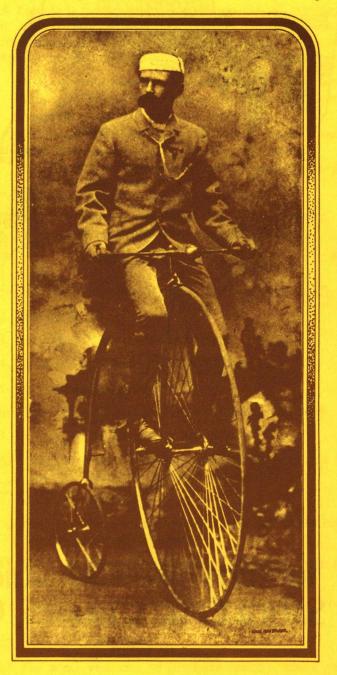
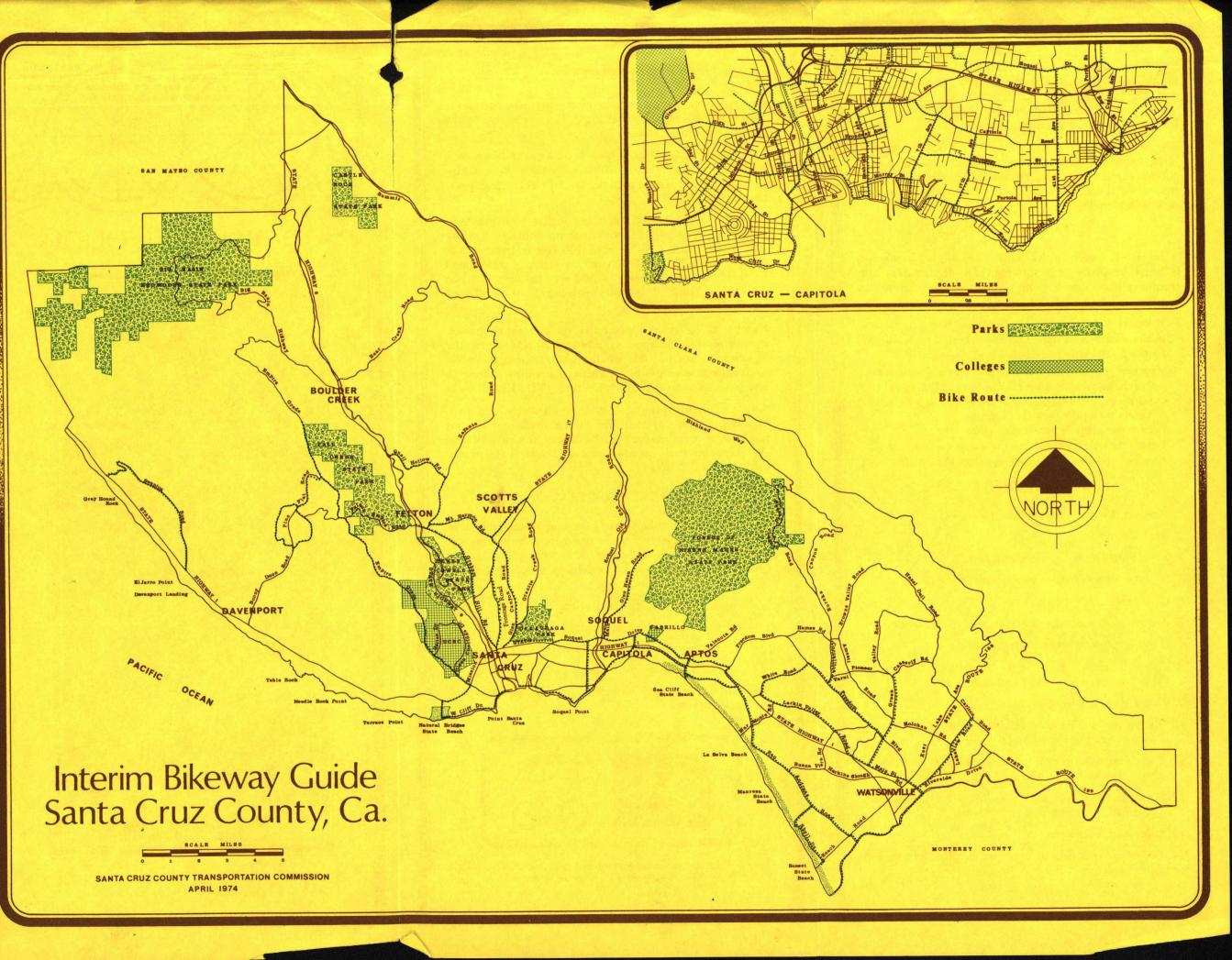


Santa Cruz County



BICYCLING GUIDE



The Santa Cruz County Bicycling Guide was prepared as an aid to all bicyclers in the county. The guide has a twofold purpose: first, to designate the safer bicycle routes in the county; and second, to describe the bicycle laws applicable in this county.

The designated routes were selected based on certain criteria, including: traffic volumes, speeds, roadway characteristics, and anticipated use. The interim bicycle routes will be updated as more of the bikeway master plan is implemented.

MAINTENANCE CHECKLIST

A bicycle is mechanically simple; yet like all machines, it must be properly maintained for dependable, safe transportation. Check your bicycle regularly. Here is a handy checklist to follow:

Make sure your brakes brake smoothly and evenly every time. Inflate your tires to correct pressure: check them frequently. Inspect the tire valve for leaks and straightness.

Make sure your reflector and headlights are visible and clean. Adjust the height and angle of the seat so that it fits you.

Check the chain for damaged links and make sure it fits snugly. Clean the chain frequently.

Keep spokes tight. Replace broken spokes.

Tighten the wheel nuts and true the wheel when necessary.

Have a reliable serviceman check your bike occasionally.

SIMPLE BICYCLING RULES

- 1. Ride on the right-hand side of the road (with traffic).
- 2. Ride single file.
- 3. Keep both hands on the handlebars.
- 4. Signal for turns before you make them.
- 5. Give pedestrians the right-of-way.
- 6. Always lock your bike when leaving it unattended.
- 7. Use bike paths when they are available.
- 8. For night riding, wear light colored clothing and be sure the bike has a light and reflectors.
- 9. Ride a bike that fits you.
- 10. Ride your bike without hitching yourself or the bike to any other moving object.
- 11. Have your bike registered. Registration can help recover lost or stolen bikes.
- 12. Tandems are made for two. But other bikes work best with only one person on them.
- 13. Obey all traffic signs.
- 14. Do what you can to promote healthy, clean, and safe bicycling.

BICYCLE LAWS IN SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

Every person riding a bicycle upon a roadway has all the rights and is subject to all the duties applicable to the driver of a vehicle. (VC 21200)

No person shall operate a bicycle on a roadway unless it is equipped with a brake which will enable the operator to make one brake wheel skid on dry, level, clean pavement. (VC 21201a)

Every bicycle operated upon any highway during darkness shall be equipped with a lamp emitting a white light visible from a distance of 300 feet in front of the bicycle and with a reflector on the rear . . . which shall be visible from a distance of 300 feet to the rear when directly in front of lawful upper beams of headlamps on a motor vehicle. (VC 2120d)

Except as provided in Subdivision (b), every person operating a bicycle upon a roadway shall ride as near the right-hand curb or edge of the roadway as practicable, exercising due care when passing a standing vehicle or one proceeding in the same direction. (VC 21202a)

Any person operating a bicycle upon a roadway or a highway, which carries traffic on one direction only and has two or more marked traffic lanes, may ride as near the left-hand curb or edge of such roadway as practicable . . . (VC 21202b)

BICYCLE REGISTRATION

The cities of Capitola, Santa Cruz and Watsonville have established bicycle registration programs by ordinance. The City of Scotts Valley has a voluntary registration program. Bicycles can be registered at the following locations:

- any Santa Cruz City fire station
- the Capitola Police Department
- the Watsonville Police Department
- the Scotts Valley Police Department

All Santa Cruz county bicyclists are encouraged to register their bicycles.



The above signs and pavement markings have been used to designate bikeways in this county. Please use these bikeways whenever possible.