

## Salt Lake City Pocket Bicycle Laws

Below is a summary of many SLC bicycle laws. To view the actual laws go to: [www.slcgov.com](http://www.slcgov.com) and click on *Laws & City Ordinances*.

A bicycle is considered a vehicle and riders have the same rights and are subject to the same traffic laws as the operators of other vehicles. As a vehicle, bicycles are required to be ridden in the same direction as other traffic, obey traffic signals, stop signs, and all other traffic control devices. (12.80.040.A, 12.80.095.B)



### **Bicycles:**

**Must be licensed** (12.80.010).

**Must be equipped** with a white headlight, red taillight or reflector, and side reflectors, all visible from at least 500 feet, when riding a half hour after sunset to a half hour before sunrise or when it's difficult to see farther than 1,000 feet ahead (12.80.065 & 12.28.095).

**Must be equipped** with brakes capable of stopping from 10 mph within 25 feet on dry, level, clean pavement (12.80.061).

### **Bicyclists:**

**Must not ride** on the sidewalks downtown within the area between North Temple and 500 South and 400 West and 200 East (12.80.160).

**Must ride** on roadways as far to the right as practicable except when (12.80.095.A):

1. Passing another bicycle or vehicle,
2. Preparing to turn left,
3. Going straight through an intersection with a right-turn-only lane,
4. Avoiding unsafe conditions on the right-hand



- edge of the roadway, or
5. Traveling within a lane too narrow to be safely shared, side-by-side, by a bicycle and another vehicle.

**Must not ride** more than two abreast on roadways and then only if they do not impede other traffic (12.80.095.C). Bicyclists must only ride single file on sidewalks (12.80.105.F).

**Must yield** to pedestrians and give an audible signal when overtaking them. When riding on a sidewalk, path or crosswalk ride at a safe speed (walking speed is recommended, 12.80.105).

**Must not carry** an item that prevents using both hands to control the bicycle. A bicyclist must have at least one hand on the handlebars at all times (12.80.110).

**May park** a bicycle on a sidewalk only if it does not impede normal and reasonable sidewalk traffic. Bicycles may be parked on the roadway, where vehicle parking is allowed, at any angle to the curb and abreast of another bicycle but shall not obstruct a legally parked vehicle (12.80.120).

**Must signal** their intention to turn right or left, change lanes or stop, at least 3 seconds before doing so (12.44.130.B, 12.44.140, 12.44.170). Bicyclists do not have to maintain a continuous signal if both hands are needed to control the bicycle. Once stopped in a designated turn lane bicyclists are not required to signal again before turning (12.80.140).

Acceptable hand signals are:

1. Left turn – left hand and arm extended horizontally.
2. Right turn – left hand and arm extended upward or right hand and arm extended horizontally.
3. Stop or decrease speed – left hand and arm extended downward.

