P.O. 703 DPS Bicycle Patrols			
Effective From:	10/01/2026	Effective To:	Current

P.O. 703 – DPS Bicycle Patrols

1. POLICE BICYCLE PATROL UNIT
   i) The DPS Police Bicycle Patrol Unit is established for the purpose of providing additional police services to visitors, employees, and elected officials of the Capitol and Headquarters Campus.
   ii) The goal of the Bicycle Patrol Unit is to provide:
      a) Proactive police patrol
      b) Community policing
      c) Community outreach regarding bicycle safety
2. BICYCLE PATROL QUALIFICATIONS
   i) Officers seeking assignment to the DPS Police Bicycle Unit must have:
      a) Successfully completed the International Police Mountain Bike Association (IPMBA) Police Bicycle Operator Course.
3. GENERAL PROCEDURES
   i) Bicycle patrol officers shall not work any bicycle patrol assignment until they have successfully completed the Department-approved certified Police Cycling Course.
   ii) The Bicycle Patrol Unit will be assigned tasks by the Administrative Sergeant.
   iii) Bicycle patrol officers shall document their activity during their shift. In addition to the normal reporting requirements, bicycle officers must also document their hours and miles ridden to their supervisor at the end of each shift.
   iv) Officers shall obey all traffic laws while operating their patrol bicycles.
   v) The law governing the operation of an emergency vehicle shall apply to all bicycle patrol officers.
   vi) Bicycle patrol officers shall use hand signals for turns, lane changes, and stopping, in accordance with IPMBA training and state law.
   vii) During night operations, bicycle lighting requirements shall be obeyed, except during surveillance operations.
   viii) Officers shall not patrol during periods of weather where the operation of the police bicycle would be unsafe (e.g., rain, sleet, ice, etc.).
4. MAINTENANCE AND CARE OF THE POLICE BICYCLE
   i) No alterations shall be made to police bicycles without approval from the Section Commander. All maintenance and/or approved modifications shall be performed by a certified bicycle mechanic.
   ii) Officers must ensure that the police bicycle is secure when not being ridden.
   iii) The police bicycle shall not be left unattended or unsecured except in an emergency.
   iv) Routine repairs such as flats, minor adjustments of the cable, etc., should be done by the officer to whom the police bicycle is assigned.
   v) The police bicycle will be cleaned and maintained in the manner recommended in the IPMBA training class.
   vi) Each officer will perform an “ABC Quick Check” (Air, Brake, and Crank) check daily before riding the bicycle.
   vii) No officer shall ride a police bicycle that is malfunctioning, has a safety defect, or requires repair to prevent further damage.
   viii) If the patrol bicycle gets a flat tire, the officer shall replace the punctured tube if possible. Each officer will carry at least one extra tube on the bicycle for flat repair.
   ix) It is the responsibility of the bicycle patrol officer assigned to make sure that all of the equipment is functional and operational at the start of their shift. This includes, but is not

limited to, a fully charged night lighting system and correct tire pressure. Maintaining a clean water bottle is also the responsibility of the bicycle patrol officer.

5. POLICE BICYCLE OFFICER UNIFORM
   i) The police bicycle patrol officer uniform shall be designated by the Section Commander and shall not be altered without permission.
   ii) The police bicycle patrol officer uniform will be worn only when the officer is riding the bicycle or when the officer is en route to or from a police bicycle patrol assignment.
   iii) Footwear will be round-toed, black shoes or the approved cycle shoes. No other footwear (e.g., white tennis shoes, sandals, etc.) will be worn with the police bicycle patrol uniform.
   iv) The police cycle helmet shall be worn while riding the bicycle.
   v) During the hours of darkness, the officer may also wear reflective Velcro leg devices around the ankle.
   vi) Black bicycle riding gloves should be worn while operating the patrol bicycle.
   vii) Eye protection shall be worn at all times when the bicycle is in motion. Eye protection shall include prescription glasses that are impact-resistant or other impact-resistant eyewear that conforms to uniform policy.
6. POLICE BICYCLE OFFICER USE OF FORCE
   i) All members of the Bicycle Patrol Unit shall follow the Departmental use of force policy.
   ii) The police bicycle itself shall be classified as an intermediate weapon.
   iii) When the police bicycle is not being ridden, use of the police bicycle as an impact weapon falls under the use of force continuum as an intermediate weapon.
   iv) A power slide utilizing the police bicycle may be performed to surprise and disrupt a suspect’s activities. Because of the potential for injury during this technique, it shall be considered a hard intermediate weapon.
   v) Riding the police bicycle into a suspect while the officer is still mounted on the bicycle is not recommended due to the risk of injury to the officer. The standard takedown techniques as taught by IPMBA should be used.
   vi) Use of an intermediate weapon on a suspect while the police bicycle is in motion is discouraged. Soft or hard empty-hand control techniques while an officer is astride the police bicycle are also discouraged.