



October 7, 2020
Administration & Regulatory Affairs Department

DEDICATED BICYCLE LANE PARKING: FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: What is a dedicated bicycle lane?

A: This is a portion of the roadway that is separated from motor vehicle traffic with striping or other physical barriers. The separated portion of the roadway is for the exclusive use of bicyclists.

Q: Can I park my car on the bicycle lane for just a few minutes to drop off a package?

A: No. The lane is for the exclusive use of bicyclists. For some dedicated bicycle lanes, there is parking available next to the bicycle lane. In some situations, the vehicle will need to park on another street or in private parking.

Q: Will a “No Parking” or “Bicycle Only” sign be posted?

A: No. The bicycle lane is separated from the vehicle traffic lanes by striping or a physical barrier. See attached flyer. You may also visit www.houstonparking.org for more information.

Q: When does this ordinance go into effect?

A: While the ordinance will go into effect immediately, ParkHouston will issue warnings for a 90-day period. After 90 days, vehicles parked in dedicated bicycle lane will be subject to citation.

Q: What is the fine for this citation?

A: \$100 is the base fine. After 30 days, if the citation is not resolved, a delinquent fine of \$50 is assessed. If the citation remains unresolved after 90 days, it is assessed a 30% fee and transferred to the collections agency. Total due after 90 days can be up to \$195.

Q: I didn't realize I parked in the bicycle lane. What are my options?

A: All parking violation citations may be appealed to an administrative hearing officer. For bicycle lane violation citations, the violator can request to take the bicycle safety course in lieu of paying the \$100 fine. This request must be made within 30 days of the issuance of the citation, and the course must be completed within 90 days. You may request an online hearing by [visiting us online](#) or you may visit 1400 Lubbock in person for a hearing. Hearings are held on a first-come, first-served basis, Mon-Fri, 8 am to 10 pm and Saturday, 9 am to 5 pm.

Q: I can't afford to pay the fine. What are my options?

A: If this is a first-time violation, you may see a hearing officer and request the Bicycle Safety Course option in lieu of paying the fine. The Hearing Officer will provide you with the information for the online course. Proof of completion must be submitted to the ParkHouston office within 90 days of visiting the hearing officer. Proof can be emailed to parking@houstontx.gov or mailed to ParkHouston, 2020 McKinney, Houston, TX. 77003.



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Q: Can I be arrested for failing to resolve my citation?

A: No. Parking citations are civil fines and warrants are not issued for failure to resolve the citation. However, if a vehicle accumulates three or more delinquent parking citations or one accessible parking violation, the vehicle becomes boot-eligible and may be immobilized. Once immobilized, the vehicle owner must resolve all delinquent citations and the boot fees.

Q: Are commercial vehicles, like delivery companies, exempt from this ordinance?

A: No vehicle is exempt from any parking regulation. City vehicles, delivery vehicles, emergency vehicles (except for those responding to an active emergency) must abide by all City and State parking regulations or be subject to citation.

Q: Where can I find a map of dedicated bicycle lanes?

A: Map is available online at www.houstonbikeplan.org.

URLs

Request bicycle safety course

<https://www.houstontx.gov/parking/contestcitation.html>

Contest or pay citation online

<https://www.houstontx.gov/parking/contestcitation.html>

Map of all bicycle lanes

www.houstonbikeplan.org