

K.U. Campus

Lawrence -- Chancellor W. Clarke Wescoe today made public a new campus master plan for bicycle parking and traffic during the next few years.

Main features of the plan are (1) construction of many new parking racks to accommodate the increasing number of bicycles, and (2) a minimum amount of traffic regulation -- just enough to keep bicycle usage safe and orderly.

Many of the new racks will be added this summer, said Keith Lawton, vice chancellor for operations.

A survey determined the most popular locations for both the existing parking racks and the new ones to be built.

Several types of racks have been designed by Alton Thomas, University landscape architect, with an eye toward making them both functional and unobtrusive. Thomas' design for a recessed concrete parking rack, now in use at several locations on the campus, has been widely praised and copied by other schools, Lawton said.

Mt. Oread is something of a barrier to bicycles on the north, east, and south, but heavy traffic comes from residence halls and sororities and fraternities on the west. Several professors ride bikes, too.

"A fairly steady increase in bicycle usage is developing each year, and it is a healthy trend," Lawton said.

The largest bicycle usage is in the early fall, tapering off as extreme cold weather sets in. Traffic picks up again in the spring.

"We want to make the campus as convenient and safe as possible for both bicycle riders and pedestrians," Lawton said. "We hope this master plan will take care of the University's needs for the next few years."

As for the traffic regulations, they are few, simple, and similar to those followed by other vehicles. These five regulations have been included in the 1964-65 K.U. parking and traffic regulations.

(more)



(1) Bicyclists on the University of Kansas Campus must follow the Motor Vehicle Code of the State of Kansas unless clearly not applicable.

(2) Every bicycle on the campus must display a current city of Lawrence bicycle license decal. The license fee is 25 cents. For student convenience, licenses can be purchased at the Traffic and Security office in Hoch Auditorium.

(3) The ordinances of the City of Lawrence pertaining to moving traffic, as applicable to bicycles, prevail on the campus streets, driveways and parking lots. (Copies of the city bicycle ordinances may be obtained at the Traffic and Security office).

(4) State regulations prohibit the operation of bicycles upon any sidewalk or pedestrian walk on the campus.

(5) Bicycles may not be parked in campus buildings.

A new booklet listing these regulations and other vehicle parking and traffic regulations is available at the Traffic and Security office in Hoch Auditorium.

Also in the new booklet are these guides and suggestions to bicycle riders: Please park bicycles in racks or in the immediate area of racks, if spaces are filled.

Do not ride on lawns.

The pedestrian has the right-of-way.

Have a light in front and a rear reflector for night riding.

Keep bicycles in good operating condition.

Keep to the right and within five feet of the curb unless passing or preparing to turn left.

Use proper hand signals.

Ride single file.

Observe all right-of-way laws, including stop signs.

Do not ride from between parked cars.

Be careful and courteous.

Locking of bicycles is recommended.

Report stolen or lost bicycles to the Lawrence police department.



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*KU Campus, general*

Lawrence -- Bicyclists have received a strong nod of approval from Chancellor W. Clarke Wescoe of the University of Kansas.

While cars without the hard-to-get permits will be barred from the main campus streets until late evening next year, cyclists will be made welcome.

Dr. Wescoe promises construction of many new parking racks and a minimum amount of traffic regulation -- just enough to keep bicycle usage safe and orderly.

No one knows the student and professorial bicycle population, but a visual survey of residence halls and fraternity and sorority houses west of the campus reveals a steady increase.

Prof. Alton Thomas, K.U. landscape architect, has designed several types of bicycle racks that are both functional and unobtrusive. His design for a recessed concrete parking rack has been widely copied by other schools.

While cyclists will be more welcome than motorists, they still must give the right-away to pedestrians and keep off the sidewalks.

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