



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Prepared by: Jennifer Carey, Public Information Officer**

### **May is Bicycle Safety Month: Share the Road and Look Out for One Another**

Huntington Beach, Calif. — May is National Bicycle Safety Month, and the Huntington Beach Police Department reminds drivers to follow the speed limit and look out for people on bike rides.

"The days are longer, and the weather is pleasant, making for ideal conditions to go on a bike ride," Sergeant Mike Thomas said. "Drivers, please share the road so we may all get places safely."

To help keep people biking or walking safe, the Huntington Beach Police Department will conduct traffic safety operations focused on the most dangerous driver behaviors such as speeding, making illegal turns, failure to yield to bicyclists or pedestrians, and stop sign/red light running.

The Huntington Beach Police Department suggests the following safety tips for bicyclists and drivers:

#### **Drivers**

- Slow down and follow the speed limit. Be careful traveling through intersections.
- Look carefully for bicyclists and pedestrians before making a turn or opening a car door near streets or bike paths.
- Be patient when traveling behind a bicyclist. Maintain at minimum three feet of space when passing or overtaking a bicyclist.
- Never drive distracted or impaired.

#### **Bike Riders**

- Use lights at night (at minimum, a front white light and rear red reflector).
- Although not required for riders 18 and older, always wear a properly secured helmet. Helmets significantly reduce the chance of a head injury in the event of a crash.
- Bicyclists must travel in the same direction of traffic and have the same requirements as any slow-moving vehicle.
- Yield to pedestrians, just as a driver would. Pedestrians have the right-of-way within marked crosswalks or within unmarked crosswalks at intersections.

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