

From: [PHILLIP KOLCZYNSKI](#)
To: [JCT Exhibits](#)
Subject: HB2682, legislative action needed to protect cyclists
Date: Monday, March 25, 2019 6:39:38 AM
Importance: High

Dear Elected Representatives:

Oregon Cyclists face serious injury because the Oregon Legislature has not passed clear laws and issued appropriate guidelines with regard to:

1. The designation of Bicycle Lanes with a safe width, clarification of designated bicycle lanes that cross intersections, and guidance to counties and cities to correct purported bicycle lanes that are of inadequate width;
- 2 The failure to clarify laws allowing motorist misunderstanding of WHAT constitutes a bicycle lane compared to Shared Roads AND where cyclists are allowed to ride.

1. Designated bicycle lanes can cross intersections, some with traffic lights, some with stop signs and some without. Our elected representatives have a duty to clarify for cyclists and motorists, who has the right of way? Who has the right of way if cyclist is in a designated bicycling lane approaching an intersection and then proceeds through, after complying with signals, signs and due caution. Cyclists should not be button-hooked by uninformed aggressive motorists who ignore the continuation of designated bicycling lanes through intersections. Drivers seeking an Oregon driving license for a motor vehicle should be tested on the results of legislative action on the issue of the status of bicycle lanes including lanes crossing intersections.

Our legislature should provide guidance to cities and counties to protect cyclists, avoid confusion to motorists, and achieve standardization regarding existing inadequate "Bicycle Lanes."

2. Motorists are often confused as to WHAT constitutes a bicycle lane.

I retired to live in Medford, Oregon and took up road cycling for my health; yet, the common motorist misunderstanding of where I should be riding, creates an unsafe situation. I am constantly berated by drivers of motor vehicles for riding in the right 1/3 of a single lane road where there is no designated bicycle lane and where it is unsafe to ride right next to culverts, outside the fog line, or in the drain pan.

Motorist frequently shout that I should be in "my lane" where there is no bicycle lane, just the narrow shoulder to the right of the fog line if paved, or the drain pans that are often coated with debris and not safe cycling space.

Motor vehicle drivers shout that I should stay out of "their road" (the entire right lane). The Oregon Vehicle Code gives a cyclist the right to use the right 1/3 of a driving lane where it is unsafe to ride at the edge, or outside the fog line or in the drain pan.

Direct DMV to educate motorists who are given a license, so that they understand they are permitted to drive on "shared roads." Specifically, the legislature should do more to clarify the rights of cyclists to ride in the right 1/3 of a lane when it is unsafe to ride further to the right.

Phil

Phillip J. Kolczynski
phillipkol@icloud.com
3737 South Stage Road
Medford, Oregon 97501

— < —
() / ()

541 261 4222