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	Issued By: Interim Chief Aimee Metzger		CALEA Standards 
Effective: 10/15/2001	Updated: 07/07/2023		
Last Reviewed: 08/30/2023			

I. Purpose

The purpose of this order is to provide guidelines for the use and deployment of police bicycles. Bicycles are a tool that allow officers to build rapport and connection within the community that they serve. Police bicycle patrols also allow officers to enforce criminal law violations and solve community problems through personalized service.



II. Policy

The use of police bicycles is authorized citywide. In all districts, officers may utilize bicycles to work on specific problems and to become more familiar with community members. Actual deployment of police bicycles is at the discretion of the on-duty supervisor.

- A. Police bicycles may be used for traffic enforcement, patrol activities and designated special events. The emphasis in bicycle assignments will stress their mobility and visibility in the community.
- B. Bicycles may be used in both on and off-road conditions. Police cyclists are encouraged to patrol city parks on a regular basis during their shifts.
- C. Personnel authorized to operate the police bicycle shall be certified police officers who have passed an IPMBA (International Police Mountain Bike Association) or equivalent basic police cyclist course. Police cyclists shall wear the authorized bicycle uniform and operate an authorized police bicycle while engaged in bicycle patrol.
- D. Police cyclists are authorized to wear the bicycle uniform while engaged in bicycle patrol for all or part of their shift. Bicycle trained officers may start their shift in a bike uniform and obtain a patrol vehicle. It is expected that a bike uniformed officer will conduct bike patrol during their shift unless call volume, command direction, or unforeseen circumstances dictates otherwise.

III. Operation of Police Bicycles

- A. Bicycle officers are required to follow state traffic laws, city ordinances, and operate the bicycle in a safe and professional manner.
- B. Bicycle officers are required to perform a bicycle safety check prior to using a police bicycle. The check must include, but is not limited to, properly inflated and secure tires, correct seat height, functional brakes, horn, and a working front white light and rear red light. If any component of the bike fails a safety check, the bicycle shall be taken out of service and the Bicycle Operations Sergeant must be notified.

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C. The daily operation of a police bicycle is on a voluntary basis. The department will honor an officer's request not to ride a bicycle if circumstances permit, which is to be determined by the on-duty supervisor.

i. In all districts, the police cyclist should be scheduled, weather permitting, as a response unit if there is at least one other motorized unit in the district.

D. Bike racks are available for use with some department patrol vehicles.

i. Bicycle trained officers are required to understand the operation of bicycle mounts for patrol cars prior to use. It is the responsibility of the bicycle officer to ensure the bicycle is mounted correctly so that the patrol car may be operated in a safe manner.

ii. When the patrol car is parked, it should be parked so that the officer is patrol car response capable, if needed. While on the bicycle, the officer should also be within a reasonable distance of the patrol car.

IV. Police Cyclists

Personnel participating as police cyclists must have a strong desire to perform their patrol duties using this mode of transport.

A. One of the primary conditions for selection as a police cyclist is a demonstrated interest in community policing.

B. Participation:



i. A police employee who rides over 200 hours qualifies for equipment replacement, which includes no more than one shirt and one pair of shorts per year due to demonstrated wear and tear (attachment A).

ii. Police cyclists shall document monthly riding hours on their activity log and must also document their hours on the bicycle log form (attachment B).

V. Training

A. All police cyclist training shall be under the supervision of at least one currently certified police bicyclist instructor.

B. Training for police bicyclists may be progressive to develop skills and confidence.

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- i. The IPMBA (International Police Mountain Bike Association) “Basic Police Cyclist” or equivalent course will be the required training course.
- ii. Bicycles will only be operated by designated personnel who are trained police cyclists.
- iii. All Bicycle Trained Officers are required to complete an annual written or online skills test to maintain the specialty effective January 2024.

VI. Equipment

A. Police Bicycles shall be equipped with the following:

- i. Stickers or Decals in prominent location “POLICE”
- ii. Fixed rack with Black bag labeled “POLICE”
- iii. Pedal retention system (i.e.: toe straps) *Optional
- iv. Audible device
- v. Headlight system

B. Uniforms for police cyclists will be designated by [P&P 041-019](#): Uniform Wearing and Maintenance.



C. Police Bike Storage:

- i. Police bikes are primarily stored at the police department on the north-east side of the police garage.
- ii. When storing a bicycle, it is the responsibility of the police bicyclist to ensure their bike, or any part thereof, is safely parked and does not protrude into a patrol car parking space or lane of travel.

VII. Maintenance

A. The Bicycle Operations Sergeant will coordinate maintenance and availability of bicycles.

B. It is the responsibility of each individual police cyclist to determine when bike repairs are necessary and to document them. It shall be the duty of the police cyclist to report any and all repairs to the Bicycle Operations Sergeant in an email format.

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- C. Any maintenance work (other than minor repairs) on police bikes will be performed by a department approved bike shop or another similar approved vendor. The repairs will be coordinated by the Bicycle Operations Sergeant.
- D. Officers will notify the Bicycle Operations Sergeant that a bike has been taken to a department approved bike shop for repairs.

