



CCC students ride their bikes to school and keep them locked on designated bike racks. Although there is not a lot of bike theft on campus, it is still a smart idea to lock it onto the bike rail.

Liz Gomes

CYCLING: Campus gets a push to share the road

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A major problem for the cycling community is the cars around them. Sharing the road is a skill that's taught to everyone when they start driving, and it still applies to the college campus too.

Suzu Isham, CCC's director of campus safety, warns that people

need to be aware of those around them or it could cause some serious damage. "People need to slow down, they do need to be more conscious of the environment around them in order to keep everybody safe," Isham says. "Anybody who is coming onto campus I would highly urge just to slow down and to be aware of your environment,

and knowledgeable to the fact that we have a large population of students who will be on foot or on bike or on skateboard."

Recently, the campus will undergo an extensive survey to further understand the transportation needs of all CCC students, not just those with 4 wheels. According to Phillip King, the

Dean of Academic Foundations and Connections, this survey will explore all transportation options for the campus. Everything from our relationship with Trimet to how the cycling community can be further assisted.

Until then, CCC is outfitted with bike racks for people to store their bikes between classes, and

it also has very low bike theft incidences, according to Isham. "Honestly we're very fortunate, and we don't have a lot of bike theft around here," she says. In fact for 2013, only three bike thefts were reported to campus safety. Still, Isham warns that it's better to be prepared for those sort of things: "People just need to be smart."

MYERS: Saving the Earth and money one pedal at a time

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Myers: Yeah, in Oregon City more so than other places. It's usually young people like high schoolers. I also train on the country roads out here and it seems to be folks that drive big diesel trucks are particularly adverse to cyclist. A close second would be distracted moms that text while driving their children in their mini vans. The third would be self-absorbed career professionals in their Toyota Priuses that are busier texting and talking on the phone while putting on their makeup, smoking, eating a burrito all at the same time.

TCP: When was the last time you were in an accident and what happened?

Myers: A long time ago, probably 20 years ago. I've been hit twice, once in a parking lot which was kind of my fault and once at an interception. It was a four way stop and it was a hit and run which was not my fault. The guy didn't see me I guess or was trying to hit me, I have no idea... It was kind of dark so I didn't get a plate or anything; they took off so fast I couldn't get a description. The time in the parking lot I shouldn't have been where I was. Parking lots are the most dangerous place on earth. People don't look and they can't see you, so that was kind of my fault.

TCP: What are your suggestions

for drivers on campus?

Myers: Obey the speed limit. Put your phone away, you're about to park anyway then you can use your stupid phone. Seriously, that I do not understand.

TCP: Do you think Clackamas is a safe place for bicyclist?

Myers: Well, there's no bike lane on the loop road but the speed limits are fairly low. I think it's safe, there's a path to come in and out. There's worse that's for sure.

TCP: Is there anything you would like to add?

Myers: I wish more folks would ride their bikes. For every bike it means one less car on the road. For those who are currently riding I think it's really important for them to obey the traffic laws because a lot of the incidents that I have are a result of other cyclist that don't obey the laws that frustrate drivers, therefore they takes their frustration out on the rest of us. I always really stress myself to follow the rules of the road because we really are just like cars. It's a great alternative from driving a car especially when gas is nearly four dollars a gallon. It's better for the environment, it's just better all the way around. Especially when you're paying a car payment, you can buy a really nice bike in a couple of months.



Myers rides his bike through campus, supporting his belief that more people should be riding bikes. He believes riding a bike is a great alternative to driving a car as long as you obey the traffic laws.

Patty Salazar