

Group Ride Safety Educational Campaign

WHEREAS the purpose of the Bicycle Advisory Council (BAC) is to advise the City of Austin and other jurisdictions on all matters relating to the use of the bicycle, bicycle infrastructure, and individuals of all ages and abilities who utilize bicycles;

WHEREAS the purpose of the Get There ATX team in the Austin Transportation Department (ATD) is to provide up-to-date information to Austinites while directly managing or supporting the programs and policies in Austin's Transportation Demand Management Program and to maintain the www.getthereatx.com website;

WHEREAS the citizens of Austin deserve the right to ride bicycles and use other alternatives to motor vehicles without the risk of serious injury and death;

WHEREAS group rides are a popular activity in Austin's cycling culture with many different groups, each with their own internal social conventions, styles, and priorities to choose from, which normalize the presence of riders using public streets in large numbers;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the BAC request that ATD create an informational social media campaign through their "Get There ATX" team to educate cyclists about how to safely ride with a large group or interact with a group ride as an individual cyclist, including these topics:

- How to safely pass group rides, whether riding in the same or opposite directions.
- How to follow identified ride leaders as a group ride participant or cooperate with them when encountering a group ride.
- How to maintain a safe flow when riding with others of different riding styles, abilities, and comfort levels.
- How to safely interact with motorists as part of a group ride.
- The benefits of group ride participation to new and returning riders, as well as achieving active transportation goals.
- The benefits of group rides as a way of conditioning motorists to respect and safely interact with cyclists and other active road users.

BE IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED the BAC requests that Austin Transportation Department (ATD) include information for motorists related to avoiding crashes or negative interactions with groups of people riding bicycles in the Vision Zero section of the Austin Texas Government website.