## Safety tips and bike laws

As a bicyclist, you have the same rights and responsibilities as a motorist. Follow these tips to make your ride safe and enjoyable.

## Be predictable

Ride so drivers can see you and predict your movements.

**Obey traffic signs and lights**
To be respected by motorists, obey the same traffic laws they obey.

**Use bicycle traffic detection devices**
Look for a small, white bicycle decal in the pavement at an intersection. Place your wheel over it to change the traffic signal.

**Never ride against traffic**
Motorists aren't looking for bicyclists riding on the wrong side of the road. To be most visible and safe, ride with traffic.

**Use hand signals**
Hand signals allow you to signal to motorists a change in direction. You are required to signal 100 feet before turning at an intersection.

**Don't weave between parked cars**
Ride as close as possible to the right. Ride consistently. Always scan parked vehicles for people who may open a door in your path.

**Ride in the middle of the lane**
You can ride in the middle of the lane at busy intersections or when riding at the same speed as cars. Otherwise, ride to the far right unless you are passing, turning left, avoiding hazards or riding in a narrow lane.

**Turn correctly**
There are two ways to turn left: signal and turn left from the traffic lane, or keep right until you reach the far corner of the intersection and then turn and wait until it's clear to cross (or until the light changes).

**Go slowly on sidewalks**
You must yield to pedestrians and provide an audible warning as you prepare to pass them. You may not ride on sidewalks in downtown Portland.

## Be alert

Ride defensively and expect the unexpected.

**Use caution when passing**
You may pass slowed or stopped traffic on the right only when it is safe. Be very careful when overtaking cars and stay out of a motorist's blind spot as a driver may not signal when turning.

**Be prepared for cars pulling out to cross your path at drive**
Until you've made eye contact, assume that a stopped motorist in a driveway or cross street has not yet seen you.

**Know what's behind you**
Train yourself to look over your shoulder without losing your balance or swerving, or use a rearview mirror.

**Avoid road hazards**
Be on the lookout for rail tracks, sewer grates, manhole covers, oily pavement, wet leaves, gravel and ice. Cross rail tracks at a right angle. Do not ride through large puddles; they may hide a pothole.

**Look for bike boxes**
Green bike boxes are located at intersections and marked with a bicycle symbol. They create a safe and more visible space for bicyclists to stop at traffic lights.

**Use caution in cycle tracks**
Cycle tracks are physically protected lanes for bikes. When riding in one, be watchful when approaching an intersecting driveway or cross street.

## Be equipped

Invest in the necessary gear.

**Cover the basics**
Your bike should be sized to your height. A hard-shell helmet reduces your risk of head injury in a crash. Bicyclists under 16 are required to wear one.

**Gear up for urban conditions**
Front and rear bike lights are required if you ride at dusk, dawn or night. Consider a rearview mirror, fenders for rain and a bell, plus a rack, basket or bike bag to carry groceries, books and necessities.

BEAVERTON

# BIKE! THERE.

# Quick guide for better biking

Metro | *Making a great place*

**Drive less. Save more.**

THE INTER TWINE

# Quick guide for better biking

Biking is as an excellent way to get around, get exercise and experience the outdoors. This free quick guide provides safety information and resources to make your ride more enjoyable.

Don't forget to check out Metro's Bike There! map, which is printed on durable, waterproof paper and available for $9. Learn where to purchase a copy, download free maps and watch bike videos at www.oregonmetro.gov/bikethere.

# Why bike?

- Half of all trips in the U.S. could be replaced with a 20-minute bike ride.
- Households that walk and cycle as the primary modes of travel save an average of $694 per month.
- Biking helps weight loss and heightens energy levels.

## LEGEND

### Most suitable

- Bike and pedestrian trail
  Closed to motor vehicles, paved multi-use and part of The Intertwine
- Main bikeway
  Enhanced bike lane, cycle track or low-traffic bike boulevard
- Low-traffic street
  No designated bikeway, speeds less than 25 miles per hour

### Moderately suitable

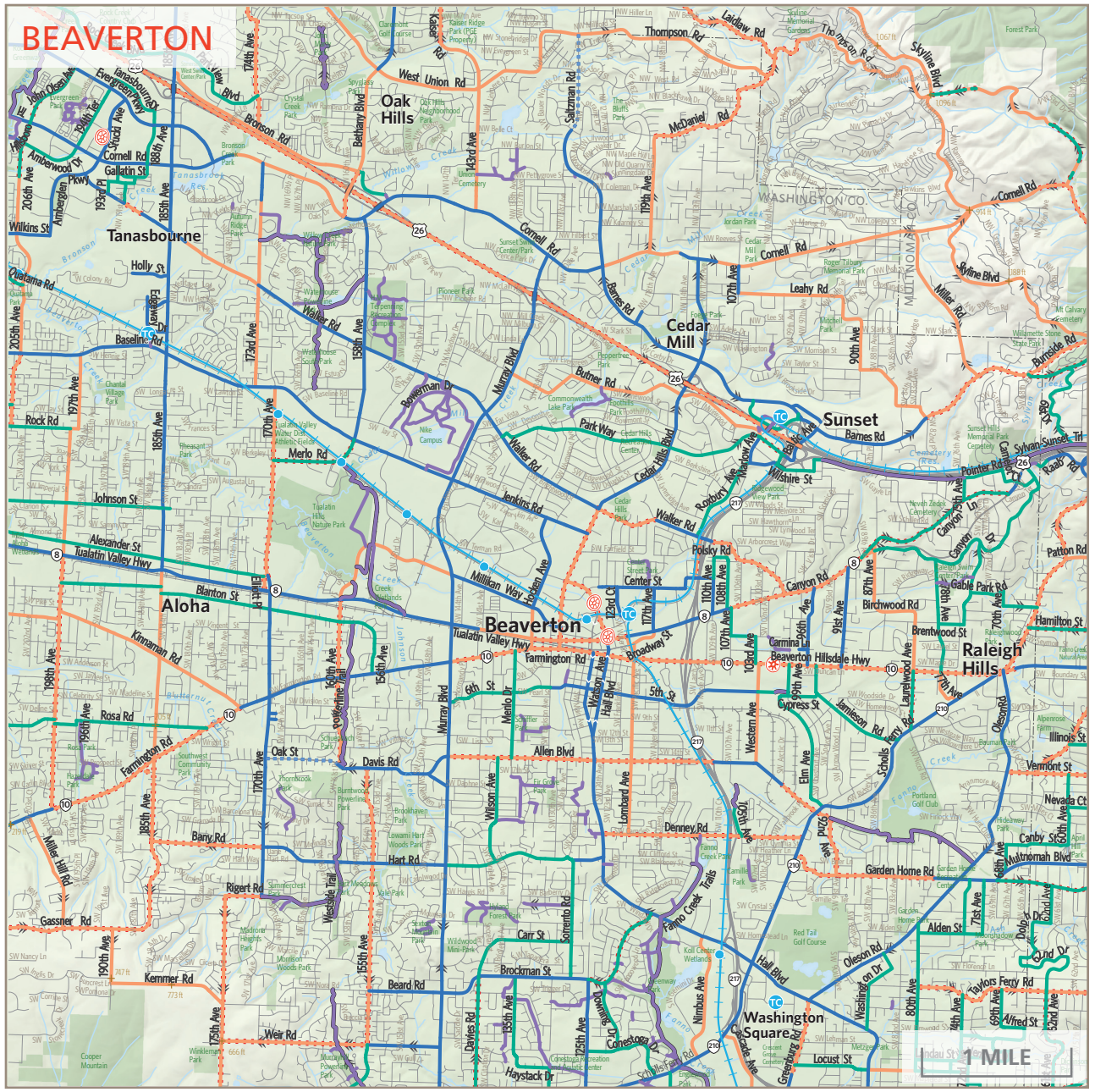
- Bike lane
  Busy streets with bike lanes, suitable for experienced bikers
- Moderate-traffic street
  No bike lane, speeds greater than 25 miles per hour

### Less suitable

- High-traffic street
  Speeds greater than 35 miles per hour
- Caution area
  Streets with narrow lanes, high traffic or sharp curves

### Map features

- Transit center
- Park or natural area
- Bike shop
- Elevation marker
- One-way travel
- Uphill
- Railroad track
- Light rail, streetcar, commuter rail, aerial tram




## Resources

Bike lockers: MAX lines, call 503-962-2104 or visit www.trimet.org/bikes

Road hazards: Washington County, call 503-846-7623

Learn more at www.oregonmetro.gov/bikethere.

## Safety responsibility

Metro has not undertaken any independent safety review of the bicycle routes and facilities. Metro disclaims any responsibility for errors, omissions or inaccuracies in this guide. In no event shall Metro be liable for any damages or losses of any kind related to data or information contained in this guide. Users of this map agree that their use is at their sole risk.

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