

Massachusetts Vulnerable Road Users Laws



What is a Vulnerable Road User?

Massachusetts now defines “vulnerable user” on our roads to include: people walking and biking; roadside workers; people using wheelchairs; scooters, skateboards, roller skates, and other micromobility devices; horse riders and horse drawn carriages; farm equipment

Safe Passing

- Motorists must now give a "safe passing distance" of **4 feet** when passing Vulnerable Road Users

Bicyclist Light Requirement

- When riding at night, bicyclists must use a white front light, a rear red light, and a rear red reflector
- Police officers cannot use a light violation as a reason to stop a bicyclist

Truck Safety Devices

- State-contracted trucks are required to be equipped with safety side guards, mirrors, and backup cameras to reduce fatalities of people walking and biking

Safer Speed Limits

- The process for municipalities to lower speed limits on state-controlled roads has been clarified to allow for local decision making

Crash Reporting

- To improve statewide data collection surrounding vulnerable road user crashes, a publicly available standardized analysis tool will be used to report crashes and incidents involving a vulnerable user and a motor vehicle

These changes to MA laws will save lives on our roads!



www.massbike.org/laws