

**A Sampling of
Salt Lake City Bicycle Laws
As of December 2005**

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5.18.030 Bicycle Licensing Or Registration Required:

It is unlawful for any bicycle dealer to fail to license or register any used or new bicycle sold, bartered, given away, exchanged or repaired by such dealer. The licensing or registration shall be completed as follows:

A. Licensing shall be required of all bicycles sold for use in Salt Lake County. Licensing shall be on a form supplied by Salt Lake City Corporation to such dealers at cost. Dealers may charge the customer no more than two dollars (\$2.00) for the license costs.

B. Registration shall be required of all bicycles sold for use outside the County. Registration shall be on a form supplied by the City at cost to dealers. Dealers may charge the customer no more than two dollars (\$2.00) for the registration costs.

C. The licensing and registration forms shall be in different colors and shall be filled out in triplicate with the first copy going to the purchaser; the second copy shall be mailed to the appropriate law enforcement division where the intended user resides within seven (7) days of date of sale; and the third copy shall be retained by the dealer for a period of three (3) years from date of sale. All entries shall be typewritten or printed in ink, and shall contain the following information:

1. Name and address of intended user or owner;
2. Make, model number, frame number, frame size, wheel size, color of bicycle, dealer's name and address, number of grooves on said bike, license number or registration number; and
3. Such other information as the City may require by printing appropriate spaces on the forms.

12.04.050 Bicycle:

"Bicycle" means every device: (i) propelled by human power; (ii) upon which a person may ride; and (iii) having two tandem wheels. "Bicycle" does not include scooters and similar devices.

12.04.490 Street or Highway:

"Street or highway" means the entire width between the boundary lines of every way publicly maintained when any part thereof is open to the use of the public for purposes of vehicular travel.

12.04.610 Vehicle:

"Vehicle" means every device in, on or by which any person or property is or may be transported or drawn upon a highway, except devices used exclusively on stationary rails or tracks.

12.28.095 Lights and illuminating devices -- Duty to display -- Time.

A. The operator of a vehicle shall turn on the lamps or lights of the vehicle on a roadway at any time from a half hour after sunset to a half hour before sunrise and at any other time when, due to insufficient light or unfavorable atmospheric conditions, persons and vehicles on the roadway are not clearly discernible at a distance of 1,000 feet ahead subject to the exceptions for parked vehicles under Section 12.56.090.

B. Whenever a requirement is made as to distance from which certain lamps and devices shall render objects visible or within which the lamps or devices shall be visible, the provisions apply during the times specified under Subsection (A) for a vehicle without load on a straight, level, unlighted roadway under normal atmospheric conditions, unless a different time or condition is expressly stated.

C. Whenever a requirement is made as to the mounted height of lamps or devices it shall mean from the center of the lamp or device to the level ground upon which the vehicle stands when the vehicle is without a load.

12.36.010 Speed And Operation To Conform To Existing Conditions:

Every person driving a vehicle on a street or alley shall operate the same at a speed and in a manner which is reasonable and prudent under the conditions and having regard to the actual and potential hazards then existing, and every driver of a vehicle, in compliance with legal requirements and the duty to use due care, shall use every reasonable means to avoid endangering or colliding with any person, vehicle or other object.

12.44.080 Limited Access Roadways - Use Restrictions:

No pedestrian or other nonmotorized traffic, excluding bicyclists, shall use any limited access roadway except for the sole purpose of crossing the same in the shortest and most direct route, and then only at designated crossings, and such traffic shall yield the right of way to any motorized traffic proceeding upon the limited access roadway. Bicyclists may use the right shoulder of limited access highways except where prohibited by federal or state law or regulation or by an official sign giving notice of such restrictions. No driver shall stop a vehicle on any limited access roadway for the purpose of taking on or discharging any passenger.

12.48.040 Sidewalks - Driving Prohibited – Exceptions - Emerging From Or Entering Alleys Or Driveways:

A.. Except for a bicycle or device propelled by human power, a person may not operate a vehicle on a sidewalk or sidewalk area. The provisions of this subsection do not apply on a driveway.

B. The driver of a vehicle emerging from an alley, private driveway, building or other place shall stop such vehicle or bicycle immediately prior to driving onto a sidewalk or onto the sidewalk area extending across any alley or private driveway, yielding the right of way to any pedestrian or bicycle within or about to enter such sidewalk or sidewalk area as may be necessary to avoid collision and, upon entering the roadway, shall yield the right of way to all vehicles approaching on said roadway.

C. The driver of a vehicle entering an alley or private driveway shall yield the right of way to any pedestrian or bicycle within the sidewalk area extending across such alley, or private driveway.

D. The driver of a vehicle emerging from an alley or private driveway onto a roadway shall turn such vehicle only to the right, unless a different movement can be made in safety and without interfering with other traffic.

12.52.100 Opening Vehicle Doors In Traffic:

A. A person may not open the door of any vehicle on a side available to moving traffic or emerge from any vehicle unless it can be done safely and without interfering with the movement of other traffic.

B. A person may not leave a door open on a side of a vehicle available to moving traffic for a period of time longer than necessary to load or unload passengers.

C. No person shall open any vehicle door at any time when such vehicle is in motion.

12.52.140 Bicycle Lanes - Vehicle Restrictions:

No motor vehicle shall at any time be driven within or through, or parked or stopped within a marked bicycle lane, except to briefly cross such lane to turn into an intersection, street, alley, driveway or other parking area. Any vehicle so turning must yield the right of way to all bicycles within the lane that are close enough to constitute an immediate hazard. No motor vehicle may use a bicycle lane as a turning lane.

12.52.145 Operation of motor vehicle near bicycle prohibited

An operator of a motor vehicle may not knowingly, intentionally, or recklessly operate a motor vehicle within three feet of a moving bicycle, unless the operator of the motor vehicle operates the motor vehicle within a reasonable and safe distance of the bicycle.

12.56.520 Using Streets For Storage Prohibited:

No person shall park a vehicle, boat, trailer or other item upon any street for a period of time longer than forty eight (48) hours.

12.80.010 Licensing For Owners:

A. It is unlawful for any person to operate or ride a bicycle upon any of the streets, alleys, sidewalks or public ways of this city:

1. Unless such bicycle has been registered, licensed, and is displaying the proper license, as hereinafter provided; or

2. After the license has been duly suspended or revoked.

B. Every bicycle, before being so registered and licensed, must be inspected with relation to its frame number, operating condition, brakes, warning device, reflector and handlebars.

C. Any license issued under the provisions of this chapter shall be valid until the transfer of ownership of the bicycle, or until the bicycle license so issued is destroyed, lost or mutilated, at which time such bicycle shall again be so inspected, registered and licensed as herein provided.

D. The fee to be paid for each bicycle license or relicense because of transfer of title or destruction, loss or mutilation of the license, or for any other reason, shall be one dollar (\$1.00), payable in advance.

12.80.030 Police Licensing Powers And Duties:

The chief of police is authorized and directed to prepare and issue regulations governing the inspection and licensing of bicycles required to be licensed but not validly licensed by dealers as above required; provided, that any such license so issued or heretofore issued by the police department shall be valid for the life of such bicycle or until the transfer of ownership thereof, or until the license issued to such bicycle becomes destroyed, lost or mutilated, at which time the bicycle shall again be inspected, registered and licensed or relicensed. The cost of any licensing or relicensing under the provisions of this section shall be one dollar (\$1.00), payable in advance.

12.80.035 Bicycle inspections -- At request of officer.

A peace officer may at any time require a person riding a bicycle to stop and submit the bicycle to an inspection and a test as appropriate if the officer has reasonable cause to believe that:

(1) the bicycle is unsafe or not equipped as required by law; or

(2) the bicycle's equipment is not in proper adjustment or repair.

12.80.040 Bicycle and device propelled by human power subject to title -- Exception.:

A. Except as provided under Subsection (B) or as otherwise specified under this part, a person operating a bicycle or a vehicle or device propelled by human power has all the rights and is subject to the provisions of this title applicable to the operator of any other vehicle except as to special regulations of this code or those provisions which by their nature can have no application.

B. A person operating a bicycle or a vehicle or device propelled by human power is not subject to the penalties related to operator licenses under alcohol and drug-related traffic offenses.

12.80.061 Bicycle -- Prohibited equipment -- Brakes required.

A. A bicycle may not be equipped with, and a person may not use on a bicycle, a siren or whistle.

B. Every bicycle shall be equipped with a brake or brakes which enable its driver to stop the bicycle within 25 feet from a speed of ten miles per hour on dry, level, clean pavement.

12.80.065 Bicycles -- Lamps and reflective material required.

A. Every bicycle in use at the times described in Section 12.28.095 shall be equipped with a:

1. Lamp of a type approved by the Utah Department of Public Safety which is on the front emitting a white light visible from a distance of at least 500 feet to the front; and

2. a. Red reflector of a type approved by the Utah Department of Public Safety which is visible for 500 feet to the rear when directly in front of lawful lower beams of head lamps on a motor vehicle; or

b. Red taillight designed for use on a bicycle and emitting flashing or nonflashing light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear.

B. Every bicycle when in use at the times described in Section 12.28.095 shall be equipped with:

1. Reflective material of sufficient size and reflectivity to be visible from both sides for 500 feet when directly in front of lawful lower beams of head lamps on a motor vehicle; or

2. In lieu of reflective material, a lighted lamp visible from both sides from a distance of at least 500 feet.

C. A bicycle or its rider may be equipped with lights or reflectors in addition to those required by Subsections (1) and (2).

12.80.075 Carrying more persons than design permits prohibited -- Exception.

A. Except as provided in Subsection B, a bicycle may not be used to carry more persons at one time than the number for which it is designed or equipped.

B. An adult rider may carry a child securely attached to the adult rider's person in a back pack or sling.

12.80.085 Persons on bicycles, skates and sleds not to attach to moving vehicles -- Exception.

(1) A person riding a bicycle, coaster, skateboard, roller skates, sled, or toy vehicle may not attach it or a person to any moving vehicle on a roadway.

(2) This section does not prohibit attaching a trailer or semitrailer to a bicycle if that trailer or semitrailer has been designed for attachment.

12.80.095 Operation of bicycle on and use of roadway -- Duties, prohibitions.

A. A person operating 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 near as practicable to the right-hand edge of the roadway except when:

1. overtaking and passing another bicycle or vehicle proceeding in the same direction;
2. preparing to make a left turn at an intersection or into a private road or driveway;
3. traveling straight through an intersection that has a right-turn only lane that is in conflict with the straight through movement; or
4. reasonably necessary to avoid conditions that make it unsafe to continue along the right-hand edge of the roadway including:
 - a. fixed or moving objects;
 - b. parked or moving vehicles;
 - c. bicycles;
 - d. pedestrians;
 - e. animals;
 - f. surface hazards; or
 - g. a lane that is too narrow for a bicycle and a vehicle to travel safely side by side within the lane.

B. A person operating a bicycle on a roadway shall operate in the designated direction of traffic.

C. 1. A person riding a bicycle on a roadway may not ride more than two abreast with another person except on paths or parts of roadways set aside for the exclusive use of bicycles.

2. If allowed under Subsection C(1), a person riding two abreast with another person may not impede the normal and reasonable movement of traffic and shall ride within a single lane.

D. If a usable path for bicycles has been provided adjacent to a roadway, a bicycle rider may be directed by a traffic-control device to use the path and not the roadway

12.80.100 Violation Penalty:

An operator of a bicycle who violates any of the provisions of this chapter shall be punished as an infraction in accordance with subsection 12.12.010B of this title, or its successor.

12.80.105 Bicycles and human powered vehicle or device to yield right-of-way to pedestrians on sidewalks, paths, or trails -- Uses prohibited -- Negligent collision prohibited -- Speed restrictions -- Rights and duties same as pedestrians.

A. A person operating a bicycle or a vehicle or device propelled by human power shall:

1. Yield the right-of-way to any pedestrian; and
2. Give an audible signal before overtaking and passing a pedestrian.

B. A person may not operate a bicycle or a vehicle or device propelled by human power on a sidewalk, path, or trail, or across a roadway in a crosswalk, where prohibited by a traffic-control device or ordinance.

C. A person may not operate a bicycle or a vehicle or device propelled by human power in a negligent manner so as to collide with a:

1. Pedestrian; or
2. Person operating a:
 - a. Bicycle; or
 - b. Vehicle or device propelled by human power.

D. A person operating a bicycle or a vehicle or device propelled by human power on a sidewalk, path, or trail, or across a driveway, or across a roadway on a crosswalk may not operate at a speed greater than is reasonable and prudent under the existing conditions, giving regard to the actual and potential hazards then existing.

E. Except as provided under Subsections A and D, a person operating a bicycle or a vehicle or device propelled by human power on a sidewalk, path, or trail, or across a roadway on a crosswalk, has all the rights and duties applicable to a pedestrian under the same circumstances.

F. A person operating a bicycle or a vehicle or device propelled by human power on a sidewalk shall proceed only in single file.

12.80.110 Bicycles - Carrying bundle -- One hand on handlebars.

A. A person operating a bicycle may not carry any package, bundle, or article which prevents the use of both hands in the control and operation of the bicycle.

B. A person operating a bicycle shall keep at least one hand on the handlebars at all times.

12.80.120 Bicycles -- Parking on sidewalk, roadway -- Prohibitions.

A. A person may park a bicycle on a sidewalk unless prohibited or restricted by a traffic-control device.

B. A bicycle parked on a sidewalk may not impede the normal and reasonable movement of pedestrian or other traffic.

C. A bicycle may be parked on the roadway at any location where parking is allowed:

1. At any angle to the curb or edge of the roadway; and
2. Abreast of another bicycle or bicycles near the side of the roadway.

D. A bicycle may not be parked on a roadway in a manner as to obstruct the movement of a legally parked motor vehicle.

E. In all other respects, bicycles parked anywhere on a roadway shall conform with the provisions of Chapter 12.56, regarding the parking of vehicles.

12.80.130 Bicycles -- Turns -- Designated lanes.

A. A person riding a bicycle and intending to turn left shall comply with Section 12.44.120 or Subsection B.

B. 1. A person riding a bicycle intending to turn left shall approach the turn as close as practicable to the right curb or edge of the roadway.

2. After proceeding across the intersecting roadway, to the far corner of the curb or intersection of the roadway edges, the bicyclist shall stop, as far out of the way of traffic as practical.

3. After stopping, the bicyclist shall yield to any traffic proceeding in either direction along the roadway he had been using.

4. After yielding and complying with any traffic-control device or peace officer regulating traffic, the bicyclist may proceed in the new direction.

C. 1. Notwithstanding Subsections A and B, the city transportation engineer may place traffic-control devices that require and direct turning bicyclists to travel a specific course.

2. When the devices are placed under Subsection C(1), a person may not turn a bicycle other than as directed by the devices.

12.80.140 Bicycles -- Turn signals -- Exceptions.

A. Except as provided in this section, a person riding a bicycle shall comply with Section 12.44.140 regarding turn signals and turning.

B. A person is not required to signal by hand and arm continuously if the hand is needed in the control or operation of the bicycle.

C. A person operating a bicycle who is stopped in a lane designated for turning traffic only is not required to signal prior to making the turning movement.

D. A person operating a bicycle may give the required hand and arm signal for a right turn by extending the right hand and arm horizontally to the right.

12.80.150 Operation of bicycle on one-way roadway

On a roadway, other than a limited access highway, designed and signposted for one-way traffic and which has two (2) or more marked traffic lanes, a person operating a bicycle may ride as near to the left side of the left through lane as is safe.

12.80.160 Central Traffic District bicycle riding restriction

It is unlawful for operators of bicycles to ride any bicycle upon any sidewalk within the "central traffic district", as defined in section 12.04.090 of this title, or its successor, and as described in schedule 1 of this title, set out in chapter 12.104 of this

title, or its successor, and made a part hereof by reference, or on any other area where prohibited by signs, provided, however, the foregoing shall not apply to police officers in the scope and course of their employment;

12.80.170 Bicycle racing -- When approved -- Prohibitions -- Exceptions -- Authorized exemptions from traffic laws.

A. Bicycle racing on roadways is prohibited under Section 12.36.040, except as authorized in this section.

B. 1. Bicycle racing on a roadway is permitted when a racing event is approved by the city transportation engineer on a roadway under its jurisdiction.

2. Approval of bicycle roadway racing events may be granted only under conditions:

a. Which assure reasonable safety for all race participants, spectators, and other roadway users; and

b. Which prevent unreasonable interference with traffic flow which would seriously inconvenience other roadway users.

C. Participants in an approved bicycle roadway racing event may be exempted from compliance with any traffic laws otherwise applicable:

1. By agreement with the city; and

2. If traffic control is adequate to assure the safety of all roadway users.

12.80.180 Alteration Of License Or Frame Number Prohibited:

No person shall wilfully or maliciously destroy, mutilate or alter the number of any bicycle frame number, any bicycle license issued pursuant to this code or remove, destroy or mutilate any license decal while the same is valid, or operate any vehicle without having attached thereto a valid license decal issued as provided in this code.

12.80.190 License - Suspension Or Revocation When - Impoundment:

A. The city judges or judges of juvenile courts who hear traffic cases are hereby empowered to revoke or suspend the license of any bicycle when it appears that the owner of any bicycle is not the licensee of record, or that the owner of the bicycle or the licensee thereof has used or knowingly permitted the bicycle to be used in violation of this code.

B. The police department is hereby directed and authorized to impound any bicycle so used in violation of this code for a reasonable period of time pending investigation of any alleged violation of this code, or until such bicycle is registered and licensed by the owner thereof and equipped as herein provided.

12.80.200 Violation - Penalty:

An operator of a bicycle who violates any of the provisions of this chapter shall be punished as an infraction in accordance with subsection 12.12.010B of this title, or its successor.

21A.44.040 Transportation Demand Management:

Because the purposes and intent of this Title include the lessening of congestion on the streets and roads, as well as generally protecting the public health, safety and welfare, specific standards and regulations are outlined which are intended to reduce traffic congestion and environmental pollution associated with vehicular transportation. The standards and regulations established are intended to be components of an overall transportation demand management plan.

A. Bicycle Parking Requirements: Encouraging the use of bicycles is an important nonmotorized transportation alternative and a component of a transportation demand management program.

1. Required Bicycle Parking Spaces: The minimum number of bicycle parking spaces provided for any use shall be five percent (5%) of the vehicular parking spaces required for such use.

2. Design Standards For Bicycle Parking Spaces: Bicycle parking spaces shall be:

- a. Located on the same lot as the principal use;
- b. Located to prevent damage to bicycles by cars;
- c. In a convenient, highly visible, active, well-lighted area;
- d. Located so as not to interfere with pedestrian movements;
- e. As near the principal entrance of the building as practical;
- f. Located to provide safe access from the spaces to the right of way or bicycle lane;
- g. Consistent with the surroundings in color and design and incorporated, whenever possible, into buildings or street furniture design;
- h. Designed to allow each bicycle to be supported by its frame;
- i. Designed to allow the frame and wheels of each bicycle to be secured against theft;
- j. Designed to avoid damage to the bicycles;
- k. Anchored to resist rust or corrosion, or removal by vandalism;
- l. Designed to accommodate a range of bicycle shapes and sizes and facilitate easy locking without interfering with adjacent bicycles.

3. Waiver Of Requirement: If after at least one year from the time that the bicycle parking has been provided to satisfy the requirements of this Title, the property owner documents to the Zoning Administrator that cycling has been promoted within the company and that the bicycle parking provided is not being used in good weather, the Zoning Administrator shall waive all or part of the bicycle parking requirement.