

# Bike to Work

Albuquerque is in the midst of creating a transportation system that provides options that meet the needs of individuals and the community as a whole. The majority of Albuquerque residents have bicycles stored in their garages but there is the perception that bicycles are strictly for residential purposes. City Council and the community have made the commitment to expand the on-street bikeway and multi-use trail system through dedicated transportation funds. The City of Albuquerque has made great progress through various planning and construction activities within the last several years in developing an improved system. These efforts are making bicycle commuting a viable transportation alternative.

## Benefits of Bike Commuting

- Is a great way to get practical exercise and be active
- Boosts your energy levels throughout the day.
- Saves you money on gas and maintenance.
- Helps you skip the traffic headache.
- Eliminates hassles of trying to find parking.
- Allows you to enjoy the scenery along your ride.
- Allows you to be a proactive influence and promote more riders.
- Is environmentally friendly and reduces your carbon footprint.



Photo by Roland Penttila

# Getting Started

Plan your route. Map out your route in advance using this map. If there are gaps in the suggested routes or direct routes, try going out on the weekend or after to explore alternatives. A leisurely ride through the neighborhoods along the way will reveal alternate roads that may be perfect for your commute. Make a practice run. The more comfortable you are with your route, the easier your commute will be. Get acquainted with your bike. If there are adjustments that will need to be made this is the time to discover that. Get used to riding your bike in a variety of traffic conditions. You will need to plan for arriving at your destination. Where you will park your bike, freshen up and change your clothes, if necessary, are all good things to know in advance. Learn and practice good safety skills and riding habits. You can do this on your own or through a bicycle safety class offered by the City of Albuquerque, Bicycle Safety and Education Program.

## Helpful Commuting Tips

- Get a mechanically sound bike you are comfortable riding
- Wear a helmet that is properly fitted and less than 5 years old
- Plan your route and ride it on a non-work day to gauge time
- Have a front light, rear reflector, rear light and reflective gear
- Plan your work attire and store clothing at work
- Buy a good lock and learn how to use it
- Never leave home without a spare tube, a patch kit, and a pump
- Take a City Cycling class at the Esperanza Community Bike Shop
- Join the "Guaranteed Ride Home" from the City of Albuquerque's Transit Department

## Equipment

**Bicycle.** A mechanically sound bicycle is essential. Be sure all gears, wheels and brakes are in good working order and that the frame is sound.  
**Helmet.** Besides your bike, a helmet that fits well is your most important piece of bicycle commuting equipment.  
**Clothing.** Wear bright clothing so motorists will notice you.  
**Lights.** Lights are necessary if you are going to be riding in darkness. Red strobe lights are very effective. You will want to be seen in low visibility.  
**Tires.** Keep your tires properly inflated. Use high quality treadless tire liners. Carry a spare tube or patch kit, the levers and a pump and know how to use them. You may consider making a test run to make sure you are comfortable with fixing a flat before you find yourself in the position of having to do it on your way to work.  
**Carriers.** A rack, panniers (saddlebags), basket, or backpack will be necessary for carrying things and to free up your hands for gripping the handle bars.

# Parking

Park in open areas where many people pass by and your bicycle can be easily seen. The best bike racks are made with thick, sturdy tubing, are bolted down, and allow you to lock both the frame and the wheels to the rack. When locking your bike to an object other than a bike rack, parking meter, or sign post, ensure that it is not possible to slide the bike up and over the top of the object. Your employer may allow you to park your bike inside the building where you work. This is a good way to avoid theft and protect your bike from the elements.

## Locking Your Bike

Lock the whole bike. Place your chain, cable, or U-lock through your frame and wheels. If you have a quick-release front hub, you might consider taking it off and locking it with the rear wheel and frame. When using a padlock, put it where it's not close to the ground, a wall or other solid surface, and decrease the slack in your cable or chain. It's advisable to remove any easily removable accessories that cannot be locked such as quick-release seats, horns, bike bags, pumps, cycle computers, or lights.



# Locking Your Bike



Scan for online map and cycling information



# ALBUQUERQUE BICYCLE MAP



Photo by Gregory Smith

# City of Albuquerque

<b>Citizen Contact Center</b>	<b>311</b>
<b>Municipal Development Department</b> Transportation Planning and Project Development Transportation Development Division Questions and comments are always welcome. Printed June 2014	<b>768-2680</b>
<b>Street Repair and Sweeping</b> Street Maintenance Division	<b>857-8025</b>
<b>Construction Barricading and Detours</b> Construction Management Division	<b>924-3690</b>
<b>Traffic Signals and Signaling</b> Traffic Engineering	<b>857-8025</b>
<b>Parks and Recreation Department</b> Multi-Use Trail Maintenance Park Management Division	<b>857-8650</b>
<b>Bicycle/Pedestrian Safety Education Program</b> Outdoor Recreation Division	<b>768-BIKE (2453)</b>
<b>Open Space Trail Maintenance</b> Open Space Division	<b>452-5000</b>
<b>Bike NOW Program/Bike and Ride</b> Rental Department	<b>243-RIDE</b>
<b>GABC - Greater Albuquerque Bicycle Advisory Committee</b> A citizen advisory committee that meets the second Monday of every month to review and comment on projects affecting the bikeway system within the Albuquerque metropolitan area. GABC meetings are open to the general public. Anyone interested in more information about GABC, please contact the City of Albuquerque Department of Municipal Development, Transportation Division at 768-2680.	
<b>GARTC - Greater Albuquerque Recreational Trails Committee</b> A citizen advisory committee that meets the third Tuesday of every month to review and comment on policies and projects affecting multi-use trails (bike, pedestrian, equestrian, in-line skating, etc.) within the Albuquerque metropolitan area. GARTC meetings are open to the general public. Anyone interested in more information about GARTC, please contact the City of Albuquerque Department of Municipal Development, Transportation Division at 768-2680.	
<b>Bernalillo County</b> Street Maintenance Division	<b>848-1503</b>
<b>City of Rio Rancho</b> Bikeway Maintenance Operations and Maintenance	<b>891-7224</b>
<b>Organizations</b> <b>Bike ABQ</b> Web: <a href="http://www.bikeabq.org">http://www.bikeabq.org</a> email: <a href="mailto:info@bikeabq.org">info@bikeabq.org</a> <b>New Mexico Touring Society</b> Web: <a href="http://www.nmtss.com">http://www.nmtss.com</a> email: <a href="mailto:nmtss@twc.com">nmtss@twc.com</a>	

For more information about bicycling in the Albuquerque Metro Area go to the city's web site at [www.cabq.gov/bike/](http://www.cabq.gov/bike/)

# Albuquerque Multi-Use Trails

The City of Albuquerque plans, designs, constructs, and maintains most of the multi-use trails within the Albuquerque region. There are also paved multi-use trails not within the City's jurisdiction that are part of the overall multi-use trail network or system. The Albuquerque metropolitan area has approximately 177 miles of official non-motorized multi-use trails and the system continues to grow every year. For trails that are not paved, the Albuquerque region provides hundreds of miles of easy-to-find natural surface trails for recreational purposes.

Expect to encounter pedestrians, bicyclists, walkers (sometimes with dogs), wheelchair users, scooters, skateboarders, in-line skaters, runners, and equestrians while on the multi-use trail network. Always use slow and safe speeds and be cautious and courteous to ensure you and everyone else has an enjoyable and safe trail experience.



# Interactive Bike Trail Guides

Two avid bicyclists/writers and an award-winning photographer have combined to write a guide to Albuquerque's wonderful bike trails, which cover a surprising amount of the city. They write of the sights to be seen along the way, the natural history and the human history of Albuquerque as it unfolds as you roll along (on walk or run or skate). Available for each tour are a brief version with availability of parking and mileages from the ends to major intersections along the way, a full version with all of that history and many photographs, and a map. Find all of this on the city's website at <http://www.cabq.gov/parksandrecreation/recreation/bike/bicycle-trail-guides>



# Safety

An approved bicycle helmet can greatly reduce the risk of death or permanent injury in the event of an accident. Look for the ANSI Z90.4.

# On-Street Bikeways Share the Road

Ride Defensively - Prepare for the unexpected and plan alternate maneuvers to avoid conflict. Rules alone do not always protect cyclists from injury. Be alert.



# Bicycle Safety Program

The Bicycle Safety Program offers "Bicycle Safety Rodeos" and presentations to schools and the community. Children and adults learn basic bicycling skills, traffic laws, helmet use, and safety. Presented by certified instructors, the Bicycle Safety Program provides all equipment including bicycles, helmets, literature, signs, and instruction.

Presentations/Rodeos on bicycle safety are available for cub/boy/girl scouts, community centers, after school programs, churches, etc. For more information call 768-BIKE (2453).

## Parents,

Please discuss the following information with your child.

- When they ride a bicycle on a public street, the bicycle is considered a vehicle, not a toy. All traffic laws, such as stopping at stop signs and red lights, must be obeyed.
- The bicycle should be ridden in the direction of the traffic, not against the traffic.
- Children should never ride in the dark unless they are experienced, and their bicycles must have proper reflectors and a head light.
- Bicycles are easily stolen. Children should always lock their bicycles rather than just leaving them.
- Is my child mature enough to understand the rules and responsibilities of bicycling in traffic?

## Open Shop

Open Shop at Esperanza Community Bike Shop is the time when the shop is open to the public. During these hours, you can bring in your bike and get it back in running shape. The shop will provide you with the use of a repair stand and the needed tools, but you are expected to perform the work yourself. If the repair requires more mechanical expertise than you are comfortable performing, the friendly staff at the shop will be on hand to offer guidance.

## Open Shop Hours

<b>Standard Hours</b> Tuesday: 6:00pm to 8:00pm Wednesday: 6:00pm to 8:00pm Thursday: 6:00pm to 8:00pm Sunday: Noon to 7:00pm	<b>Summer Hours (June-August)</b> Tuesday: 3:00pm to 8:00pm Wednesday: 3:00pm to 8:00pm Thursday: 3:00pm to 8:00pm Sunday: Noon to 7:00pm
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# Esperanza Community Bike Shop



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# Rio Rancho Bicycle Map



# Ride the Rail Runner and Bring Your Bike For Free!

Each train is equipped with tie-downs for at least four standard-size bikes. Additional bike storage is available in the areas reserved for wheelchairs if these are not being used. Spaces are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

## Bringing your bike on board—basic guidelines:

- Let other passengers get on and off the train first
- Board at doors marked with the bicycle symbol
- Store bike in space marked with bicycle symbol immediately inside the doors
- Secure your bike with the yellow straps
- Keep your bike out of the aisles
- Stay near your bike
- You can also leave your bike safely locked at the bikeracks located at each Rail Runner station.

## You can also use our convenient bike lockers:

- Located at each station
- Low cost way to safely store your bike

1-866-795-RAIL (7245) for more info.



# RIDE IN A STRAIGHT LINE



Avoid dodging between parked cars. Ride in a straight line at least one yard away from the curb to allow room for moving around road hazards. Watch for cars entering from driveways.

# BEWARE OF CAR DOORS



Be wary of parked cars. Motorists can unexpectedly open doors. Be particularly careful if you see a motorist in the car. Ride a car's door width away.

# OBEDIENT TRAFFIC SIGNS AND SIGNALS



As a vehicle, bicycles must obey all the Rules of the Road. Cyclists have the same privileges and duties as other traffic.

# SCAN THE ROAD BEHIND



Shoulder check regularly and use a mirror to monitor traffic. Rightly and safely. Motorists have equal right to the road, be prepared to maneuver for safety.

# RESPECT NATURE



Do not disturb or feed wildlife. Keep to trails to protect habitat. Do not collect plant or animal material.

# BE ALERT



Watch for slippery surfaces covered by oil, loose gravel or silt. Be sure the trail is clear of obstructions ahead. Ring bell for others whose visibility is restricted such as on hills and turns.

# Albuquerque Code of Ordinances Chapter 8: Traffic Code

**§ 8-3-3-1 JURISDICTION.**  
The regulations in §§ 8-3-3-1 et seq. shall be applicable whenever a bicycle is operated on any municipal paved or dirt path or roadway set aside for the exclusive use of bicycles or set aside for use of bicycles with pedestrians, motorcycles and/or horseback riders and shall also be applicable to all streets, parking lots and the like, regardless of road surface covered by § 8-3-3-2.

**§ 8-3-3-2 PARENTS' RESPONSIBILITY.**  
The parent of any child and the guardian of any ward shall not authorize or knowingly permit such child or ward to violate any of the provisions of §§ 8-3-3-1 et seq.

**§ 8-3-3-3 BICYCLE SERIAL NUMBER.**  
A. No person shall alter, obliterate or change the serial number imprinted on the frame of any bicycle.  
B. No person shall sell or rent a bicycle on which the serial number imprinted on the frame has been altered, obliterated or changed.  
C. This section shall not prohibit the restoration by an owner of an original serial number or mark.

**§ 8-3-3-4 TRAFFIC REGULATIONS APPLY.**  
A. Operators of bicycles have the same rights as operators of automobiles in the use of streets, highways and roadways within the city, except as otherwise specifically provided herein.  
B. Every person riding a bicycle upon a roadway shall be subject to all the duties applicable to the drivers of motor vehicles, except as otherwise expressly provided in this Traffic Code and subject to those provisions of laws and ordinances which by their nature can have no application; and each such person shall be subject to the same provisions and sections of this Traffic Code to which a motorist is subject.

**§ 8-3-3-5 OBEDIENCE TO TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES.**  
A. Any person operating a bicycle shall obey the instructions of official traffic control signals, signs, and other control devices applicable to bicycles, unless otherwise directed by a police officer.  
B. Whenever authorized signs are erected indicating that no right of left or U-turn is permitted, no person operating a bicycle shall disobey the direction of any such sign, except where such person dismounts from the bicycle to make such turn, in which event such person shall then obey the regulations applicable to pedestrians.

**§ 8-3-3-6 RIDING ON PROHIBITED STREETS OR CONTROLLED ACCESS ROADWAYS.**  
No person shall ride a bicycle either on any street or path where signs have been erected by the Mayor or his designated representative which prohibit the use of the street or path to bicycles, which restrict the use of the street or path to modes of transportation



other than bicycles, or on controlled access streets. Notwithstanding this provision, drivers of vehicles using such streets or controlled access roadways are not relieved of responsibility of using due care.

**§ 8-3-3-7 OPERATION IN BICYCLE LANE.**  
Where the bicycle lane provides a minimum of four feet of ride-able space or once a bicyclist has entered a bicycle lane, bicyclist shall endeavor to maintain the lane except:  
A. At intersections;  
B. To pass a slower bicyclist, or to avoid parked cars or obstacles;  
C. A bicyclist may leave the bicycle lane between intersections in order to make a U-turn, or left hand turn where such a turn is permissible for vehicular traffic, or to turn into driveways;  
D. When leaving a bicycle lane, the bicyclist shall use caution and yield the right-of-way to vehicles.

**§ 8-3-3-8 DIRECTION OF TRAVEL IN BICYCLE LANE.**  
No person shall ride or operate a bicycle within a bicycle lane or on the roadway in any direction except that permitted of vehicular traffic traveling on the same side of the roadway; provided, that bicycles may proceed either way along a lane where two-way bicycle use is so designated.

**§ 8-3-3-9 POSITION ON THE ROADWAY.**  
A. If the right hand vehicle lane available for traffic is wide enough to be safely shared with overtaking vehicles and no bike lane is present, a bicycle shall be ridden far enough to the right in said lane to facilitate such overtaking movements unless other conditions make it unsafe to do so.

B. Exceptions to driving bicycles on the right:  
1. When and where road hazards exist.  
2. To overtake vehicles making right-hand turns at intersections.  
3. Bicycles may move out of their lane to overtake and pass another vehicle/bicycle.  
4. When preparing for a left turn at an intersection, when making a U-turn or turning into a private road or driveway.  
5. Upon a one-way road with two or more marked traffic lanes the bicyclist may ride in the center of the most left-hand lane for a reasonable distance to complete a left hand turn.  
6. If the right-hand vehicle lane available for traffic is not wide enough to be safely shared with overtaking vehicles or if passing is otherwise unsafe, a bicycle may be ridden far enough to the left to temporarily control the lane. Bicyclist must move to the right to allow vehicles to overtake at the earliest and safest location. At no point is a bicyclist required to ride within less than three feet of any objects or curb on the right.

**§ 8-3-3-10 DUTY OF MOTORIST TO BICYCLIST.**  
A. In approaching or passing a person on a bicycle, every person operating a motor vehicle shall proceed with caution and shall pass such bicyclist at a reasonable speed and keep a safe distance from him; provided however, in event such a distance of less than five feet be considered a safe distance within the meaning of this division.  
B. No person operating a motor vehicle shall harass or endanger a bicyclist.

**§ 8-3-3-11 OPENING AND CLOSING VEHICLE DOORS.**  
No person shall open any door on a motor vehicle unless and until it is reasonably safe to do so and can be done without interfering with the movement of other traffic including bicycle traffic, nor shall any person leave a door open on a side of a vehicle adjacent to moving traffic for a period of time longer than is necessary to load or unload passengers.

**§ 8-3-3-12 MOTORIST TURNING ACROSS BICYCLE LANE.**  
A. Whenever a motorist is turning across a bicycle lane or path, such motorist shall maintain a proper lookout for bicyclists and shall yield the right-of-way to any bicyclist traveling in a bicycle lane or path and, prior to turning right, shall merge, if practicable, into the bicycle lane to his right, if any, before the start of the turning movement.  
B. Nothing in this section shall be deemed to relieve the motorist of duties imposed by § 8-2-2-2, in particular, but not limited to, § 8-2-2-2(A)(1), (B)(1) and (E)(1).

**§ 8-3-3-13 DRIVING VEHICLE ON OR ACROSS BICYCLE LANE OR PATH.**  
No person shall drive or operate a motor vehicle upon or across a bicycle path or lane except to cross such path or lane when turning as permitted in § 8-3-3-12, to park such vehicle, or to leave a parking space. No person shall drive upon or across a bicycle lane or path as permitted by this section except after giving the right-of-way to all bicycles within the lane or path.

**§ 8-3-3-14 TRAVELING IN GROUPS.**  
Persons riding bicycles on a roadway shall not ride more than two abreast except on paths or parts of roadways set aside for the exclusive use of bicycles where more than two abreast may ride in safety and traffic is not impeded. When riding more than two abreast is permitted on a roadway, the bicyclist shall ride within a single lane.

**§ 8-3-3-15 RIDING BICYCLE ON SIDEWALK.**  
A. Bicyclists shall not ride upon a sidewalk when there is a wide right lane, bike lane, or bike trail adjacent to the direction of travel, or when signs are posted prohibiting bicycles on the sidewalk, or when within a business district. When riding on a sidewalk, a bicyclist is subject to the laws that apply to pedestrians.  
B. If a bicyclist dismounts, the bicyclist is subject to the laws that apply to pedestrians.  
C. Whenever a person must ride a bicycle upon a sidewalk, such person shall ride slowly and yield the right-of-way to any pedestrian, shall overtake on the left, and shall give an audible signal before attempting to overtake and pass such pedestrian, and shall ride only on the sidewalk on the right hand side of the street, moving with the directional flow of the motor vehicle traffic.

**§ 8-3-3-16 BICYCLE SPEED.**  
No person shall operate a bicycle at a speed either greater than the lawful speed limit or than is reasonable and prudent under the conditions then existing, whichever is the lesser.

**§ 8-3-3-17 EMERGING FROM ALLEY OR DRIVEWAY.**  
The operator of a bicycle emerging from an alley, driveway, bicycle path or building shall, upon approaching a sidewalk or the sidewalk area, yield the right-of-way to all pedestrians, and, before entering the roadway, shall yield the right-of-way to all vehicles approaching on said roadway.

**§ 8-3-3-18 CARRYING ARTICLES ON BICYCLE.**  
A. No person operating a bicycle shall carry any package, bundle or article which prevents the rider from keeping at least one hand upon the handlebars.  
B. No person operating a bicycle shall transport any package, bundle or article, or any combination thereof, which interferes with the turning or braking of such bicycle, or which extends more than two feet from the front, back or sides of the frame of the bicycle, or which tends to impair the operator's control or balance. Nothing in this division shall be deemed to prohibit the use of trailers or side cars which are designed to be used with bicycles.

**§ 8-3-3-19 CLINGING TO VEHICLES.**  
No person riding upon a bicycle shall attach the same or himself to any moving vehicle.

**§ 8-3-3-20 SEATED PASSENGER.**  
A. No bicyclist shall carry a passenger on the bicycle unless the passenger is seated upon an individual seat or other carrier designed for carrying a passenger.  
B. No person shall ride upon a bicycle as a passenger unless he is seated upon an individual seat or other carrier designed for carrying a passenger separate from that intended to be used by the operator.

**§ 8-3-3-21 TURNING AND HAND SIGNALS.**  
A. Before turning and altering the course of a bicycle, the bicyclist shall make sure that movement can be made safely and shall give a signal by hand in the same manner as hand signals are given by motorists to indicate the direction in which he intends to proceed.  
B. A signal by hand and arm need not be given if the hand is needed in the control or operation of the bicycle.

**§ 8-3-3-22 PUSHING A BICYCLE.**  
Any person dismounting from and pushing a bicycle shall obey all regulations applicable to pedestrians.

**§ 8-3-3-23 PARKING OF BICYCLE.**  
A bicycle may be parked on a sidewalk and other places if the parking does not impede normal and reasonable movement of pedestrian or other traffic.

**§ 8-3-3-24 BICYCLE EQUIPMENT.**  
A. **Lamp.** No person shall operate a bicycle after sunset or prior to sunrise, or in low light conditions unless equipped with a lamp on the front which emits a white light visible from a distance of at least 500 feet from the front.  
B. **Reflector.** No person shall operate a bicycle at nighttime unless it is equipped on the rear with a red reflector of a type which shall be visible from at least 300 feet to the rear when directly in front of lawful upper beams of headlamps on a motor vehicle.  
C. **Brake.** No person shall operate a bicycle unless it is equipped with a brake which will enable the operator, when traveling at a speed of 15 mph, to stop within 30 feet on a dry, level, clean pavement after the brake is applied.

# Area Bicycle Shops

Shop	Address	Phone #	*Rentals Available
1. Bike Coop LTD	120 Yale Blvd. SE	265-5170	
*2. Bike Works	2830 Carlisle Blvd. NE	884-0341	
3. Bike World	3119 San Mateo Blvd. NE	881-4233	
4. Bike World	6624 Carrizito Coors NW	742-1300	
5. Bike World	1820 Central Ave. SE	242-8033	
6. Cycle Case, Inc.	5716 Menaul Blvd. NE	884-6607	
*7. Fat Tire Cycles, Inc.	421 Montano Rd. NE	245-9005	
8. Fixed and Free	114 Tazewell Dr. SE	258-0586	
9. Hawk's Tri-Cycle	10701 Corrales Rd. NW Suite. 19	792-1474	
10. High Desert Bicycles	8110 Louisiana Blvd. NE	842-8260	
11. High Desert Bicycles	909 Bennet Place SE	896-4700	
*12. Northeast Cyclery Inc.	8305 Menaul Blvd. NE	298-1210	
*13. Performance Bicycle	1431 Mercantile Ave. NE	765-2471	
14. REI	1915 Mercantile Ave. NE	247-1191	
*15. Sports Systems	6515 Montgomery Blvd. NE	837-9000	
16. Steve's Happy Bikes	4685 Corrales Rd. Corrales, NM 87048	897-7900	
17. Trek Bicycles Super Store	5000 Menaul Blvd. NE Suite A	713-7343	
18. Two Wheel Drive Inc.	1706 Central Ave. SE	243-8443	
*19. Esperanza Community Bike Shop	5600 Esperanza Dr. NW	242-6668	
20. Team O Productions (mobile repair)		350-9391	

# Rentals

21. Bikeshift	901 Rio Grande Blvd. NW	242-9253
22. Routes Rentals	1102 Mountain Rd. NW	933-5667

