

# Bicycle Access Council News & Digest

[www.BicycleAccess-PA.org](http://www.BicycleAccess-PA.org)

November 2012

Hello Members and Supporters of the Bicycle Access Council.

It's a beautiful day in Pennsylvania!

## **THIS IS A TEST — THIS IS ONLY A TEST...**

**Of the Driver License test.** The latest revision of the Pennsylvania Driver's Manual (Pub 95), does include two sample test questions, a Safety Tips text box and two illustrations to reflect the latest changes to the Vehicle Code that is meant to improve roadway safety for bicyclists since the passage of Act 3 of 2012. The Bicycle Access Council played an active role with PennDOT's Driver Services Bureau to edit and convey the intent of Act 3 in Pub 95.

View the full manual to review and test your own general knowledge: [www.dmv.state.pa.us](http://www.dmv.state.pa.us)

Select Forms & Pubs, ALL Driver License Forms & Pubs, Pennsylvania Driver's Manual

Here's what you'll find (references included):

Chapter 3 - Learning to Drive

Page 42: TRAFFIC FLOW — HANDLE ONLY ONE TRAFFIC CONDITION AT A TIME

(Illustration showing bicyclist being passed with four feet minimum requirement)

Page 55: BICYCLISTS Safety Tips (see laws on page 91)

- When approaching or passing a bicycle, slow down to a safe speed.
- After you have passed a bicyclist, do not slow down or stop quickly. A quick stop could lead to the bicyclist crashing into your vehicle.
- Do not sound your horn close to bicyclists, unless you must do so to avoid a crash.

Chapter 5 - Laws and Important Issues

Page 91: SAFE PASSING IS THE LAW

- 1) Before passing, you must first decide whether you can maneuver around the bicyclist. Be sure to check for oncoming traffic. When passing, you must allow at least four (4) feet between your vehicle and a bicycle in order to pass safely. If necessary and if you can do it safely, you are permitted to cross the center double yellow line so you can maintain the four (4) feet of clearance between your vehicle and the bicycle.
- 2) Unless making a left turn, bicyclists traveling more slowly than passing vehicles must keep to the right side of the roadway and must travel in the same direction as the rest of traffic. However, this requirement is waived on roads with a single lane in each direction.
- 3) When there is only one travel lane, bicyclists may use any portion of the lane to avoid hazards on the roadway, including keeping a safe distance from stopped and parked cars.
- 4) Drivers cannot turn into the path of a bicyclist who is riding straight ahead on a roadway or shoulder.
- 5) You cannot force a bicyclist off the road. If you do this, you may face criminal charges.
- 6) Bicyclists are considered to be vehicle operators and are expected to obey all traffic laws; however, they may travel at less than the posted minimum speed and may not be cited for impeding traffic. Bicyclists may operate on a shoulder or berm, but are not required to do so.

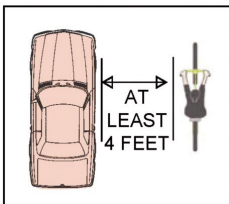
Page 63: Chapter 3 REVIEW QUESTIONS

# 5. WHEN PASSING A BICYCLIST, YOU SHOULD:

- A. Blast your horn to alert the bicyclist
- B. Move as far left as possible
- C. Remain in the center of the lane
- D. Put on your four-way flashers

# 92. WHEN FACED WITH ONE ONCOMING CAR TO THE LEFT AND A BICYCLIST TO THE RIGHT, YOU SHOULD:

- A. Pull onto the shoulder
- B. Split the difference
- C. Let the car pass and then pass the bike
- D. Pass the bike quickly



Pub 95, page 91



credit: LVBC  
Lebanon Valley Bicycle Coalition



R4-11 MUTCD  
Manual on Uniform  
Traffic Control Devices

### PPAC (Pedalcycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee)...

Tentative dates for 2013 are: March 14, May 16, September 12, December 12. Some meeting locations other than Harrisburg are under consideration.

### Dates to Remember

December 11 PPAC, Harrisburg. 1-3 PM. Open to the public. Contact BAC for details.

### Mission Statement...

The Bicycle Access Council is a non-profit advocacy organization that serves as a forum for Pennsylvania bicyclists and as an ombudsman for bicycling issues.

It is the objective of the Bicycle Access Council to make bicycling on roads throughout the Commonwealth safe, respectable and a transportation choice by educating its members and the motoring public.

All funding for the Bicycle Access Council comes from memberships and donations. Annual membership is \$20 per year. BAC does not share membership information.

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