and out of lanes** - Bicycles or other faster moving vehicles cannot pass you and doing so increases your chances of being in a collision.
2. **Always be considerate of others** - Do not try to ride close to pedestrians and only ride in the bicycle lanes. Never assume that someone will keep moving in one direction.
3. **Be careful of divots and bumps in the roads** - Some divots and/or bumps that bicycles can easily ride over can be hazardous to skateboards or scooters.
4. **Empty your pockets of all hard or sharp objects** - These objects pose a risk when skateboarders fall.
5. **Learn to fall on the fleshy parts of your body rather than your arms** - If you know you're going to fall, crouch down so you won't have as far to fall. Try to relax and roll if you fall.
6. **Try to ride behind bicyclists and other faster moving vehicles** - Do not try to match faster vehicle speeds. Going too fast is dangerous. If there are faster vehicles behind you, just let them pass on the left.
7. **Skateboard on smooth pavement away from traffic** - Never ride in a main street and never hold onto the side or rear of a moving vehicle while riding a skateboard.
8. **Wear safety gear and clothing** - Wear a properly-fitting helmet and other protective gear including, wrist guards, elbow and knee pads, and closed toe, slip-resistant shoes. Wear long clothes to protect you from falls.
9. **Keep your skateboard/scooter in good maintenance** - Always check your skateboard/scooter before riding.
10. **Skateboard according to your ability level** - Skateboarding skill is not acquired quickly or easily. Do not take chances by skateboarding faster than your experience allows, or faster than is safe for the surrounding conditions.

# Bicycle and Skateboard Resources

## Bike Registration Information

The SDSU Police offers free bicycle registration to our campus community. Come by their open front desk hours with your bicycle and they will take all the necessary information and provide you a registration sticker and a free U-lock while supplies last. The benefit in doing so, is to help police should your bike be recovered from theft. Please bike responsibly only on bike paths and curbed roadways when on campus. Bikes not locked to bike racks may be impounded at your expense.

- Bike Registration form: [https://newscenter.sdsu.edu/dps/images/sdsu\\_bike\\_registration.pdf](https://newscenter.sdsu.edu/dps/images/sdsu_bike_registration.pdf)
- SDSU Police Department contact information:
  - SDSU Police Department, 5500 Campanile Drive, San Diego, CA 92182-4390
  - (619) 594-1991 (non-emergency)

## Reporting Stolen Bikes

Stolen bikes should be immediately reported to the SDSU Police Department at (619) 594-1991. Refer to the "How to Keep Your Bike Secure" section for ways to help police locate and return your bike if stolen.

## Bike Shops Near SDSU

- ❖ Pedal Pushing Bicycle Shop
  - 4966 El Cajon Blvd, San Diego, CA 92115
  - (619) 460-0760
- ❖ Ye Olde Bicycle Shoppe
  - 6195 University Ave, San Diego, CA 92115
  - (619) 582-4300

## Skateboard Parks Near SDSU

- ❖ Aura Skateboarding Company
  - 1074 Edgemont St, San Diego, CA 92102
  - (760) 542-0232
- ❖ Memorial Skatepark
  - 702 S 30<sup>th</sup> St, San Diego, CA 92113

# References

## University Rules and Regulations

- Regulations for use of San Diego State University Buildings and Grounds  
<http://bfa.sdsu.edu/financial/budget/docs/BuildGroundsRegulations.pdf>

## City of San Diego Bicycle Laws

- San Diego Police Department Bicycle Safety Page  
<http://www.sandiego.gov/police/services/prevention/programs/safetysam/biksafe.shtml>
- Southern CA Bicycle Safety article  
<http://www.californiabicyclesafety.com/bicycling-safety/laws>
- California DMV Safety Tips for Bicyclists  
[https://www.dmv.ca.gov/portal/dmv/?1dmy&urile=wcm:path:/dmv\\_content\\_en/dmv/pubs/brochures/fast\\_facts/ffd137](https://www.dmv.ca.gov/portal/dmv/?1dmy&urile=wcm:path:/dmv_content_en/dmv/pubs/brochures/fast_facts/ffd137)
- California Vehicle Code: Operation of Bicycles  
[http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes\\_displayText.xhtml?lawCode=VEH&division=11.&title=&part=&chapter=1.&article=4](http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displayText.xhtml?lawCode=VEH&division=11.&title=&part=&chapter=1.&article=4)

## Cycling Safety Tips

- <https://www.washington.edu/facilities/transportation/bike-safety>
- <http://bicyclesafe.com>

## How to Keep Your Bike Safe

- Taken from the SDSU Police Department website

## Skateboard and Scooter Safety Tips

- <http://www.biak.us/skateboard-safety>
- <http://skateboardsafety.org>
- <http://orthoinfo.aaos.org/topic.cfm?topic=a00273>

## Bike Registration Information

- <http://bfa.sdsu.edu/safety/police/services/bike.aspx>