Sharing the Roadways
Motorist and Vulnerable Road Users

Who are Vulnerable Road Users:

- Bicyclist
- Pedestrians
- Stranded motorists
- Construction workers
- Tow truck operators
- Utility workers
- Horseback riders
- Carriages
- Scooters
Auto Cyclist Crash Statistics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>24</td>
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<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>40</td>
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<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>43</td>
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<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>43</td>
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<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>52</td>
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<td>July</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>43</td>
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<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>38</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>44</td>
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<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>46</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>29</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>37</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>493</td>
<td>471</td>
<td>53</td>
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Education Efforts

- **Motorist Education**
  - Creation of a Public Service Announcement
  - Creation of a “Share the Roadway” information card
  - Community Meetings

- **Cyclist Education**
  - Cyclist Information Cards
  - Addressing Critical Mass at start September 2013

- **Officer Education**
  - Re-issue circular regarding ordinance and enforcement options
  - Creation of training video explaining ordinance and demonstrating violations
Motorist Education
Cards provided to divisions for distribution at monthly PIP meetings

Let's Share the Roadway

While much of our transportation infrastructure is dedicated to the needs of vehicles, it is critical that we ensure the safety of all road users. According to National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 6% of all road fatalities are caused by driver errors. This is why it is essential to be aware of and practice safe driving habits. Here are some tips:

- Always turn or change lanes using a turn signal.
- Be aware of cyclists on the road.
- Maintain a safe distance from other vehicles.
- Yield to pedestrians and crosswalks.
- Be patient and expect the unexpected.

Houston Traffic Code Section 4-42 Vulnerable Road Users

- Vulnerable road users include bicyclists, pedestrians, animals, and snowmobiles. They are considered to be at higher risk of injury in traffic accidents.
- The operator of a vehicle must maintain a safe distance from vulnerable road users. This distance should be at least two times the length of the vehicle or the speed of the vehicle.
- Bicyclists must wear helmets and reflective vests. They must follow traffic signals and signs.
- Pedestrians must use crosswalks and be visible to drivers.
- Animals must be under the control of their owner at all times. Drivers must exercise caution when approaching animals.

Cyclist Education
Cards distributed by HPD officers at September Critical Mass Ride and posted online

BikeSafe. BikeSmart. www.BikeHouston.org

- Always turn or change lanes using a turn signal.
- Be aware of cyclists on the road.
- Maintain a safe distance from other vehicles.
- Yield to pedestrians and crosswalks.
- Be patient and expect the unexpected.

State of Texas Bicycle Laws

- The operator of a vehicle must yield to bicyclists on the roadway. This includes giving bicyclists the right of way at intersections and when overtaking them.
- Bicyclists must follow traffic signals and signs.
- Animals must be under the control of their owner at all times. Drivers must exercise caution when approaching animals.

Help Support Cycling in Houston

BikeSafe. BikeSmart. www.BikeHouston.org
Enforcement Efforts

- **Motorist and Cyclist Enforcement**
  - Pro-active safe passage initiative – 81 man hours worked over 7 separate dates resulting in 3 citations and 1 warning
  - Critical Mass ride October 2013 and February 2014

- **Pedestrian Enforcement**
  - CBD Intersection initiative
  - Citywide initiative

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**CRITICAL MASS HOUSTON**

- Founded in early 1990’s in San Francisco
- Bike ride is held last Friday of every month
- 300 cities worldwide hold monthly rides

- Agenda – Draw attention to how unfriendly motorist treat cyclist on roadway
Houston Police Goals / Objectives

- Initiative started in response to multiple complaints from citizens regarding the groups tactics
- Goal is to improve mobility while increasing safety of cyclist and pedestrian traffic
- Improved mobility will lessen negative impact on motorist and improve safety of cyclist

The Cost of Critical Mass

<table>
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<th>Month</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Questions</th>
<th>Enforcement</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>193.00</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>193.00</td>
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<td>4,254.00</td>
<td>8,569.00</td>
<td>1,300.00</td>
<td>14,123.00</td>
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<td>4,014.00</td>
<td>650.00</td>
<td>4,664.00</td>
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<td>2,859.00</td>
<td>2,488.00</td>
<td>650.00</td>
<td>6,397.00</td>
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<td>2,488.00</td>
<td>650.00</td>
<td>5,605.00</td>
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<td>7,137.00</td>
<td>8,633.50</td>
<td>650.00</td>
<td>16,480.50</td>
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<td>Total to Date</td>
<td>36,720.00</td>
<td>26,592.50</td>
<td>3,140.00</td>
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*October 2013 was staffed for basic enforcement while February 2014 was staffed for expanded enforcement. All other months were staffed for ensuring mobility and cyclist safety only without an enforcement component.

Questions?