



# LANCASTER CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

# NEWS RELEASE

City of Lancaster  
Bureau of Police, 39 West Chestnut Street, Lancaster, Pa. 17603  
[www.lancasterpolice.com](http://www.lancasterpolice.com)

Author: Sgt. Todd Umstead

Contact Number: 735-3300

Date: April 1, 2009

## Bicycle Ordinance

In November of 2008, the City of Lancaster passed an ordinance prohibiting the riding of bicycles on the sidewalks within the Downtown Investment District area. The intention of this ordinance is to make the downtown sidewalks more "user friendly" and prevent collisions between bicyclists and pedestrians. As pedestrian and bicycle traffic is anticipated to increase with the onset of warmer weather, the Lancaster City Police wish to remind the public of this ordinance change. Bicyclists riding on the sidewalk in the DID area could be issued citations for violating this ordinance. A copy of the ordinance is attached.

Under PA state law, a bicycle is considered a "vehicle" and it is the recommendation of the Lancaster City Police that bicyclists utilize the roadway / street at all times, regardless of the location. It is much safer for bicyclists to ride in the roadway as they are more visible to approaching motorists, particularly when crossing or entering intersections. Bicyclists are required to comply with all state and local traffic laws, to include riding in the same direction as vehicular traffic on a roadway.

Lancaster City Ordinance also requires city residents to register their bicycles. This can be done at the Lancaster City Police Station, 39 W. Chesnut St. at any time. There is a \$1.00 fee per bike. This registration information assists the police in returning found or recovered stolen bicycles to their owners.

On a related note, citizens are reminded that Lancaster City Ordinance states that no person shall ride or operate a skateboard on a sidewalk within one block of the area of the City of Lancaster know as "Penn Square."

D.I.D. BICYCLE ORDINANCE:  
FILE OF THE CITY CLERK

ADMINISTRATION ORDINANCE NO. 13 - 2008

ADMINISTRATION BILL NO. 14 - 2008

INTRODUCED - NOVEMBER 11, 2008

ADOPTED BY COUNCIL - NOVEMBER 25, 2008  
(AS AMENDED)



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### Bicycle Ordinance

AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LANCASTER, LANCASTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA AMENDING CHAPTER 100 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF LANCASTER TO PROHIBIT THE OPERATION OF BICYCLES ON SIDEWALKS WITHIN THE DOWNTOWN INVESTMENT DISTRICT OF THE CITY OF LANCASTER; PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF INCONSISTENT ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR THE SEVERABILITY OF THE ORDINANCE; AND PROVIDING THAT THE ORDINANCE SHALL TAKE EFFECT AS PROVIDED BY PENNSYLVANIA LAW.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE AND IT IS HEREBY ORDAINED AND ENACTED by the Council of the City of Lancaster, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, as follows:

SECTION 1. The Code of the City of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, Chapter 100 - Bicycles, Section 100-10-Riding or Parking to Obstruct Pedestrians, Subpart B, be and hereby is amended to read as follow:

\\"B. No person shall ride a bicycle on the sidewalk of that part of the district of the City of Lancaster known as the Downtown Investment District as defined in Ordinance No. 11-2000, except for members of the Bureau of Police, including the Chief of Police, while on duty, and except for employees of the Lancaster Downtown Investment District Authority serving as bicycle patrol while on duty, when required for emergency action and/or law enforcement activities.\\"

SECTION 2. All ordinances or resolutions or parts of ordinances or resolutions insofar as they are inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed and rescinded.

SECTION 3. In the event any provision, section, sentence, clause or part of this Ordinance shall be held to be invalid, such invalidity shall not affect or impair any of the remaining provisions, sections, sentences, clauses or parts of this Ordinance; it being the intent of the City of Lancaster that the remainder of the Ordinance shall be and shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 4. This Ordinance shall become effective as provided by the laws of the Commonwealth of



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Pennsylvania.

DULY ORDAINED AND ENACTED this 25th day of November, 2008, by the Council of the City of Lancaster, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, in lawful session duly assembled.

ATTEST: CITY OF LANCASTER

/s/ Janet E. Spleen    /s/ J. Richard Gray

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City Clerk    J. Richard Gray, Mayo

*(end of release)*