

# SAFE ROUTES 2 SCHOOL UPDATE

April 2018



## Bike Lane Safety!

When riding a bike it is important to be able to recognize the different types of bike lanes and understand what they mean. We at Cupertino Safe Routes 2 School want all members of our Cupertino community to be able to bike safely throughout the city. This article will help you identify the various types of bike lanes and how to safely negotiate them while you ride. For more helpful bike safety tips please visit our Cupertino Safe Routes 2 School website or email us at [saferoutes@cupertino.org](mailto:saferoutes@cupertino.org).

This first type of bike lane marking is called a sharrow and indicates to drivers and cyclists that they are on a Class III Bike Route. A sharrow is a combination of the words, “share” and “arrow”. Sharrows are intended to serve as visual reminders that the road is meant to be shared by bikes and cars. Sharrows don’t provide separated space on the street for people who are biking, which means that cars should expect a cyclist to take full control of the lane at any time if they feel it is safest. Sharrows indicate a general area on the road where it should be safe for people to bike.

This type of bike lane is known as a Class II or Striped Bike Lane. Striped bike lanes aim to provide a clearer sense of where cyclists should be on the road by creating a defined lane for bikes. Usually, these lanes are striped with white paint and are located on the far right side of the road. **Drivers are not allowed to drive, stop, or park in any kind of bike lane.**



Sharrow  
Marking



Class II  
Bike Lane

# Bike Lane Safety Cont.

Like striped bike lanes, buffered bike lanes (like the one pictured below) create a specific lane for cyclists. However, buffered bike lanes have the added benefit of putting extra space between cyclists and passing cars. This buffer is usually a safeguard area of a couple of feet. Drivers must stay on the left side of the buffer while driving and can only cross the buffered bike lane when making a turn or entering a property.



Next, we have protected (Class IV) bike lanes. While protected bike lanes cost more than other bike lanes and markings, they clearly define space on the road for cyclists and prevent cars from encroaching into that

Physical barriers such as plastic bollards or planters offer the greatest amount of protection for the people who ride in bike lanes (protected bike lane pictured below).



Green colored bike lanes are becoming more and more prominent along bicycle corridors. The reason for this is because colored pavement within a bicycle lane increases the visibility of the bike lane, clearly defines potential areas of conflict, and reinforces priority to bicyclists in those conflict areas. Color can be applied along the entire length of the bike lane in order to increase the overall visibility of the lane. It also may appear as striped. Green lanes, like this below, are located in multiple Cupertino locations.



## 2018 Pedal 4 the Planet Family Bike Rides!

Join us April 21st for Cupertino's Annual Earth & Arbor Day Festival and P4PR Family Bike Rides! The festival is an interactive community event that invites community members of all ages to learn about environmental challenges and solutions. The Earth & Arbor Day Festival features hands-on activities, live entertainment, and delicious food served by local food trucks... not to mention free bike valet parking and a bicycle-powered music performance! Bring your bikes and helmets to join our family bike rides starting at 9 AM from Cup. City Hall!



## Bike Education Classes!

- April 3rd: FREE Adult Bike Education Class @ Quinlan Community Center from 8:30 AM to 12:30 PM.
- April 5th: FREE Adult Bike Education Class @ VTA River Oaks Office from 8:30 AM to 1:30 PM.
- April 29th: FREE Adult Bike Education Class @ Los Altos Library from 1 to 5 PM.

- Sign up at <http://www.vta.org/projects-and-programs/planning/bike-program/smart-cycling-trainings>

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- 1) **Wednesday, April 11:** SR2S Working Group Meeting from 4-5pm
- 2) **Saturday, April 21:** Pedal For The Planet (FREE) Family Bike Rides, 9am-11am
- 3) **Saturday, April 21:** Earth Day Festival, 11am-3pm

## ABOUT SR<sup>2</sup>S

Cupertino Safe Routes 2 School is a partnership program between the City of Cupertino, Cupertino Schools, Fremont Union High School District, Cupertino Union School District, and the Santa Clara County Sheriff's office. We aim to reduce traffic and pollution and increase safety by bringing people together to craft solutions to the impending traffic concerns facing our community.

## CONTACT US

For more information or ways to get involved, visit: [cupertino.org/saferoutes](http://cupertino.org/saferoutes) or email [saferoutes@cupertino.org](mailto:saferoutes@cupertino.org)

