

Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Laws in URBAN COMMUNITIES



Pedestrian Survey Findings and The Law

88% of urban respondents reported walking at least a few times a month.

Of those who reported **WALKING**,



approximately **77%** reported doing so **for exercise or other health benefits**



and about **20%** reported **walking for transportation.**

Bicyclist Survey Findings and The Law

38% of urban respondents reported bicycling at least a few times a month.

Of those who reported **RIDING A BIKE**,



about **71%** reported doing so **for exercise or other health benefits**



and about **16%** reported **riding for transportation.**

Obstacles to Walking and the Texas Transportation Code (TTC)

Almost half of urban respondents **reported lack of crossing signals/signs as an obstacle to walking more.**



Did you know?

Motorists are expected to exercise due care to avoid crashes with pedestrians. In addition, motorists must stop and yield right of way when emerging from an alley, driveway, or building (TTC §552.008, §545.256).

35% of urban respondents reported **lack of sidewalks as an obstacle to walking more.**

Did you know?

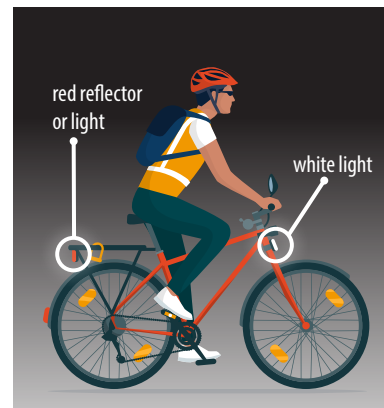
If no sidewalk is available, a pedestrian should walk on the left side of the roadway or shoulder facing oncoming traffic (TTC §552.006).

Obstacles to Bicycling and the TTC

58% of urban respondents **reported lack of bike lanes/trails as an obstacle to riding more.**

Did you know?

Motorists must pass a bicyclist at a safe distance (TTC §545.053 and §551.101).



Almost 34% of urban respondents **reported poor lighting as an obstacle to riding more.**

Did you know?

When riding at night a bicycle must be equipped with a white light on the front and a red reflector or light on the back (TTC §551.104).

Find more information about **existing pedestrian and bicycle laws** here: tinyurl.com/xhanbyaw.

You can find **existing pedestrian and bicycle laws published by TxDOT** here: <https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/>.

Additional information and resources can be found at: <https://www.walkbikesafetexas.org/>.

Improving Familiarity with Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Laws

Motorists should yield right-of-way:

- At both marked and unmarked crosswalks (TTC §552.003),
- When pedestrians are in a crosswalk if there is no traffic-control signal (TTC §552.003),
- If a pedestrian is crossing on the same half of the roadway as the vehicle (TTC §552.003),
- When emerging from an alley, driveway, or building (TTC §545.256), and
- When making turns — even if the light is green — unless you have a green turn arrow (TTC §552.001).

A pedestrian has the right-of-way when:

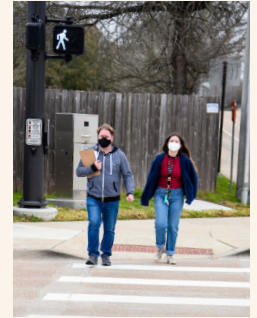
- Facing a “walk” signal (TTC §552.002),
- The signal light is green in their direction of travel, if there are no pedestrian signals (TTC §552.001), and
- Crossing in a crosswalk without a traffic signal (TTC §552.003).

When crossing at a point other than an intersection or crosswalk the pedestrian should yield the right-of-way to vehicles. (TTC §552.005)

A bicyclist should yield right-of-way:

- As if they are driving a vehicle since they have the same rights and responsibilities on Texas roadways (TTC §551.101).

Ride as far to the right-hand side of the street as possible, unless: preparing to make a left turn, avoiding obstructions, or if the lane is too narrow for a bicycle and motor vehicle to travel side-by-side. (TTC §551.103)



Check for local ordinances which may include stricter policies.



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