



PRESS RELEASE

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NEW YEAR BRINGS NEW RULES OF THE ROAD FOR CYCLISTS, MOTORISTS IN MARION COUNTY

INDIANAPOLIS – Three new bicycle ordinances are in place at the start of 2010 that reinforce the city's commitment to establishing and continuing a safe bicycle program for the City of Indianapolis.

The new ordinances provide safety measures for both bicyclists and motorists and give the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department the authority to ensure the proper use of bicycle lanes and paths.

"These ordinances are designed to protect both bicyclists and motorists," said City of Indianapolis Office of Sustainability Director, Kären Haley. "Mayor Ballard has shown a great commitment to making our city one of the most sustainable cities in the Midwest. These bicycle ordinances are just one example of how he is making his vision of a connected and bicycle friendly community a reality."

The ordinances emphasize that bike lanes are to be exclusively used for bicycles and cyclists have the right of way in those lanes. The ordinances also prohibit driving, standing or parking in a bike lane or bike path and establish a minimum passing distance of three feet for vehicles passing a cyclist. Additionally, the ordinances address unattended bicycles and bicycles not in operation and bicycles operated on sidewalks.

These are the first ordinances passed by the City of Indianapolis and are in line with the League of American Bicyclists Bicycle Friendly city program. City ordinances, state bicycle laws and additional details about the city's bike lane plan are available online at: www.sustainindy.org/bikeways.

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Indianapolis was designated a "Bicycle Friendly City" by the League of American Bicyclists (LAB) in October 2009.

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