

Hello STLRC Members!

We had quite the robust discussion about safety at the last Board meeting (part of which was reflected in the newsletter). Please find below, attached, and on the website some etiquette points and the Missouri state laws regarding bicycle operation. The Illinois laws are much the same.

Note: There is NOT anything in here about staying within 14 inches of the edge of the road. My bad.

And one more thing. Should a dog (or any other animal) approach in a threatening manner, DO NOT STOP. In fact, ride as fast as you can.

OK, here it is:

### **STLRC Ride Safety and Etiquette Reminders**

The Ride Leaders would like to remind everyone of these simple cycling rules and regulations that will make the cycling experience safer for yourself and others around you.

The club recommends the following safety items be used on all club rides:

- rear-view mirror
- front and rear light

### **Club Etiquette:**

- Practice situational awareness at all times and be prepared for the unexpected.
- Refrain from taking selfies or videos while riding.
- Stop if the signal is red. No excuse for blowing through a red light.
- Verbally announce for everyone, "car back", "car up", "car passing". Pass it forward or pass it back.
- If possible, verbally call and point out obstructions, hole, dog, etc.
- Ride single file **in all traffic conditions** and obey traffic laws.
- When passing other riders announce to them, "On your left".
- Do not, except in rare situations, pass another rider on their right and, if you have to, announce your intentions to them.

**Please update your emergency contact information.**

### **Missouri State Cycling Regulations:**

**307.185 Lights and reflectors, when required - standards to be met.** Every bicycle and motorized bicycle when in use on a street or highway during the period from one-half hour after sunset to one-half hour before sunrise shall be equipped with the following:

- (1) **A front-facing lamp on the front** or carried by the rider which shall emit a white light visible at night under normal atmospheric conditions on a straight, level, unlighted roadway at five hundred feet;
- (2) A rear-facing red reflector, at least two square inches in reflective surface area, or **a rear-facing red lamp**, on the rear which shall be visible at night under normal atmospheric conditions on a straight, level, unlighted roadway when viewed by a vehicle driver under the lower beams of vehicle head-lights at six hundred feet;
- (3) Reflective material and/or lights visible from the front and the rear on any moving part of the bicyclists, pedals, crank arms, shoes or lower leg, visible from the front and the rear at night under normal atmospheric conditions on a straight, level, unlighted roadway when viewed by a vehicle driver under the lawful lower beams of vehicle headlights at two hundred feet; and
- (4) Reflective material and/or lights visible on each side of the bicycle or bicyclist visible at night under normal atmospheric conditions on a straight, level, unlighted roadway when viewed by a vehicle driver under the lawful lower beams of vehicle headlights at three hundred feet. The provisions of this subdivision shall not apply to

motorized bicycles which comply with National Highway Traffic and Safety Administration regulations relating to reflectors on motorized bicycles.

**307.188 Rights and duties of bicycle and motorized bicycle riders.**

Every person riding a bicycle or motorized bicycle upon a street or highway shall be granted all of the rights and shall be subject to all of the duties applicable to the driver of a vehicle as provided by chapter 304, RS Mo, except as to special regulations in sections 307.180 to 307.193 and except as to those provisions of chapter 304, RS Mo, which by their nature can have no application.

**307.190 Riding to right, required for bicycles and motorized bicycles.** Every person operating a bicycle or motorized bicycle at less than the posted speed or slower than the flow of traffic upon a street or highway shall **ride as near to the right side of the roadway as safe**, exercising due care when passing a standing vehicle or one proceeding in the same direction, except when making a left turn, when avoiding hazardous conditions, when the lane is too narrow to share with another vehicle or when on a one-way street. Bicyclists may ride abreast when not impeding other vehicles.

**307.191 Shoulder riding, allowed but not required for bicyclist operators**

1. A person operating a bicycle at less than the posted speed or slower than the flow of traffic upon a street or highway may operate as described in section 307.190, or may operate on the shoulder adjacent to the roadway.
2. A bicycle operated on a roadway, or the shoulder adjacent to a roadway, shall be operated in the same direction as vehicles are required to be driven upon the roadway.
3. For purposes of this section and section 307.190, "roadway", means that portion of a street or highway ordinarily used for vehicular travel, exclusive of the berm or shoulder.

**307.192 Bicyclists may signal right turn with right arm.** The operator of a bicycle shall signal as required in section 304.019, RS Mo, except that a signal by the hand and arm need not be given continuously if the hand is needed to control or operate the bicycle. An operator of a bicycle intending to turn the bicycle to the right shall signal as indicated in section 304.019, RS Mo, or by extending such operator's right arm in a horizontal position so that the same may be seen in front and in rear of the vehicle.

**Note:** If you are involved in an accident and require medical attention, call 911 immediately. File a police and club report as soon as possible after the incident.

Thanks

Your STLRC Board