

COMMUTING TIPS

Bike commuting provides a healthy, eco-friendly means of getting around!

Don't forget to bring a good lock, preferably a U-lock which makes it almost impossible for thieves to cut it off.

Commuting to events and recreation is made easier with the help of backpacks and by outfitting your bike with a rear storage rack or a front handle basket.

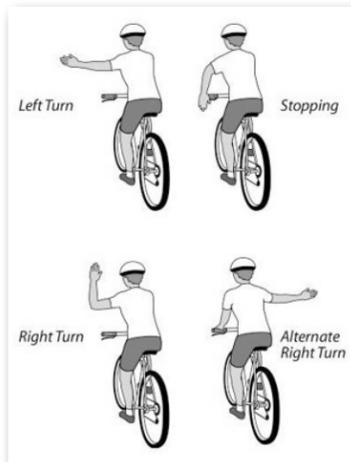
If you live too far away from work to commute, consider using your bike on weekends to visit parks and recreation destinations instead, or to run small shopping errands nearby.

Consider that local transit (HART) provides for bicycles, so don't feel constrained by distance!

Encourage children to bike to baseball and soccer games instead of asking for a ride!



BICYCLE SAFETY



Wear bright colors even during the day, visibility is key!

Avoid busy streets where possible, and always use bike lanes when they are provided.

Look for signage indicating preferred bike routes to common destinations. They have been chosen for reasons that will help keep you safe!

Avoid riding on sidewalks, it endangers pedestrians and puts you at risk because motorists won't see you when they are turning.

Stay out of motorist's blind spots, especially when stopped at or approaching intersections. It's best to stay behind them in these situations.

Slow down as you cross busy intersections, this helps motorists respond to you.

Take care to watch for parked cars as motorists often open doors in your path, ride slightly left to give yourself more time to react.

Never pass vehicles on the right, you never know when cars will suddenly turn right into drives or side streets, and they can't see you.



Wear the helmet flat on the head, not tilted back at an angle!

Beware of slippery surfaces such as leaves, sand and wet crosswalks; avoid or go slowly over them with a straight wheel and no braking.

Bicycles use 2% as much energy as cars per passenger-kilometer, and cost less than 3% as much to purchase.

Source: Worldwatch Institute, Vital Signs, 1998.

The establishment of well-connected walking and bicycling networks is an important component for livable communities; walking and biking foster safer, more livable, family-friendly communities; promote physical activity and health; and reduce vehicle emissions and fuel use.

US-DOT Policy Statement on Bicycle and Pedestrian Accommodations signed March 11, 2010



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City of Temple Terrace Bicycle Map

City for Living - Excellence, Balance, Harmony

Temple Terrace provides a unique opportunity to experience both urban and natural environments within a relatively small bike footprint. With protected conservation lands along the Hillsborough River and popular pocket parks among some of the oldest neighborhoods, the City offers exceptional outdoor venues for all ages.

Similarly, a redeveloped mixed-use downtown district at the center of town and old favorites including Busch Gardens and Adventure Island amusement parks, MOSI Science Center, and USF are all within a short bike commute.

Temple Terrace recognizes that a quality biking and pedestrian environment greatly enhances the quality of life for its residents and therefore has committed resources to improving facilities for both modes of transit. The City has published this guide with information relating to unique points of interest, along with routes that have been determined to be preferable due to smaller volumes of traffic or slower speeds. Also, the City has organized a signage and striping program that in the coming years will enhance, facilitate, and encourage bike ridership among residents and visitors alike!

Family Recreation Complex

Amenities include a new tennis center with six clay courts, three air conditioned indoor gymnasiums including two with hardwood floors, gymnastics center complete with spring floor, two dance/aerobic studios with hardwood floors, two classrooms, fitness center, a heated main pool water slide, kiddie pool, and a water playground. The facility also offers six lighted racquetball courts, two lighted outdoor basketball courts, and two lighted sand volleyball courts.



Lightfoot Recreation Center

This facility is home to the City's Senior Citizen Programs and offers yoga, karate, ceramics, and art classes as well as a variety of dance classes.



Hard Court Tennis Center

The facility includes six lighted hard court facilities and restrooms open to the public and free of charge.

Ridgedale Sports Complex

The complex consists of five Bermuda grass fields (three with lights).

Youth Sports Complex

This facility consists of five lighted Bermuda grass baseball fields and four lighted Bermuda soccer fields with concession stands.

Ben Lomond Park - (1.65 acres) Nestled beneath the oaks, this neighborhood park offers a playground, water fountain, and picnic tables.



Billy Graham Garden/Preservation Park - (2 acres) A wonderful vista of the Hillsborough River tucked in along the banks of the river underneath oaks and cypress.



Biltmore Park - (2.09 acres) Equipped with a basketball court, playground, picnic tables, benches, drinking fountain, trash receptacles, new signage, landscaping, and irrigation.

Bonnie Brae Park - (2.42 acres) Equipped with a dinosaur theme playground, sand volleyball, basketball court, picnic tables, and shade trees. This park has become popular for playgroups and picnics.



Hilltop Dog Park - (2 acres) Offers separated fenced areas for small and larger dogs with water facilities, benches, a walking path and plenty of running room.

Lettuce Lake Park - (240 acres) Offers wooded picnic areas, a bicycle path, and a jogging trail complete with a fitness course. Lettuce Lake is also a haven for nature study and an interpretive center featuring exhibits leads to two boardwalks and an observation tower where visitors can view the cypress swamp with its abundance of birds and other wildlife.*



Linwood Park - (1 acre) The park has a fitness par course with a running area circling 18 exercise stations.

Overlook Park - (.16 acres) this park consists of a playground with a unit for children ages 2-5 and a circuit play unit for children 6-12.

Riverfront Preserve - (108 acres) this wildlife and nature preserve on the east bank of the Hillsborough River has more than a mile of pristine waterfront and an existing pavilion designed and built by USF Architecture students. Future plans call for the development of a trails system with wildlife lookout points.



Riverhills Park - (34.45 acres) Offers access to the Hillsborough River by providing a boat ramp and dock. A picnic area set under the cypress and oaks provides picnic tables, grills, gazebo, shelter, and boardwalk that winds along the riverfront. Additional amenities include a large playground area, two newly renovated tennis courts, and restrooms.



Riverside Park - (1.9 acres) Includes unique playground structures, picnic table, restrooms and a picnic shelter.



Rotary Park - (3.1 acres) Equipped with a boat ramp, restrooms, picnic tables and barbecue grills.



Scout Park - (15.6 acres) As a nature preserve, this park offers two miles of mulched trails available for public enjoyment.



Serena Park - (.81 acres) Nestled under the oaks, this park is currently undeveloped, but will be master planned for future development.



Takomah Trail Park - Offers covered pavilion picnic areas, a bicycle path, and a jogging trail. It also has a nature study featuring boardwalks that provide walkways through the woods in the park.*

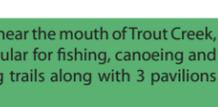
University Square Playground - (.42 acres) Amenities include an all-purpose court, tennis court, and a children's playground.



West River Preserve - (5.6 acres) Offers a vista unlike any other available through the City's park system. Planning for future development has begun, however, efforts to keep the site in a natural setting will be the focus.



Wilderness Park (Trout Creek Site) - Located near the mouth of Trout Creek, this property on the Hillsborough River is popular for fishing, canoeing and group picnics. The park offers off-road biking trails along with 3 pavilions with grills and electricity provided.*



9 Florida Laws to Know

1. A bicycle is defined as a vehicle, and as a driver the cyclist must follow all of the traffic laws that commonly apply to vehicles except that the cyclist is not required to have a driver's license.
2. Infractions of bicycle regulations are subject to civil penalties as provided in §318.18.
3. A bicycle operated between sunset and sunrise must be equipped with a white lamp on the front and a red reflector and red lamp on the rear.
4. Upon all two-way roadways, a bicycle must be ridden with traffic on the right half of the roadway, except when passing.

5. A driver must obey all applicable traffic control devices (signs, markings, traffic signals).

6. A bicycle rider under 16 must wear a helmet, but all others are strongly urged to as well.
7. A headset may not be worn while riding.
8. It is unlawful to operate a bicycle while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
9. A signal of intention to turn must be given 100ft in advance before turning.



* Property not managed by the City of Temple Terrace.