



# BICYCLING SAFETY AND SHARED LANE MARKINGS

**Sharrows help build a comprehensive network of bicycle routes in St. Petersburg!**



Sharrow (a.k.a. "Shared Lane Marking") on 1st Street North

## What do these markings and signs mean?

- Alerts road users of the lateral location bicyclists are likely to occupy within the traveled way
- Assists bicyclists with positioning in lanes too narrow for a motor vehicle and a bicycle to travel side by side within the same traffic lane
- Encourages safe passing of bicyclists by motorists
- Reduces the incidence of wrong-way bicycling

## Where can you expect to see shared lane markings and signage?

- Selected streets which may not be wide enough or appropriate for dedicated bicycle lanes
- On suggested lower-stress bicycle routes following side streets that parallel major roads
- Transitions where bicycle lanes or trails end
- Where bicyclists should drive outside the door zone of parked vehicles
- Intersections where safe lane positioning is encouraged

Contact 727-892-5274 or [Lucas.Cruse@stpete.org](mailto:Lucas.Cruse@stpete.org)

# Courtesy Promotes Safety



## The More You Know

- Bicycles are legally defined as vehicles in Florida and bicyclists have an obligation to drive with traffic and follow all roadway signs and signals.
- Bicyclists have a right to drive in the traffic lanes on city streets when there is no dedicated bike lane. Bicyclists are allowed to operate on city sidewalks, but must yield to pedestrians and follow pedestrian laws when using crosswalks.
- Bicycling in the middle of the lane increases visibility and reduces the potential for conflicts with vehicles which may be backing, turning, passing, or opening doors.
- Many bicycle crashes occur along the roadway edges and on sidewalks due to conflicts with irregular surfaces, debris, water, vegetation, pedestrians, and animals.
- Shared Lane Markings were developed with research and are officially endorsed in national best practices and design standards.