

CITY OF PITTSBURGH POLICY ON TRAVELLING, DROP-OFF AND PICK UP IN TRAVEL LANES AND BIKE LANES

Effective date: February 1, 2016

In an effort to support bicycling as a safe and viable mode of transportation within the City of Pittsburgh, the City has developed a plan for and installed a network of bicycle lanes on existing streets, roads and alleys. Since paratransit and mass transit vehicles often require direct access to the curb in order to accommodate disabled individuals and other individuals with special needs, these vehicles are permitted to enter into bike lanes and/or stop in a travel lanes in order to pick up and/or drop off passengers upon request and when there are no other safe options for doing so.

DEFINITIONS

"Stop" or "stopping."

- (1) When required, means complete cessation from movement.
- (2) When prohibited, means any halting even momentarily of a vehicle, whether occupied or not, except when necessary to avoid conflict with other traffic or in compliance with the directions of a police officer or traffic-control sign or signal.

"Park" or "parking."

- (1) When permitted, means the temporary storing of a vehicle, whether occupied or not, off the roadway.
- (2) When prohibited, means the halting of a vehicle, whether occupied or not, except momentarily for the purpose of and while actually engaged in loading or unloading property or passengers.

"Stand" or "standing."

When prohibited, means the halting of a vehicle, whether occupied or not, except momentarily for the purpose of and while actually engaged in receiving or discharging passengers.



Bike Lane

A lane of traffic designated for use by people on bicycles. Lanes are 4-6' wide with a painted white line and bicycle symbols delineating it from vehicle travel lanes.



Buffered bike lane

A lane of traffic designated for use by people on bicycles. Buffered lanes are 4-6' wide with a 2-3' wide painted area delineating it from vehicle travel lanes.



Protected Bike Lane

A lane of traffic designated for use by people on bicycles. Protected bike lanes have vertical separation and a 2-3' wide painted buffer delineating it from vehicle travel lanes.

“ACCESS” VEHICLES IN TRAVEL LANES

Use of ACCESS Vehicles in a Travel Lane:

ACCESS vehicles may stop in travel lanes for passenger pick-ups and/or drop-offs of disabled passengers or other passengers with special needs upon passenger request and only if there are no other safe options for doing so. Such stopping shall be limited to the time necessary to complete drop-off and/or pick-up a disabled passenger or other passenger with special needs. Drivers must remain in sight of the vehicle during all times while assisting a passenger.

ACCESS vehicles may only enter unprotected bike lanes for pick-ups and/or drop-offs of disabled passengers or other passengers with special needs upon passenger request and only if there are no other safe options for doing so. Drivers shall yield to bicyclists before entering the bike lane. Unprotected bike lanes are identified by white painted stripes and bicycle symbols without any vertical separation from the vehicle travel lane (see Definitions)

TRAVELLING, PICK-UP AND DROP-OFF IN BIKE LANES

Use of Buses in Bike Lanes:

Buses may only enter unprotected bike lanes for pick-ups and/or drop-offs at bus stops. Drivers shall yield to bicyclists before entering the bike lane. Unprotected bike lanes are identified by white painted stripes and bicycle symbols without any vertical separation from the vehicle travel lane. Where possible, bike lanes have been designed with a dashed line at bus stops to indicate the space where a bus should merge to the curb. .

Stopping in Bike Lanes

A driver of any vehicle transporting a person with a disability or with other special needs may stop a vehicle in a bike lane for pick-ups and/or drop-offs of disabled passengers or other passengers with special needs upon passenger request at the curb and only if there are no other safe options for doing so. The driver shall put the vehicle flashers on and be in sight of the vehicle at all times during the pick-up/drop-off. Once the passenger is inside the building or vehicle, the vehicle must immediately vacate the bike lane.