

TRANSPORTATION & MOVEMENT AT MU 2005

With record numbers of students and vehicles on the University of Missouri-Columbia campus and surrounding areas, it is important to remember that drivers, bicyclists and pedestrians must work together to make the campus a safe place to move between locations. Nearly everyone on campus is a pedestrian and a vehicle driver at various times. Therefore, everyone has specific rights and responsibilities to ensure travel safety of the campus community.

The following responsibilities and safety points have been offered to help all groups ensure this goal happens.

Note: Statutes, ordinances, and regulations listed in this document only represent a partial list of the rules and/or laws that apply to the campus community. More information can be obtained by going to indicated web sites.

Click on the following links to be directed to a specific area of this document:

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MOTOR VEHICLES

Driving a motor vehicle across or around the University campus can, at times, be a challenge with large number of vehicles, bicycles and pedestrians on campus. It is important to remember to allow yourself plenty of time to get to your parking area, get parked, and make it to your destination. Allow for, and anticipate delays when crossing campus and remember that your appointment is not worth injuring others to get there on time. The following are reported vehicle accidents as of July 2005 to the University of Missouri Police Department (MUPD):

2001	484
2002	521
2003	527
2004	479
2005	266

Speed and/or inattention are the most common causes of vehicle accidents. It is very important to remember to allow yourself plenty of time to get to a location and be attentive to things around you. Cellular phones, eating and driving, in addition to changing a radio station, are some common distractions that can cause accidents.

Vehicle rules, regulations, statutes, and ordinances are in place to help ensure safe transportation not only across our campus but within our community. The following are some unique ordinances, statutes and rules specific to campus.

City Ordinances applying to vehicles can be viewed at a link off of the City of Columbia webpage at:

http://www.gocolumbiamo.com/Council/Code_of_Ordinances_PDF/index.html

➤ **Section 14-161 Duty of drivers to avoid collisions.**

Notwithstanding other provisions of this chapter, the driver of any vehicle shall at all times exercise the highest degree of care to avoid striking or colliding with any vehicle, cycle or pedestrian upon any roadway and shall, when approaching any stopped or parked vehicle, child, any obviously confused or incapacitated person or any other pedestrian on a roadway, exercise the highest degree of care to avoid injury or damage.(Code 1964, § 12.294(R))

➤ **Section 14-172 Vehicles shall not be driven on sidewalk.**

The driver of a vehicle, except bicycles, as provided for in section 14-504, shall not drive within any sidewalk area except on a permanent or temporary driveway.(Code 1964, § 12.350)

State law reference(s)--Similar provisions, RSMo. § 300.330.

➤ **Section 14-174 Opening and closing vehicle doors.**

No person shall open the door of a motor vehicle on the side available to moving traffic unless and until it is reasonably safe to do so, nor shall any person leave a door open on the side of a motor vehicle available to moving traffic for a period of time longer than necessary to load or unload passengers.(Code 1964, § 12.360)

State law reference(s)--Similar provisions, RSMo. § 300.340.

Section 14-180 Traffic restrictions in vicinity of university.

When day classes are in session at the University of Missouri, and signs are installed in each block giving notice thereof, no motor vehicles except buses and vehicles of residents living in the block south of the library bounded by

Conley Avenue on the north, Hitt Street on the east, Rollins on the south, and Missouri Avenue on the west, to whom special permits are issued for access into the closed areas, as authorized by the city manager; emergency vehicles; fire and police vehicles; city utility vehicles; authorized service and maintenance vehicles while engaged in service and maintenance to a facility, building, street, walk, grounds, or area within the closed portion, where adequate access for the area or location is unavailable; and authorized University of Missouri vehicles, shall be permitted between the hours of 8:15 a.m. and 3:45 p.m. upon the following streets or portions of streets:

Conley Avenue, from Ninth Street to the east line of Missouri Avenue.

Hitt Street, from a point seventy-five (75) feet south of the south curblineline of University Avenue, thence south five hundred forty-four (544) feet.

Ninth Street, from the south line of the entrance to Middlebush Hall parking lot to Conley Avenue.

(b) There shall be no parking at any time on any of the streets or portions of streets described in this section.

(c) The city administration is authorized to establish a system of bicycle ways, eight (8) feet wide or less, upon the streets closed under this section, for use while such streets are closed. (Code 1964, § 12.243; Ord. No. 10390, § 1, 12-3-84; Ord. No. 12237, § 1, 5-1-89)

➤ **Section 14-240 Overtaking and passing.**

Rules generally. The following rules shall govern the overtaking and passing of vehicles proceeding in the same direction, subject to the limitations and exceptions hereinafter stated:

(1) An operator or driver overtaking and desiring to pass a vehicle or cycle shall sound the horn before starting to pass, except in such places where prohibited by ordinance.

(2) The driver of a vehicle overtaking another vehicle or cycle proceeding in the same direction shall pass to the left thereof at a safe distance and shall not again drive to the right side of the roadway until safely clear of the overtaken vehicle.

(3) Except when overtaking and passing on the right is permitted, the driver of an overtaken vehicle shall give way to the right in favor of the overtaking

vehicle or cycle on audible signal and shall not increase the speed of his vehicle until completely passed by the overtaking vehicle.

(4) Except when a roadway has been divided into three (3) traffic lanes, no vehicle shall be driven to the left side of the centerline of a highway or public road in overtaking and passing other vehicles or cycles proceeding in the same direction, unless such left side is clearly visible and is free of oncoming traffic for a sufficient distance ahead to permit such overtaking and passing to be completely made without interference with the safe operation of any vehicle approaching from the opposite direction or any vehicle or cycle overtaken.

(b) When permitted. The driver of a motor vehicle may overtake and pass to the right of another vehicle only under the following conditions:

- (1) When the vehicle or cycle overtaken is making or about to make a left turn.
- (2) Upon a street with unobstructed pavement of sufficient width for two (2) or more lines of traffic in each direction.
- (3) Upon a one-way street.

The driver of a motor vehicle may overtake and pass another vehicle on the right only under the foregoing conditions when such movement may be made in safety. In no event shall such movement be made by driving off of the paved or main-traveled portion of the roadway.

The provisions of this subsection shall not relieve the driver of a slow moving vehicle from the duty to drive as closely as practicable to the right-hand edge of the roadway. (Code 1964, § 12.294(F), (G); Ord. No. 9759, § 1, 3-21-83)

➤ **Section 14-249 Vehicle entering yield intersections.**

The driver of a vehicle approaching a yield sign shall, in obedience to such sign, slow down to a speed reasonable for the existing conditions and shall yield the right-of-way to any vehicle or cycle in the intersection or approaching on another highway so closely as to constitute an immediate hazard during the time such driver is moving across or within the intersection; provided, however, that if such a driver is involved in a collision with a vehicle or cycle in the intersection, after driving past a yield sign without stopping, such collision shall be deemed prima facie evidence of his failure to yield right-of-way. The word "cycle," as used in this division, shall be defined as in section 14-491. (Code 1964, § 12.270)

State law reference(s)--Similar provisions, RSMo. § 300.280.

➤ **Section 14-577 Right-of-way in crosswalks.**

(a) When traffic control signals are not in place or not in operation, the driver of a vehicle shall yield the right-of-way, slowing down or stopping if need be to so yield, to a pedestrian crossing the roadway within a crosswalk when the pedestrian is upon the half of the roadway upon which the vehicle is traveling, or when the pedestrian is approaching so closely from the opposite half of the roadway as to be in danger.

(b) The provisions of paragraph (a) of this section shall not apply under the conditions stated in paragraph (b) of section 14-581.

(c) Whenever any vehicle is stopped at a marked crosswalk or at any unmarked crosswalk at an intersection to permit a pedestrian to cross the roadway, the driver of any other vehicle approaching from the rear shall not overtake and pass such stopped vehicle. (Code 1964, § 12.430(1), (3), (4))

State law reference(s)--Similar provisions, RSMo. § 300.375(1), (3).

➤ **Section 14-585 Duty of drivers to exercise care.**

Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions, every driver of a vehicle shall exercise the highest degree of care to avoid colliding with any pedestrian upon any roadway and shall give warning by sounding the horn when necessary and shall exercise proper precaution upon observing any child or confused or incapacitated person upon a roadway. (Code 1964, § 12.465)

State law reference(s)--Similar provisions, RSMo. § 300.410.

Vehicle regulations for the MU campus can be found in the M-Book located on-line at: <http://www.missouri.edu/~mbook/mbook.pdf>

BICYCLING AT MU

Bicycles at MU can be a safe and convenient way to get around the campus and the city of Columbia; however, there are some safety concerns that must be addressed. The following are reported bicycle accidents as of August 2005 to the University of Missouri Police Department (MUPD):

2001	0
2002	4
2003	2
2004	1
2005	2

Many bicycle accidents are caused by inattention and/or bicyclist failing to follow traffic ordinances and/or rules and regulations. The following ordinances and rules are offered as a reminder to bicyclist when riding.

Bicycles must obey state statutes, city ordinances and MU regulations.

City ordinances applying to bicycles can be viewed at a link off of the City of Columbia webpage at:

http://www.gocolumbiamo.com/Council/Code_of_Ordinances_PDF/index.html

Bicycle ordinances are located in Chapter 14 of the motor Vehicle and Traffic section. Some of the more common ordinances are listed below:

➤ **Section 14-501 Traffic laws apply to cycle riders.**

Every person riding a cycle upon a roadway shall be granted all of the rights and shall be subject to all of the duties applicable to the operator of a motor vehicle as provided by Chapter 304 RSMo., and all amendments from time to time made thereto, and as provided by this chapter applicable to the driver or operator of a motor vehicle, except as to special regulations in this article and except as to those provisions of laws and ordinances which by their nature can have no application. (Code 1964, §§ 12.375, 12.1480)

➤ **Section 14-502 Obedience to traffic control devices.**

(a) Any person operating a cycle shall obey instructions of official traffic control signals, signs and other control devices applicable to vehicles, unless otherwise directed by a police officer.

(b) Whenever authorized signs are erected indicating that no right or left or U-turn is permitted, no person operating a cycle shall disobey the direction of any such sign. A person may dismount from the cycle to make any such turn, in which event such person shall then obey the regulations applicable to pedestrians. (Code 1964, § 12.1490)

➤ **Section 14-503 Riding conduct, generally.**

(a) *Seat.* A person propelling a cycle shall not ride other than astride a permanent and regular seat attached thereto.

(b) *Number of riders.* No cycle shall be used to carry more persons at one time than the number for which it is designed and equipped.

(c) *Riding to right; riding abreast.* Every person operating a cycle at less than the posted speed or slower than the flow of traffic upon a roadway 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.

(d) *Speed.* No person shall operate a cycle at a speed greater than is reasonable and prudent under conditions then existing.

(e) *Age--For major thoroughfares.* No person less than nine (9) years of age shall ride a cycle on any major thoroughfare unless accompanied by his or her parents or other responsible adult.

(f) *Same--Night, any street.* No person less than nine (9) years of age shall ride a cycle at night on any street or thoroughfare unless accompanied by his or her parents or other responsible adult. (Code 1964, §§ 12.375(2), 12.1500; Ord. No. 17496, § 1, 11-4-02)

➤ **Section 14-504 Emerging from alley or driveway.**

The operator of a cycle emerging from an alley, driveway or building shall, upon approaching a sidewalk or the sidewalk area across any alleyway, yield the right-of-way to all pedestrians approaching on such sidewalk or sidewalk area, and upon entering the roadway shall yield the right-of-way to all vehicles approaching on such roadway. (Code 1964, § 12.1510)

➤ **Section 14-505 Carrying articles.**

No person operating a cycle shall carry any package, bundle or article which prevents the rider from having both hands free and available to control the cycle.(Code 1964, § 12.1530)

➤ **Section 14-507 Riding on sidewalks.**

(a) No person shall ride a cycle upon a sidewalk within a business district.

(b) The designee of the city manager is authorized to erect signs on any sidewalk prohibiting the riding of cycles thereon by any person, and when such signs are in place, no person shall disobey the same.

(c) Whenever any person is riding a cycle upon a sidewalk, such person shall yield the right-of-way to any pedestrian, and shall give an audible signal before overtaking and passing such pedestrian.(Code 1964, § 12.1550)

➤ **Section 14-508 Required equipment.**

(a) *Brakes.* Each person operating a cycle shall have that cycle equipped with a brake or brakes which will enable its operator to stop the bicycle within twenty-five (25) feet from a speed of ten (10) miles per hour on dry, level, clean pavement.

(b) *Lights.* Each person operating a cycle on a street or highway during the period from one-half hour after sunset to one-half hour before sunrise shall have his cycle 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 (500) feet.

(2) A rear-facing red reflector, at least two (2) square inches in reflective surface area, 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 headlights at six hundred (600) feet.

(3) Essentially colorless or amber reflectors on both front and rear surfaces of all pedals. Each pedal reflector shall be recessed below the plan of the pedal or reflector housing. Each reflector shall be at least ninety one-hundredths (90/100) square inches in projected effective reflex area, and must be 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 two hundred (200) feet.

(4) A side-facing essentially colorless or amber reflector visible on each side of a wheel mounted on the wheel spokes of the front wheel within three (3) inches of the inside of the wheel rim and a side-facing essentially colorless or red reflector mounted on the wheel spokes of the rear wheel within three (3) inches of the inside of the wheel rim or continuous retro-reflective material on each side of both tires which shall be at least three-sixteenths ($\frac{3}{16}$) of an inch wide. All such reflectors or retro-reflective tire sidewalls shall be 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 (300) feet. (Code 1964, § 12.1560)

➤ **Section 14-509 Use of Helmets.**

(a) No person fifteen (15) years of age or younger shall ride a cycle within the city limits as an operator or passenger without properly wearing an approved bicycle helmet securely fastened by chin or neck strap.

(b) An approved bicycle helmet is headgear which meets or exceeds the impact standard for protective helmets set by the U.S. Consumer Products Safety Commission federal safety standards.

(c) No parent, custodian, or legal guardian of a person fifteen (15) years of age or younger shall allow that person to ride or be a passenger on a cycle within the city limits as set out in this ordinance without wearing an approved bicycle helmet. This is an offense of absolute liability. (Code 1964, § 12.1570; Ord. No. 17642, § 1, 4-7-03)

Note: While it is not required by ordinance for people over the age of 15 to wear a helmet it is strongly encouraged to prevent injuries that may be caused by accidents.

➤ **Section 14-506 Parking.**

No person shall park a cycle upon a street or upon the sidewalk in such a manner as to obstruct the flow of vehicles or pedestrian traffic. (Code 1964, § 12.1540)

➤ **Section 14-494 License--Required.**

No person who resides in the city shall ride or propel a cycle on any street or upon any public path set aside for the exclusive use of cycles unless such cycle has been licensed and a license or permanent stamp is attached thereto, as provided herein.(Code 1964, § 12.1410)

Cross reference(s)--Licenses, permits and miscellaneous business regulations, Ch. 13.

➤ **Section 14-498 Same--Attachment of license or stamp.**

(a) Upon issuing a cycle license, a designee of the city manager shall attach to the frame of the cycle a license bearing the license number assigned to the cycle and the name of the city, or shall affix a permanent stamp to the cycle frame just above the fork on the right side or under the bottom bracket.

(b) No person shall remove a license from a cycle unless the cycle is dismantled and no longer operated upon any street in the city.(Code 1964, § 12.1440)

Note on Bicycle Registrations: Free bicycle registrations are done at the MU Police Department located at 901 Virginia Avenue or at City of Columbia Fire Department Stations.

Bicycle regulations for the MU campus can be found in the M-Book located on-line at :
<http://www.missouri.edu/~mbook/mbook.pdf>

6.01 Bicycle Regulations

a. All persons owning or operating a bicycle on the MU campus are required to register the vehicle with the University of Missouri Police Department. Bicycles or mopeds shall be parked in or immediately adjacent to the bicycle racks provided. Lowry Mall and the Arts & Science Mall have been designated as dismount zones. Abandoned bicycles or mopeds will be removed by cutting and removing locking devices if necessary.

The following bike safety tips were offered by Brent Hugh on the MoBikeFed web site:

- Stop. Stop and yield to cross traffic before entering a road from a driveway or sidewalk. Stop at stop signs. Stop when you have the red at traffic signals. Motorists follow these rules because they make the streets safe and predictable for everyone--you should, too.
- Be predictable and visible. Good drivers don't weave all over the road--neither should you.
- Ride with traffic, never against it. Cycling against traffic is 5-20 times more dangerous than cycling with traffic.
- Use arm signals. If you communicate with motorists they will cooperate with you.
- Check traffic before merging or turning--just as car drivers do.
- Wear a helmet. Your helmet is a lot like your seat belt in your car--wear it all the time as "insurance," but then drive so safely that you never need that insurance.
- Lights on at dusk. Motorists try to avoid hitting a cyclist they can see, but an unlighted bicycle at night is nearly invisible to motorists.

PEDESTRIANS

Walking across the MU campus can be a safe and beautiful way to get around the campus; however, pedestrians need to be alert and take certain responsibilities when crossing campus and campus streets. Cellular phones, headsets, and other distractions can be dangerous to pedestrians. The following are reported pedestrian accidents as of August 2005 to the University of Missouri Police Department (MUPD):

2001 8
2002 8
2003 11
2004 15
2005 3

Many times, pedestrian accidents are caused by the inattention of drivers; however, some pedestrian accidents involve pedestrians leaving the curb suddenly into a lane of traffic giving a vehicle no time to stop. It is important for pedestrians to remember that even if they have the right-of-way, they need to make sure drivers see them and have time to get stopped. Pedestrians should cross at crosswalks and intersections that are clearly marked for pedestrian crossing. Pedestrians should be courteous to drivers by crossing as a group rather than blocking traffic for a great while going across single file. The following ordinances and rules are offered so pedestrians know their responsibilities when crossing streets on and around the campus.

City Ordinances can be viewed at a link off of the city of Columbia webpage at: http://www.gocolumbiamo.com/Council/Code_of_Ordinances_PDF/index.html

➤ **Section 14-470 Pedestrian control signals.**

Whenever special pedestrian control signals are in place, such signals shall indicate as follows:

(1) *Steady WALK or WALKING PERSON symbol conforming to those allowed by Sec. 14-462* . Pedestrians facing such signal may proceed across the roadway in the direction of the signal and shall be given the right-of-way by the drivers of all vehicles.

(2) *Flashing DON'T WALK or flashing UPRAISED HAND conforming to those allowed by Sec. 14-462*. Indicates that a pedestrian shall not start to cross the roadway in the direction of the signal indication, but that any pedestrian who has already started to cross on the steady WALK or WALKING PERSON symbol signal indication shall proceed out of the traveled way and shall be given the right of way by the drivers of all vehicles.

(3) *Steady DON'T WALK or UPRAISED HAND symbol conforming to those allowed by Sec. 14-462* . No pedestrian shall start to cross the roadway in the direction of such signal.

(4) If a pedestrian signal has number indication of the general time available for the pedestrian to complete a crossing movement (commonly referred to as a Pedestrian Countdown Timer), the pedestrian signal shall conform to those allowed by Sec. 14-462 or the current Federal Highway Administration Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices. (Code 1964, § 12.150; Ord. No. 018131, § 1, 6-21-04)

State law reference(s)--Similar provisions, RSMo. § 300.160.

➤ **Section 14-576 Obedience to traffic control devices.**

Pedestrians shall be subject to the provisions of sections 14-466 and 14-470 of this chapter and the restrictions set forth in this article.(Code 1964, § 12.425; Ord. No. 14598, § 1, 8-21-95) Note: 14-466 is Traffic control signal legend and 14-470 is listed above.

➤ **Section 14-577 Right-of-way in crosswalks.**

(a) When traffic control signals are not in place or not in operation, the driver of a vehicle shall yield the right-of-way, slowing down or stopping if need be to so yield, to a pedestrian crossing the roadway within a crosswalk when the pedestrian is upon the half of the roadway upon which the vehicle is traveling, or when the pedestrian is approaching so closely from the opposite half of the roadway as to be in danger.

(b) The provisions of paragraph (a) of this section shall not apply under the conditions stated in paragraph (b) of section 14-581.

(c) Whenever any vehicle is stopped at a marked crosswalk or at any unmarked crosswalk at an intersection to permit a pedestrian to cross the roadway, the driver of any other vehicle approaching from the rear shall not overtake and pass such stopped vehicle. (Code 1964, § 12.430(1), (3), (4))

State law reference(s)--Similar provisions, RSMo. § 300.375(1), (3).

➤ **Section 14-578 Leaving curb suddenly or entering path of vehicle.**

No pedestrian shall suddenly leave a curb or other place of safety and walk or run into the path of a vehicle which is so close that it is impossible for the driver to yield. (Code 1964, § 12.430(2))

State law reference(s)--Similar provisions, RSMo. § 300.375(2).

➤ **Section 14-580 Crossing at right angles.**

No pedestrian shall cross a roadway at any place other than by a route at right angles to the curb or by the shortest route to the opposite curb, except in a crosswalk. (Code 1964, § 12.440)

State law reference(s)--Similar provisions, RSMo. § 300.385.

➤ **Section 14-581 When to yield right-of-way.**

(a) Every pedestrian crossing a road at any point other than within a marked crosswalk or within an unmarked crosswalk at an intersection shall yield the right-of-way to all vehicles upon the roadway.

(b) Any pedestrian crossing a roadway at a point where a pedestrian tunnel or overhead pedestrian crossing has been provided shall yield the right-of-way to all vehicles upon the roadway.

(c) The foregoing rules in this section have no application under the conditions stated in section 14-582 when pedestrians are prohibited from crossing at certain designated places.(Code 1964, § 12.445)

State law reference(s)--Similar provisions, RSMo. § 300.390

➤ **Section 14-582 Prohibited crossing places.**

(a) Between adjacent intersections at which traffic control signals are in operation, pedestrians shall not cross at any place except in a crosswalk.

(b) No pedestrian shall cross a roadway other than in a crosswalk in any business district.

(c) No pedestrian shall cross a roadway other than in a crosswalk upon any street designated by ordinance.

(d) No pedestrian shall cross a roadway intersection diagonally unless authorized by official traffic control devices, and, when authorized to cross diagonally, pedestrians shall cross only in accordance with the official traffic control devices pertaining to such crossing movements.(Code 1964, § 12.450)

State law reference(s)--Similar provisions, RSMo. § 300.395.

Web sites that may offer guidance on these issues:

- [City Ordinances](#)
- [State Statutes](#)
- [M-Book](#)
- [MU Parking and Transportation](#)