

ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND – TRANSPORTATION
Bicycle Related Definitions and Laws

TITLE 8 HIGHWAYS

Subtitle 1 Definitions; General Provisions

8-101 Definitions

- (a) In general. – In this title the following words have the meanings indicated.
- (b) Administration. – “Administration” means the State Highway Administration.
- (c) Administrator. – “Administrator” means the State Highway Administrator.
- (d) Bicycle and pedestrian priority area. – “Bicycle and pedestrian priority area” means a geographical area where the enhancement of bicycle and pedestrian traffic is a priority.
- (e) Commission. – “Commission” means the State Roads Commission.
- (f) Controlled access highway. – “Controlled access highway” means a major highway with the same characteristics as an expressway, except that the conflict of cross streams of traffic is not eliminated necessarily at each intersection by grade separation structures.
- (g) County road. – “County road” means any public highway:
 - (1) The title to which or the easement for the use of which, is vested in a public body or governmental agency; and
 - (2) That is not a State highway or located in Baltimore City.
- (h) Expressway. – “Expressway” means a major highway of two or more traffic lanes in each direction that is designed to eliminate principal traffic hazards and has the following characteristics:
 - (1) A median divider separating opposing traffic lanes to eliminate head-on collisions and sideswiping;
 - (2) Grade separation structures to eliminate the conflict of cross streams of traffic at each intersection;
 - (3) Points of entrance and exit limited to predetermined locations;
 - (4) Vertical curves enough to provide long sight distances; and
 - (5) Shoulders wide enough to permit vehicles to stop or park out of traffic lanes.
- (i) Highway. – “Highway” includes:
 - (1) Rights-of-way, roadway surfaces, roadway subgrades, shoulders, median dividers, drainage facilities and structures, related stormwater management facilities, and structures, roadway cuts, roadway fills, guardrails, bridges, highway grade separation structures, railroad grade separations, tunnels, overpasses, underpasses, interchanges, entrance plazas, approaches, and other structures forming an integral part of a street, road, or highway, including bicycle and walking paths; and
 - (2) Any other property acquired for the construction, operation or use of the highway.
- (j) Interstate highway. – “Interstate highway” means a State highway that is part of the national interstate system in the State, as designated by the Administration and approved by the United States Secretary of Transportation under Title 23 of the United States Code.
- (k) Maintenance.
 - (1) “Maintenance” means the upkeep and repair by which a highway, building, equipment, and other property is kept in an ordinarily efficient operating condition.
 - (2) “Maintenance” does not include construction, reconstruction, or relocation.

- (l) Primary highway. – “Primary highway” means a State highway that has been designated a primary highway by the Administration with the approval of the Secretary.
- (m) Project. – “Project” means the construction, reconstruction, or relocation of one or more sections or parts of the State highway system.
- (n) Railroad grade separation.
- (1) “Railroad grade separation” means any overpass or underpass that eliminates a railroad grade crossing.
- (2) “Railroad grade separation” includes:
- (i) The overpass and underpass structure and the approaches to them;
- (ii) Any related entrance plazas, interchanges, connecting highways. And other structures; and
- (iii) Any other property acquired for the construction, operation, or use of the railroad grade separation.
- (o) Road. – “Road” means a highway.
- (p) Secondary highway. – “Secondary highway” means a State highway that is neither a primary highway nor interstate highway.
- (q) State highway. – “State highway” means any public highway owned by this State.
- (r) State highway system. – “State highway System” means the system of State-owned primary and secondary highways throughout the State.
- (s) Street. – “Street” means a highway.

TITLE 11 DEFINITIONS; GENERAL PROVISIONS

Subtitle 1 Definitions

11-104 Bicycle

“Bicycle” means a vehicle that:

- (1) Is designed to be operated by human power;
- (2) Has two or three wheels, of which one is more than 14 inches in diameter;
- (3) Has a rear drive; and
- (4) Has a wheel configuration as follows:
- (i) If the vehicle has two wheels, with both wheels inn tandem; or
- (ii) If the vehicle has three wheels, with one front wheel and with two rear wheels that are equidistant from the center of the vehicle.

11-127 Highway

“Highway” means the entire width between the boundary lines of any way or thoroughfare of which any part is used by the public for vehicular travel, whether or not the way or thoroughfare has been designated to the public and accepted by any proper authority.

Shoulder included – The public highway includes not only the paved portion of the highway but also the shoulder.

11-151 Roadway

(a) In general. – “Roadway” means that part of the highway that is improved, designed, or ordinarily used for vehicular travel, other than the shoulder.

(b) Two or more separate roadways. – If a highway includes two or more separate roadways, the term “roadway” is used in the Maryland Vehicle Law refers to any one roadway separately, and not to all roadways collectively.

11-176 Vehicle

(a) In general – (1) “Vehicle” means, except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, any device in, on, or by which any individual or property is or might be transported or towed on a highway.

(b) Exceptions – “Vehicle” does not include an electric personal assistance mobility device as defined in 21-101(j) of this article.

TITLE 13 CERTIFICATES OF TITLE AND REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES

Subtitle 1. Certificate of Title

13-421 Bicycle Registration

Repealed by Acts 1982, effective July 1, 1982

TITLE 21 VEHICLES LAWS – RULES OF THE ROAD

Subtitle 1 Definitions; General Provisions

21-101 Definitions

(a) In general – In this title and Title 25 of this article the following words have the meanings indicated.

(b) Alley – “Alley” means a street that:

(1) Is intended to provide access to the rear or side of a lot or building in an urban district; and

(2) Is not intended for through vehicular traffic.

(c) Bicycle Path – “Bicycle Path” means any travelway designed and designated by signing or signing and marking for bicycle use, located within its own right-of-way or in a shared right-of-way and physically separated from motor vehicle traffic by berm, shoulder, curb or other similar device.

(d) Bicycle Way – (1) “Bicycle Way” means:

(i) Any trail, path, part of a highway, surfaced or smooth shoulder, or sidewalk; or

(ii) Any other travelway specifically signed, marked, or otherwise designated for bicycle travel.

(2) “Bicycle Way” includes:

(i) Bicycle Path; and

(ii) Bike Lane.

(e) Bike Lane – “Bike Lane” means any portion of a roadway or shoulder designated for signal directional bicycle flow.

(f) Business District - “Business District” means an area that adjoins and includes a highway where at least 50 percent of the frontage along the highway, for a distance of at least 300 feet, is occupied by buildings used for business.

(g) Controlled Access Highway – “Controlled access highway” means a highway or roadway to or from which persons, including the owners or occupants of abutting lands,

have no right of access except at the points and in the manner determined by the public authority with jurisdiction over the highway or roadway.

(h) Crossover – “Crossover” means a traverse roadway or opening that connects the separate roadways of a divided highway at a point other than an intersection of the divided highway with another highway.

(i) Crosswalk – “Crosswalk” means that part of a roadway that is:

(1) Within the prolongation or connection of the lateral lines of sidewalks at any place where 2 or more roadways of any type meet or join, measured from the curbs or, in the absence of curbs, from the edges of the roadway; or

(2) Distinctly indicated for pedestrian crossing by lines or other markings.

(j) Electric personal assistive mobility device – “Electric personal assistive mobility device” or EPAMD means a pedestrian device that:

(1) Has two nontandem wheels;

(2) Is self-balancing;

(3) Is powered by an electric propulsion system;

(4) Has a maximum speed capability of 15 miles per hour;

(5) Is designed to transport one person.

(k) Expressway – “Expressway” means a major highway of 2 or more traffic lanes in each direction that is designed to eliminate principle traffic hazards and has the following characteristics:

(1) A median divider separating opposing traffic lanes to eliminate head-on collisions and sideswiping;

(2) Grade separation structures to eliminate the conflict of cross streams of traffic at each intersection;

(3) Points of entrance and exit limited to predetermined locations;

(4) Vertical curves long enough to provide long sight distances; and

(5) Shoulders wide enough to permit vehicles to stop or park out of traffic lanes.

(l) Intersection - Intersection” means:

(i) The area within the prolongation or connection of the lateral curb lines or, in the absence of curbs, the lateral boundary lines of the roadways of two highways that join at or approximately at right angles; or

(ii) The area within which vehicles traveling on different highways joining at any other angle may come in conflict.

(2) If a divided highway includes two roadways that are 30 feet or more apart, every crossing of each roadway of the divided highway by an intersecting highway is a separate intersection. If the intersecting highway also includes two roadways that are 30 feet or more apart, every crossing of two roadways of these highways is a separate intersection.

(m) Play vehicle – “Play vehicle” means a vehicle that:

(1) Has two or three wheels;

(2) Is propelled only by human power; and

(3) Is not a bicycle as defined in Title 11 of this article.

(n) Private road or driveway – “Private road or driveway” means any way or place that:

(1) Is privately owned; and

(2) Is used for vehicular travel by its owner and by those having express or implied permission from the owner, but not by other persons.

(o) Public bicycle area – “Public bicycle area” means any highway, bicycle path, or other facility or area maintained by the State, a political subdivision of this State, or any of their agencies for the use of bicycles.

(p) Railroad – “Railroad” means a carrier of people on cars that are operated on stationary rails.

(q) Railroad sign or signal – “Railroad sign” or “railroad signal” means any sign, signal, or device place by authority of a public body or official or by a railroad to warn of the presence of railroad tracks or the approach of a railroad train.

(r) Railroad train – “Railroad Train” means any locomotive or any other car, rolling stock, equipment, or other device that, alone or couple to others, is operated on stationary rails.

(s) Residential district – “Residential district” means an area that:

(1) Is not a business district; and

(2) Adjoins and includes a highway where the property along the highway for a distance of at least 300 feet, is improved mainly with residences or residences and buildings used for business.

Right-of-way – “Right-of-way” means the right of one vehicle or pedestrian to proceed in a lawful manner on a highway in preference to another vehicle or pedestrian.

(u) Safety zone – “Safety zone” means an area in a roadway that:

(1) Is officially set apart for the exclusive use of pedestrians; and

(2) Is protected or is so marked or indicated by adequate signs as to be plainly visible at all times while set apart as a safety zone.

(v) Shoulder – “Shoulder” means that portion of a highway contiguous with the roadway for the accommodation of stopped vehicles, for emergency use, and for the lateral support of the base and surface courses of the roadway.

(w) Sidewalk – “Sidewalk” means that part of the highway:

(1) That is intended for use by pedestrians; and

(2) That is between;

(i) The lateral curb lines or in the absence of curbs, the lateral boundary line of a roadway; and

(ii) The adjacent property lines.

(x) Through Highway – “Through Highway” means a highway or part of a highway:

(1) On which vehicular traffic is given the right-of-way; and

(2) At the entrances to which vehicular traffic from intersecting highways is required by law to yield the right-of-way to vehicles on the highway or part of the highway, in obedience to either a stop sign or yield sign placed as provided in the Maryland Vehicle Law.

(y) Urban district – “Urban district” means an area that;

(1) Adjoins and includes any street; and

(2) Is built up with structures that are:

(i) Devoted to business, industry or dwelling houses; and

(ii) Situated at intervals of less than 100 feet, for a distance of at least a quarter of a mile.

(z) Wheelchair – “Wheelchair” means a mobility aid belonging to any class on three-or-four wheeled devices that:

(1) Is usable indoors;

(2) Does not exceed 30 inches in width and 48 inches in length, when measured 2 inches above the ground; and

(3) Is designed for and used by a mobility impaired individual, whether operated manually or powered.

Subtitle 3. Driving on Right Side of Roadway; Overtaking and Passing; Use of Roadway.

21-313 Restrictions on Use of Controlled Access Highways

(a) State Highway Administration and local authorities may prohibit certain uses. – The State Highway Administration, by order, or any local authority, by ordinance, may prohibit the use of any controlled access highway in its jurisdiction by parades, low speed vehicles, funeral processions, bicycles, or other nonmotorized traffic or by any person operating a motorcycle.

(b) Sign Required – The State Highway Administration or the local authority adopting any prohibition under this section shall place and maintain signs on the controlled access highway to which the prohibition is applicable. If the signs are so placed, a person may not disobey the restrictions stated on them.

Subtitle 5. Pedestrians' Rights and Rules

21-504 Drivers to exercise due care

(a) In general – Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, the driver of a vehicle shall exercise due care to avoid colliding with any pedestrian.

(b) Duty to warn pedestrians – Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, the driver of a vehicle shall, if necessary, warn any pedestrian by sounding the horn of the vehicle.

(c) Duty to exercise precaution on observing a child or certain other individuals. – Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, the driver of a vehicle shall exercise proper precaution on observing any child or any obviously confused or incapacitated individual.

21-508 Driving through a safety zone

A vehicle may not be driven at any time through a in a safety zone.

21-509 Controlled access highways

(a) Walking along highway – Except as provided in subsection (j) of this section, a pedestrian may not walk along a controlled access highway.

(b) Walking on highway – Except as provided in subsection (j) of this section, a pedestrian may not walk on a controlled access highway.

(c) Walking along ramps – Except as provided in subsection (j) of this section, a pedestrian may not walk along a ramp leading to or from a controlled access highway.

(d) Walking on ramps – Except as provided in subsection (j) of this section, a pedestrian may not walk on a ramp leading to or from a controlled access highway.

(e) Walking along access roads – Except as provided in subsection (j) of this section, a pedestrian may not walk along an access road leading to or from a controlled access highway.

(f) Walking on access roads – Except as provided in subsection (j) of this section, a pedestrian may not walk on an access road leading to or from a controlled access highway.

(g) Leaving vehicle on highway - Except as provided in subsection (j) of this section, a person may not leave any vehicle that is on a controlled access highway.

(h) Leaving vehicles on ramps – Except as provided in subsection (j) of this section, a person may not leave any vehicle that is on a ramp leading to or from a controlled access highway.

(i) Leaving vehicles on access roads – Except as provided in subsection (j) of this section, a person may not leave a vehicle that is on an access road leading to or from a controlled access highway.

(j) Exceptions– This section does not apply to a person if an emergency prevents the movement of a vehicle in which he is riding and the person goes only to the nearest telephone or other source of assistance, nor a person boarding or leaving a bus within a bus stop approved by the State Highway Administration.

(3) A mobility impaired individual crossing a roadway while using any of the following mobility assisted devices:

- (i) A manual or motorized wheelchair;
- (ii) A motorized scooter;
- (iii) Crutches; or
- ((iv) A cane.

(b) Use of white or metal cane by others prohibited. – A person who is not blind or partially blind may not use or carry a white cane, a cane that is white tipped with red or a chrome, nickel, aluminum or other reflective or shining metal cane, in the manner described in subsection (a) (1) of this section.

Subtitle 6 Turning and Starting; Signals on Stopping, Turning, and Starting 21-604 Turning, slowing, and stopping movements; required signals.

(a) Manner of making turn. - A person may not turn a vehicle at an intersection, unless the vehicle is in the position required by sub-section 21-601 of this subtitle.

(b) Entering private roads or driveways. – A person may not turn a vehicle to enter a private road or driveway or otherwise turn a vehicle from a direct course or move it right or left on a roadway or from a shoulder or bikeway onto a roadway, unless the movement can be made with reasonable safety.

(c) Required signals. – A person may not, if any other vehicle might be affected by the movement, turn a vehicle until he gives an appropriate signal in the maner required by this subtitle.

(d) Where signals to be given. – When required, a signal of intention to turn right or left shall be given continuously during at least the last 100 feet traveled by the vehicle before turning; except that a bicyclist my interrupt the turning signal to maintain control of the bicycle.

21-606 Method of giving hand and arm signals

(a) In general – Except as otherwise provided, each required signal given by hand and arm shall be given from the left side of the vehicle in the manner specified in this section.

- (b) Left turn – A left turn signal is given by the hand and arm extended horizontally.
- (c) Right turn – A right turn signal is given by the hand and arm extended upward; except that a bicyclist may extend the right hand and arm horizontally to the right;
- (d) Stop or decrease speed – A stop or decrease speed signal is given by the hand and arm extended downward.

Subtitle 11. Miscellaneous Rules.

21-1103 Driving on sidewalk

(a) Driving prohibited – Except as provided in subsection (b), (c), or (d) of this section, a person may not drive a vehicle on a sidewalk or sidewalk area unless it is a permanent or authorized temporary driveway.

(b) Exceptions - Bicycles, play vehicles, etc. –

(1) For the purposes of this subsection, “bicycle” does not include “moped”, as defined in Section 11-134.1 of this article.

(2) Where permitted by local ordinance, a person may ride a bicycle, play vehicle, or unicycle on a sidewalk or sidewalk area.

(c) Same – Special vehicles of individuals with disabilities person. – Unless prohibited by local ordinance, an individual with a disability may use a special vehicle other than a wheelchair on sidewalks or sidewalk areas.

(d) Use of wheelchair on sidewalks. – An individual may use a wheelchair on sidewalks or sidewalk areas in accordance with subsection 21-501.1 of the title.

Subtitle 12. Operation of Bicycles and Play Vehicles

21-1201 Scope of Subtitle

(a) Authorizing minor or ward to violate provisions. – The parent of any minor or guardian of any ward may not authorize the minor or ward to violate any provision of this subtitle.

(b) Knowingly permitting minor or ward to violate provision. – The parent of any minor or the guardian of any ward may not knowingly permit a minor or ward to violate any provision of this subtitle.

(c) Applicability of subtitle. – With the exceptions stated in this subtitle, the provisions of this subtitle that are applicable to bicycles apply whenever a bicycle, an EPAMD, or motor scooter is operated on any highway or whenever a bicycle or an EPAMD is operated on any path set aside for the exclusive use of bicycles.

21-1202 Traffic laws apply to bicycles and motor scooters

Every person operating a bicycle or a motor scooter in a public bicycle area has all the rights granted to and is subject to all the duties required of the the driver of a vehicle by this title, including the duties set forth in 21-504 of this title except:

- (1) As otherwise provided in this subtitle; and
- (2) For those provisions of this subtitle that by their very nature cannot apply.

21-1203 Riding on bicycles or motor scooters.

(a) Operator to be seated. – The operator of a bicycle or a motor scooter may ride the bicycle or motor scooter only on or astride a permanent and regular seat securely attached to it.

(b) Seat required for passenger. – Bicycle. – A bicycle may not carry any passenger unless it is designed for and equipped with a seat securely attached to it for each passenger.

(c) Same – Motor scooter. – A motor scooter may not carry any passenger unless it is designed for and equipped with a seat securely attached to it and footrests for each passenger.

21-1204 Clinging to vehicles.

(a) Exceptions. – This section does not apply to any log, skid, drag, or farm sled while used in agriculture or forestry practices.

(b) Bicycles and motor scooter. – A person riding on any bicycle or motor scooter may not attach it or himself to any vehicle on a roadway;

(c) Play vehicles – A person riding on any play vehicle may not attach it or himself to any vehicle on a roadway.

(d) Coasters. – A person riding on any coaster may not attach it or himself to any vehicle on a roadway.

(e) Skateboards. – A person riding on any skateboard may not attach it or himself to any vehicle on a roadway.

(f) Roller skates. – A person on any roller skates may not attach them or himself to any vehicle on a roadway.

(g) Sleds. – A person riding a sled may not attach it or himself to any vehicle on a roadway.

(h) Toy vehicles. – A person on a toy vehicle may not attach it or himself to any vehicle on a roadway.

21-1205 Riding on roadways or on highway.

(a) Riding to right side of roadway. – Each person operating a bicycle or a motor scooter at a speed less than the speed traffic at the time and place and under the conditions then existing on a roadway shall ride as near to the right side of the roadway as practicable and safe, except when:

- (1) Making or attempting to make a left turn;
- (2) Operating on a one-way street;
- (3) Passing a stopped or slower moving vehicle;
- (4) Avoiding pedestrians or road hazards;
- (5) The right lane is a right turn lane; or

(6) Operating in a lane that is too narrow for a bicycle or motor scooter and another vehicle to travel safely side by side within the lane.

(b) Riding two abreast. – Each person operating a bicycle or motor scooter on a roadway may ride two abreast only if the flow of traffic is unimpeded.

(c) Passing. – Each person operating a bicycle or motor scooter on a roadway shall exercise due care when passing a vehicle.

(d) Walking bicycles on right side of highway. – Each person operating a bicycle or motor scooter on a roadway may walk the bicycle or motor scooter on the right side of a highway if there is no sidewalk.

21-1205.1 Bicycles, motor scooters, and EPAMD's prohibited on certain roadways and highways; speed limit.

(a) In general - Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, a person may not ride a bicycle or motor scooter;

(1) On any roadway where the posted maximum speed limit is more than 50 miles per hour [*Cyclists may operate on the shoulder of a roadway where the posted speed limit exceeds 50 mph unless otherwise prohibited.*]; or

(2) On any expressway, except on an adjacent bicycle path or way approved by the State Highway Administration, or on any other controlled access highway signed in accordance with 21-313 of this title.

(b) Roadway with bike lane or shoulder paved to a smooth surface. –

(1) Where there is a bike lane paved to a smooth surface or a shoulder paved to a smooth surface [*COMAR October 29, 1979 defines smooth surface as a surface that has a texture equal to or better than the adjacent roadway and if the surface contains undulations which are no longer than the adjacent roadway.*], a person operating a bicycle or a motor scooter shall use the bike lane or shoulder and may not ride on the roadway, except in the following situations:

(i) When overtaking and passing another bicycle, motor scooter, pedestrian, or other vehicle within the bike lane or shoulder;

(ii) When preparing for a left turn at an intersection or into an alley, private road, or driveway;

(iii) When reasonably necessary to leave the bike lane or shoulder to avoid debris or other hazardous condition; or

(iv) When reasonably necessary to leave the bike lane or shoulder because the bike lane or shoulder is overlaid with a right turn lane, merge lane, or other marking that breaks the continuity of the bike lane or shoulder.

(2) A person operating a bicycle or a motor scooter may not leave a bike lane or shoulder until the movement can be made with reasonable safety and the only after giving an appropriate signal.

(3) The Department shall promulgate rules and regulations pertaining to this subsection which will include, but not limited to, a definition of “smooth surface.”

(c) Motor scooter speed limit – A motor scooter may not be operated at a speed in excess of 30 miles per hour.

(d) Restrictions on operating EPAMDs. – Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, a person may not operate an EPAMD on any roadway where there are sidewalks adjacent to the roadway or the posted maximum speed limit is more than 30 miles per hour.

(e) EPAMD speed limit – An EPAMD may not be operated at a speed in excess of 15 miles per hour.

21-1206 Carrying articles; tampering with bicycle, motor scooter or EPAMDs.

(a) Transporting articles – A person may not operate a bicycle, an APAMD, or a motor scooter while carrying any package, bundle, or other article that prevents the person from keeping both hands on the handlebars.

(b) Interfering with view or balance of operator. – A person may not carry on a bicycle, an EPAMD, or motor scooter any package, bundle, or other article that interferes with the view or balance of the operator.

(c) Tampering with bicycle, motor scooter, or EPAMD. – A person may not remove, ride on, or tamper with any part of a bicycle, an EPAMD, or a motor scooter without permission of its owner.

21-1207 Lamps and other equipment on bicycles and motor scooters.

(a) Lamp and reflector. –

(1) If a bicycle or motor scooter is used on a highway at any time when, due to insufficient light or unfavorable atmospheric conditions, persons and vehicles on the highway are not clearly discernible at a distance of 1,000 feet, the bicycle or motor scooter shall be equipped:

(i) On the front, with a lamp that emits a white light visible from a distance of at least 500 feet to the front; and

(ii) On the rear, with a red reflector of a type approved by the Administration and visible from all distances from 600 feet to 100 feet to the area when directly in front of lawful upper beams of head lamps on a motor vehicle.

(2) A bicycle or bicyclists may be equipped with a lamp that emits a red light or a flashing amber light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear in addition to the red reflector required by paragraph (1) of this subsection.

(b) Bell – A person may not operate a bicycle or a motor scooter unless it is equipped with a bell or other device capable of giving a signal audible for a distance of at least 100 feet

(c) Sirens or whistles. – However, a bicycle or motor scooter may not be equipped with nor may any person use on a bicycle any siren or whistle.

(d) Brake. – Every bicycle and motor scooter shall be equipped with a brake that enables its operator to make the braked wheels skid on dry, level, clean pavement.

21-1207.1 Helmets required.

(a) In general.

(1) The provisions of this section apply:

(i) At all times while a bicycle is being operated on any highway, bicycle way, or other property open to the public or used by the public for pedestrian or vehicular traffic; and

(ii) To a person under the age of 16 who is riding a bicycle, including a person under the age of 16 who is a passenger on a bicycle; or

1. In a restraining seat attached to the bicycle; or

2. In a trailer being towed by the bicycle.

(2) The provisions of this section do not apply to passengers in commercial bicycle rickshaws.

(b) Inapplicable on Ocean City boardwalk – This section does not apply in the town of Ocean City, Maryland, on the boardwalk between the Ocean City inlet and 27 th Street, during the hours in which bicycles are permitted by local ordinance to be operated on the boardwalk.

(c) Helmets. – A person to whom this section applies may not operate or ride as a passenger on a bicycle unless the person is wearing a helmet that meets or exceeds the standards of the American National Institute, the Snell Memorial Foundation’s standard, or the standards of the American Society of Testing and Measurements for protective headgear for use in bicycling.

(d) Enforcement. – This section shall be enforced by the issuance of a warning that informs the offender of the requirements of this section and provides educational materials about bicycle helmet use.

21-1207.2 Protective helmets.

(a) Required; standards – An individual under the age of 16 years may not ride a scooter or in-line skates on any highway, bicycle way, sidewalk, or other property open to the public or used by the public for pedestrian or vehicular traffic, unless the individual is wearing a helmet that meets or exceeds the standards of the American National Standards Institute, the Snell Memorial Foundation, or the American Society of Testing and Measurements for protective headgear for use in bicycling or in-line skating.

(b) Enforcement – This section shall be enforced by issuance of a warning that informs the offender of the requirements of this section and provides educational materials about helmet use.

21-1208 Securing bicycle, motor scooter or EPAMD to certain objects.

(a) Prohibition – A person may not secure a bicycle, an APAMD, or a motor scooter to a fire hydrant, police or fire call box, or traffic control device.

(b) Poles, etc. within bus or taxi zones. – A person may not secure a bicycle, an EPAMD, or motor scooter to a pole, meter, or device located within a bus or taxi loading zone.

(c) Poles, etc. within 25 feet of intersection – A person may not secure a bicycle, an EPAMD or a motor scooter to a pole, meter, or device located within 25 feet of an intersection.

(d) Poles, etc. having forbidding securing of bicycles. – A person may not secure a bicycle, an EPAMD, or motor scooter to a pole, meter or device on which notice has been posted by the appropriate authorities forbidding the securing of bicycles.

(e) Obstructing or impeding traffic or pedestrian movement. – A person may not secure a bicycle, an EPAMD, or motor scooter to any place where the securing of a bicycle or motor scooter would obstruct or impede vehicular traffic or pedestrian movement.

(f) Securing to parking meter. – A bicycle, an EPAMD or a motor scooter may be secured to a parking meter, without payment of the usual fees, if it is entirely removed from the bed of the street normally used for vehicular parking.

21-1209 Throwing object at bicycle, motor scooter or EPAMD.

(a) Drivers to exercise due care. – Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, the driver of a vehicle shall exercise due care to avoid colliding with any bicycle, an EPAMD, or motor scooter being ridden by a person.

(b) Throwing objects. – A person may not throw any object at or in the direction of any person riding a bicycle, an EPAMD, or motor scooter.

(c) Opening doors with intent to strike, injure, etc. – A person may not open the door of any motor vehicle with intent to strike, injure, or interfere with any person riding a bicycle, an EPAMD, or motor scooter.

21-1210 Wearing earplugs, headsets, etc., prohibited.

(a) Wearing headset coverings. – A person may not operate a bicycle, an EPAMD, or a motor scooter on any highway, or on any roadway, while the person is wearing any headset covering both ears.

(b) Earplugs – A person may not operate a bicycle, an EPAMD, or motor scooter on any highway, or on any roadway, while the person is wearing any earplugs in both ears.

(c) Exceptions – The provisions of this section do not apply to:

(1) Any person wearing personal protectors in the form of custom earplugs or molds that are designed to attenuate injurious noise levels, if the custom plugs or molds are designed in such a manner as to not inhibit the wearer's ability to hear a siren or horn from an emergency vehicle or a horn from another vehicle;

(2) Any person wearing a prosthetic device used to aid the hard of hearing; or

(3) Any person operating a bicycle on a public bicycle pathway expressly authorized for the use of persons operating bicycles.

21-1211 Bicycle racing events

(a) Approval – When the State Highway Administration or local authority approves a bicycle racing event on a highway or a highway bridge under its respective jurisdiction, bicycle racing shall be lawful.

(b) Conditions for approval – The State Highway Administration or a local authority may approve a bicycle racing event only under conditions that:

(1) Provide reasonable safety for race participants, spectators, and other highway or highway bridges users; and

(2) Prevent unreasonable interference with traffic flow that would seriously inconvenience other highway or highway bridge user.

(c) Exception from provisions of vehicle law – If traffic control adequately assures the safety of participants, spectators, and other highway or highway bridges users, the State Highway Administration or a local authority may except participants in an approved bicycle racing event from compliance with other provisions of the Maryland Vehicle Law that otherwise would be applicable to the other participants in the bicycle racing event.

21-1212 Copies of summaries of laws and regulations

The Administration shall publish copies or summaries of the regulations and laws of this State that regulate the operation of bicycles and make them available, on request and without cost to every dealer engaged in the retail sale of bicycles in this State. These dealers shall provide a copy to each person who buys a bicycle.

Subtitle 14. Operation of Vehicles on Certain Toll Facilities

21-1401 Definitions

(a) In general. – In this subsection the following words have the meanings indicated.

(b) Approach – “Approach” means any roadway, overhead structure, ramp, bridge, causeway, entrance, and exit provided as a means of access to or departure from a vehicular crossing.

(c) Bridge – “Bridge” means any bridge within the jurisdiction of the Maryland Transportation Authority.

(d) Tunnel – “Tunnel” means:

(1) The Baltimore Harbor Tunnel; and

(2) Any other tunnel within the jurisdiction of the Maryland Transportation Authority.

(e) Vehicular crossing – “Vehicular crossing” means:

(1) Each tunnel and bridge within the jurisdiction of the Maryland Transportation Authority; and

(2) Each approach to these tunnels or bridges.

21-1405 Pedestrians and bicycles prohibited.

(a) Pedestrians – Pedestrians may not use any vehicular crossing [as defined under subsection 21-1401].

(b) Bicycles – Bicycles may not use any vehicular crossing [as defined under subsection 21-1401].