



WE RIDE TO THE MOVEMENT

HOW TO USE YOUR BIKE AS A PROTEST TOOL

BEFORE YOU GO

- Know who is organizing the protest. Know what they are advocating for and verify their involvement with Black Lives Matter or other groups in the movement.
- Do not play music. Use your presence to amplify the message of the protest.
- Study the route ahead of time if possible. Review the distance, bathrooms, urgent care, and exit points.
- Ensure your bike is street legal. In NYC, this means having two brakes, a bell, and front and rear lights (for protests after dark).
- Do a safety check before you go. Check brakes, gears, air level in tires.
- Ensure that any cameras, supplies, first aid and signage are securely attached to your bike.
- Do not wear contacts due to risks from potential tear gas.
- Bring water, snacks, sunscreen, facemask, and extra if possible.
- Consider bringing your helmet for biking and for safety within the protest.
- Let a friend who is not protesting know where you're going and when you expect to return. Give them copies of your house/bike keys, your full name, birthdate and emergency contacts. Write their phone number on your body, along with the National Lawyers Guild and GoodCall.
- Register your bike with bikeindex.org
- Protect your identity and location. Turn off your phone or put it on airplane mode, no data, no WiFi, no Bluetooth, no GPS, disable fingerprint ID and set an alphanumeric passcode.

WHEN YOU ARRIVE WITH YOUR BIKE

- If you choose to lock up your bike upon arrival, lock it on its own (not attached to partners' bikes) in case you get separated. The protest may end far from where you lock it.
- Listen to protest leaders and find out how best to help. You may be needed as a bike marshal, a bike barricade, supply delivery, on the perimeter, or blocking an intersection.
- Be ready to use your bike as a shield to protect protesters from police. White protesters: consider using your privilege and putting yourself between police and protesters of color.
- Always use situational awareness for what and who is around you, such as the location and behaviors of police, and identify obstacles, barriers or exits.
- If you are recording video or taking photos, consider how to safely and respectfully take photos of other protesters, such as avoiding faces without permission.
- Advertise supplies or assistance you can offer, like snacks, first aid, facemasks, tools, a flat fix, etc, on your sign.
- Be prepared to carry or ride your bike out of the way. If police begin "kettling" the protest area, you should safely move to the perimeter without injuring or endangering other protestors, so that people on foot can move freely.
- Protests aren't the only way your help is needed. Go to city council, community board, or transportation advocacy meetings, and demand resources go to underfunded communities, regardless of whether those communities are your own.

This is a living document created by WE Bike NYC volunteers. This is not a substitute for legal advice.



WEBIKENYC.ORG

INFO@WEBIKENYC.ORG



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