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Biking through Different Environments

In addition to being great exercise and fun, riding a bike is a key mobility option that provides access to popular destinations throughout Southeast Michigan. To demonstrate how to safely navigate a range of environments, we took a ride and made a video diary in the City of Novi.

On the route, there were parking lots, dirt roads, sidewalks, shared-use trails, bike lanes, neighborhoods, and larger road crossings. Each setting brings different risks and expectations, and safe riding depends on understanding the local context and adjusting your behavior accordingly.

While this video is from a bicycling perspective, it can also help motorists better understand bicyclists and keep everyone safe. Motorists can learn about the bicycling experience and why people on bicycles may behave differently from how a driver may expect. This understanding can help drivers better predict bicyclist behavior and help *everyone* avoid conflicts.

We chose the City of Novi because it offers many different riding environments in a small area, making it easy to show how cyclists adjust their behavior based on context. As such, we hope you will share this video with your community.



We encourage other communities to consider this format to highlight their own biking infrastructure and local challenges. By showing familiar streets, paths, and intersections, communities can make safety guidance more relevant and easier to understand. Whether the goal is to showcase new facilities or reinforce safe riding habits, this video format provides a clear and flexible way to promote predictable, visible, and safe cycling.

Read more



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