



BOSTON BRAKES

TIPS FOR RIDING YOUR BIKE SAFELY

The City of Boston. A diverse city filled with people on the move. Riding your bike is a great way to get around, but it's important to remember to share the space with pedestrians. This includes people with disabilities, who face unique challenges when navigating our city. Let's take a look at some of the common safety rules we should all follow.



WHITE CANE LAW

When you see a pedestrian walking with a white cane this indicates that the user is blind or visually impaired. You must come to a complete stop to allow them to safely cross the street. Let's be mindful and aware of white cane users in our city to avoid causing unnecessary injuries.



BIKE PARKING

When parking your bike, leave at least four feet for pedestrians. Never block sidewalks, curb ramps, crosswalks or accessible parking spaces. Poles that designate accessible parking spaces may not be used to lock your bike. Your bike should always be parked parallel to the path of travel and never block the sidewalk.



AVOID RIDING ON SIDEWALKS

Only ride on sidewalks when necessary for safety and always use bike lanes when they're available. This will prevent unnecessary conflict with pedestrians.



SLOW DOWN

Finding yourself in a hurry to get to class on time? College in a big city means there are lots of people using the busy streets and sidewalks around you. It is important to remember to slow down and be mindful of the unique needs of pedestrians with disabilities.



OBEY TRAFFIC LAWS

When cycling through the city give pedestrians the right of way. Always give an audible signal before overtaking or passing. Be aware, someone who is deaf or hard of hearing will not know you are approaching, and older adults may not be able to move quickly out of your way. Use caution when navigating alongside those with disabilities and be ready to yield or stop



DON'T FORGET TO YIELD

When approaching a crosswalk with a curb ramp, always leave the curb cut open for pedestrians. People with disabilities need access to ramps to safely transition off the sidewalk. For someone in a wheelchair, a curb ramp is the only way to cross the street. Those with visual disabilities rely on the yellow bumpy surface to know they are about to leave the sidewalk. They feel the surface with their cane or feet - or their service dog does! - so they know to stop until it's safe to cross.



A COUPLE THINGS TO REMEMBER

Always pay attention to signage throughout the city for your safety and the safety of others. And remember... use caution when navigating alongside pedestrians, especially people with disabilities. Always be ready to yield or stop. The City of Boston. Let's share the space.

