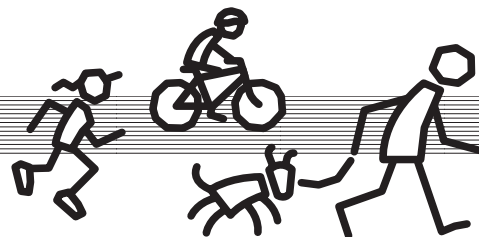


**FREE!**



pima county department of transportation

# WALKIN' & ROLLIN'

news for pedestrians and cyclists

FEBRUARY / MARCH, 2004 • Available online at [www.dot.pima.gov/tpcbac/](http://www.dot.pima.gov/tpcbac/)

PIMA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF  
TRANSPORTATION



## Welcome!

Welcome to the first edition of the Pima County Walk and Roll newsletter. We hope to fill you in on some of the bicycle and pedestrian initiatives that Pima County has recently completed as well as projects and programs we're currently working on.

This newsletter also highlights some of the activities of various individuals and organizations working to promote bicycling and walking in our region. In this inaugural newsletter we profile the Tucson-Pima County Bicycle Advisory Committee, a valuable citizen's advisory committee that has done a lot to further cycling in the region. We'll have more group and individual stories to come.

Please let us know what else you'd like to see written about in future newsletters, and we'll do our best to cover them!

Yours in cycling and walking,

Matthew Zoll

Pima County Bicycle and Pedestrian  
Program Manager



## PCDOT and The Brad Fund team up to promote safety

Pima County and The Brad P. Gorman Memorial Bikeway Fund have pooled resources to put up safety messages around the region, with the hope of greatly expanding promotion of bicycling and walking safety over the next few years. The Brad Fund promotes bicyclist and pedestrian safety in Pima County and statewide. Look for a profile on them in an upcoming issue.

Recently, we've placed 22 Share the Streets and Watch for Bikes and Pedestrians signs at transit shelters and benches in the metropolitan

area. The highly visible signs are intended to raise awareness of the need for motorists to "start seeing" cyclists and pedestrians, as well as for cyclists, pedestrians and drivers to become more mindful of following traffic laws and using common courtesy around others.

These signs will be displayed through March of 2004 and will be rotated around the region to get more visibility. Many thanks to The Brad Fund and to Attention Transit Advertising for their excellent support for this public awareness effort.

If anyone has any ideas for some other graphics and safety messages in the future, please contact us!

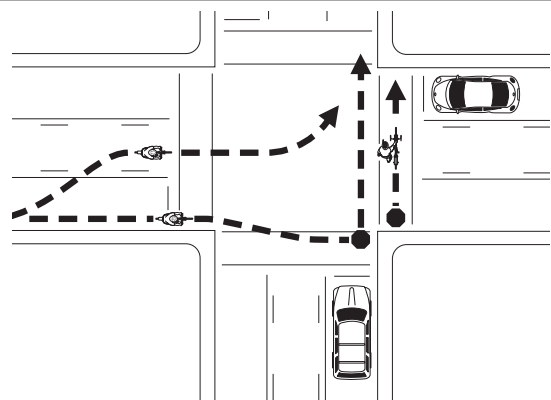
## RULES OF THE ROAD

### Three legal ways for bikes to turn left...

1. You may make a left turn like a vehicle by looking over your shoulder, signaling, and moving into the left turn lane when it's safe.
2. You may make a left turn by going to the far side of the intersection, turning your bike and using the roadway.

3. You may make a left turn by going to the far side of the intersection, turning your bike, and then using the crosswalk.

*Reprinted from the 'Share the Road' pocket guide, available in most bike shops*



## NEW PROJECTS!



The County recently completed a short section of “**blue bike lane**” on Sunrise Road at Skyline Road. The intent of the blue lane is to highlight a difficult merge area where motorists are crossing the path of cyclists. Many thanks to **County Traffic Engineer Albert Letzkus** for providing this key safety improvement for cyclists!

Pima County has recently completed the **Old Spanish Trail** bike lanes from Houghton Road to Saguaro National Park. This project completes a long-missing link in an otherwise extensive southeast bike lane system.

Early last fall, the County and State of Arizona completed the **Nogales Highway** repaving project, which included continuous paved shoulders from Tucson to I-19. No more rumble strips or extremely rough pavement in the shoulder!

Look for some other great bike and pedestrian projects underway that will be profiled in upcoming newsletters:

**Catalina Highway** bike lanes (The Brad P. Gorman Bikeway) between Tanque Verde and the base of Mt. Lemmon

**Dodge Boulevard** sidewalks, landscaping and bike lanes project from Ft. Lowell Road to River Road

**Pima County-Tucson Safe Routes to School** and Bicyclist/Pedestrian Education Program

**Tangerine Road, Shannon Road, and Sabino Canyon Road** bike lanes

**The Pima County Americans with Disabilities Act** Transition Plan



*Traffic citations you get on your bicycle can raise your car insurance rates or cause you to lose your license!*

## Run a stop sign and you could lose your driver’s license!

Believe it or not, you can lose your driver’s license if you run a stop sign on your bike.

A recent local case involved a cyclist who ran a stop sign and was ticketed \$144, and then before he paid the fine he was actually ticketed a second time for running another stop sign. Not only was the second ticket a higher fine, but he was notified that he would lose his driver’s license if he didn’t respond immediately. He also ran the risk of having points assessed against his license, and of course of being hit by someone when he ran the sign.

Is it worth the hassle and cost to flagrantly run stop signs? It sends a poor message to drivers, it sets a bad example for kids and it could cause a serious accident.

As a service to the cycling public, and as a way for us to better promote respect and “Sharing the Road” by cyclists ourselves, we’ve listed a few laws and standard fines that pertain to cyclists, pedestrians, and drivers:

### Running stop signs

first offense, potential points against license or revoking of license. (driver or cyclist)  
 Pima County ..... \$115  
 City of Tucson ..... \$144

### Running stop lights

first offense, potential points against license or revoking of license. (driver or cyclist)  
 Pima County ..... \$115  
 City of Tucson ..... \$144

### Riding on a sidewalk

(in the City of Tucson only) ..... \$25

### Riding at night without a headlight and rear red reflector

Pima County ..... \$88  
 City of Tucson ..... \$124  
 (equipment violations) A rear red taillight is permitted by law in addition to the rear reflector and is recommended.

### Riding on the wrong side of the roadway

(against flow of traffic)  
 Pima County ..... \$88  
 City of Tucson ..... \$115

### Failure to yield

(by driver to a cyclist or pedestrian)  
 Pima County ..... \$115  
 City of Tucson ..... \$144

### Failure to yield

(by a pedestrian to a driver)  
 Pima County ..... \$88  
 City of Tucson ..... \$115

### Failure to wear bicycle helmet

(by a child under age of 18)  
 Pima County ..... \$50  
 City of Tucson ..... \$25

### Unsafe passing by a driver

(see the Share the Road pocket guide)  
 Pima County ..... \$500 to \$1000  
 City of Tucson ..... \$500 to \$1000

### Jaywalking

Pima County ..... \$88  
 City of Tucson ..... \$115

(Note: it is illegal to cross a street between two traffic signals unless a marked crosswalk is present. At locations in between crosswalks that do not have traffic signals, a pedestrian may cross but must yield to motorists or bicyclists on the roadway.)

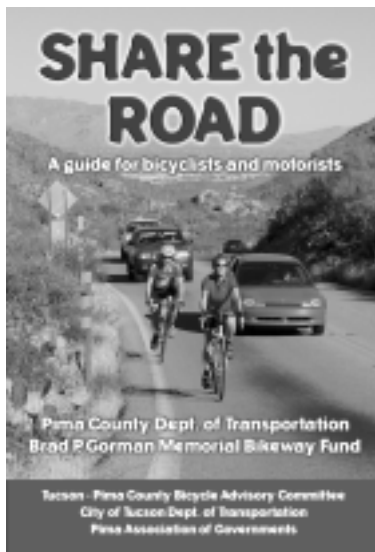
## Check out the "Share the Road" pocket guide

As many of you have already seen, a regional Share the Road pocket guide has been prepared to promote greater understanding of traffic laws and safer driving and cycling.

Pima County worked with the Bicycle Advisory Committee, The Brad Fund, and several other groups and individuals to develop the Share the Road guide, which has received national recognition.

The State of Arizona is planning to adapt if for a statewide guide, and other states such as New Mexico are considering it for use as well. Even regions such as Victoria, British Columbia are asking to use our little desert guide.

The real value of the guide is in direct sharing of the information between people. Pima County has presented the guide to Sun Tran bus drivers, school bus districts, elementary school classes, middle school classes, civic groups, and drivers education programs. The National Traffic Safety Institute, which puts on classes for "wayward" drivers to reduce their



traffic fines, has distributed thousands of guides through their classes.

It's a dynamic process, so we ask the groups we meet with for their recommendations on how to make the guide better. For our next edition we'll incorporate these recommendations as much as we can.

We've also produced a Spanish version of the guide and plan to go to print with it some time in the spring.

## Tucson/Pima County Bicycle Advisory Committee UPDATE



### The BAC Works for You!

The Tucson-Pima County Bicycle Advisory Committee, established in 1986, is one of the three pillars necessary to build bicycle-friendly communities. The other two pillars include having a well-supported bicycle and pedestrian program and having good bicycle facility standards.

The committee has been an effective advocate in helping communities see the way to not only provide safer bicycle facilities and develop effective safety programs, but also to promote pedestrian safety as well.

Recent projects of the committee include helping to develop the Share the Road pocket guide, providing support on Federal Transportation Enhancement grant applications, advising on various roadway projects to provide safer bicycle and pedestrian facilities and crossings, coordinating with local police departments to promote safety, and working with the State Motor Vehicle Division to get bicycle and pedestrian safety information provided at Division offices for the public.

If you would like to learn more about the Bicycle Advisory Committee, please call 740-6746 or visit [www.dot.pima.gov/tpcbac/](http://www.dot.pima.gov/tpcbac/). You can also attend a monthly meeting, held the second Wednesday of every month from 6:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. at the Himmel Park Library, 1035 N. Treat Avenue (just south of Speedway Boulevard). Hope to see you there!

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JANUARY THROUGH APRIL, 2004

for info, call

<b>A Fine Valentine 10k:</b> Saturday, February 14th .....	326-9383
<b>Move it for Dad:</b> Sunday, February 15th .....	360-2881
<b>Dave's Run for A.L.S.:</b> Sunday, February 29th .....	326-9383
<b>Sundown at the Pass:</b> Saturday, March 6th .....	325-5097
<b>Tucson Bicycle Classic:</b> Friday, March 5th through Sunday March 7th ....	884-5564
<b>Clean Air Fair:</b> Friday, March 19th through Friday April 16th .....	791-1093
<b>Tumacacori Road Race:</b> Sunday, March 21st .....	884-9018
<b>Sabino Canyon Sunset Run:</b> Saturday, April 10th .....	326-9383
<b>Walk N' Roll to School Day:</b> Wednesday, April 14th .....	740-6746
<b>Spring Cross Country Classic 5k:</b> Saturday, April 17th .....	326-9383
<b>4th Avenue Criterium:</b> Saturday, April 17th .....	546-7939
<b>Colossal Cave Road Race:</b> Sunday, April 18th .....	797-8243
<b>Tour of the Tucson Mountains:</b> Sunday, April 25th .....	745-2033
<b>Greater Arizona Bicycling Association Swap Meet:</b> Saturday, March 27th For information, contact: 323-9020 (For a list of G.A.B.A. rides; see <a href="http://bikegaba.org">bikegaba.org</a> )	

This is only a partial listing of numerous bicycling and walking events coming up in the months of January through April. If you would like your event listed in future newsletters, please contact us. Pima County provides this listing as a public service. This listing does not constitute official endorsement of these events by Pima County.

## THE BRAD P. GORMAN

Memorial Bikeway

240-BRAD

"Promoting safety, awareness  
and respect, because  
life is precious."

## CYCLING TIP OF THE MONTH



### Try a helmet mirror

Slower moving travelers such as bicyclists need to be aware of what's behind as well as what's up ahead, and helmet mirrors give you 360

degree awareness of what's going on around you.

In dense traffic or narrow country roads, you can see who's coming up behind you without having to look over your shoulder.

They give you some additional security on narrow roads such as the Mt. Lemmon Highway. The image in a helmet mirror vibrates much less than bar mounted types. You can also find mirrors that clip onto to your sunglasses.

Even if you've never used one before, you might consider giving mirrors a try.

*You can submit your cycling or walking safety tips to [Matt.Zoll@dot.pima.gov](mailto:Matt.Zoll@dot.pima.gov)*



### Useful phone numbers

**Report polluting vehicles to the Smoking Vehicle Hotline, 622-5700**

**Report road maintenance needs within Pima County to Pima County Street Maintenance, 740-2639**

**Report roadway maintenance needs within Tucson to City of Tucson Street Maintenance, 791-3154**

**Report roadway maintenance needs on State highways to Arizona Dept. of Transportation, 628-5705**

## PROFILE



### 62,000 miles commuting in Tucson

Dave Burnham has been commuting for fifteen years, and boy is he tired! By his own estimation, he's logged over 62,000 miles around Tucson. He's been riding to work most of his adult life, with daily commutes ranging from six to 24 miles.

Dave had always been interested in bicycles, but when he was diagnosed with insulin dependent diabetes at age 26, he began taking cycling seriously.

"The doctors told me that I should avoid long distance, marathon type events, but the first thing I did was begin training for the hundred mile version of the Tour de Tucson".

It took him nearly eight hours to complete the first one, but in subsequent years he was able to work up to a platinum medal, coming in under five hours for the 109 mile event.

"I had to train harder and start earlier in the summer to get the same result as other riders."

It didn't always go smoothly, as he'd have to stop several times during the race to perform blood tests with a portable glucometer kit, wasting precious minutes.

The commitment to cycling paid off in other ways. Dave has been able to keep himself free of diabetic complications, which he readily attributes to commuting during the week and

doing recreational rides on the weekends. Uncontrolled diabetes can damage the body by restricting circulation, with vision problems and damage to the kidneys being the most serious. Regular exercise has been shown to improve the health of Type 1 and Type 2 diabetics.

Whether racing, commuting or mountain biking, Dave admits he is addicted to riding.

"On cold winter mornings or hot summer days, it takes serious motivation to leave the car at home, but once you're used to it, you feel cheated if you don't get in at least a short ride every day."

Over the years, Dave was able to become involved in other aspects of cycling, as the secretary of the Tucson-Pima County Bicycle Advisory Committee.

"Anyone can learn to love bike commuting. A good bike, good lights, and an adventurous spirit are all you need. As in my case, the rewards can be surprising."

His current ride is an easy six and a half miles to downtown each day.



**Kurt Weinrich, P.E. Director, Pima County Department of Transportation**



**Pima County Board of Supervisors**  
Ann Day, District 1; Ramón Valadez, District 2;  
Sharon Bronson, Chair, District 3;  
Raymond J. Carroll, District 4; Richard Elías, District 5  
**County Administrator: C.H. Huckelberry**

**For more information, please contact the Pima County Bicycle & Pedestrian Program at 740-6746 or [Matt.Zoll@dot.pima.gov](mailto:Matt.Zoll@dot.pima.gov)**