

**City of Austin Bicycle Advisory Council Recommendation**  
**Recommendation 20230620-004**  
**Group Ride Safety Educational Campaign**

WHEREAS the purpose of the Bicycle Advisory Council (BAC) is to advise the City of Austin and other jurisdictions on all matters relating to the use of the bicycle, bicycle infrastructure, and individuals of all ages and abilities who utilize bicycles;

WHEREAS the purpose of the Get There ATX team in the Austin Transportation Department (ATD) is to provide up-to-date information to Austinites while directly managing or supporting the programs and policies in Austin's Transportation Demand Management Program and to maintain the [www.getthereatx.com](http://www.getthereatx.com) website;

WHEREAS the citizens of Austin deserve the right to ride bicycles and use other alternatives to motor vehicles without the risk of serious injury and death;

WHEREAS casual, non-sporting group rides are a popular activity in Austin's cycling culture with many different groups, each with their own internal social conventions, styles, and priorities to choose from, which normalize the presence of riders using public streets in large numbers;

WHEREAS the City of Austin's stated goal of increasing the share of cycling as a mode of transportation is facilitated by expanding awareness of casual group cycling as a safe way to learn and build confidence;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the BAC request that ATD create an informational social media campaign through their "Get There ATX" team to educate cyclists about how to safely ride with a large casual group or interact with a casual group ride as an individual cyclist, including these topics:

- How to safely pass group rides, whether riding in the same or opposite directions.
- How to follow identified ride leaders as a group ride participant or cooperate with them when encountering a group ride.
- How to maintain a safe flow when riding with others of different riding styles, abilities, and comfort levels.
- How to safely interact with motorists as part of a group ride.
- The benefits of group ride participation to new and returning riders, as well as achieving active transportation goals.

- The benefits of group rides as a way of conditioning motorists to respect and safely interact with cyclists and other active road users.

Date of Approval: 20 June 2023

Vote: 7-0

Attest: Les Case, Chair, Bicycle Advisory Council

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Les Case', written in a cursive style.