

OWHP collaborates with other departments focusing on issues that affect the safety of the campus community. A new issue we are exploring is safe bicycle use on campus.

In the Spring 2012 National College Health Assessment, we included USC specific questions on bicycle use. Below are a few highlights from the report.

### 1. Density of Bikes at USC

- a. 33.4% of students use their bicycle on and/or around USC one or more times a week. (Q70). This is an estimated 12,700 bikes on and/or around campus (this number does not include faculty, staff, or campus visitors).
- b. 37.1% of student bikers ride **only** in the academic core (Vermont, Jefferson, Figueroa, and Exposition).
- c. 45.6% of student bikers ride in the **larger** USC University Park neighborhood bordered by Budlong, Adams to the north, Figueroa to the east, and Exposition to the south.
- d. 17.3% of student bikers ride **beyond** the larger USC University Park neighborhood bordered by Budlong, Adams to the north, Figueroa to the east, and Exposition to the south. (Q71)

### 2. Walking at USC

- a. Within the last 12 months, while walking at USC, 18.9% of all students have collided with a bicycle. (Q69)
- b. Within the last 12 months, while walking at USC, 25.5% of **undergraduates** have collided with a bicycle. (Q69)
- c. Within the last 12 months, while walking at USC, 51.3% of all students have witnessed a collision that did not involve them. (Q69)

### 3. Biking at USC

- a. Within the last 12 months, while biking at USC, 10.9% of all students have collided with a bicycle. (Q73)
- b. Within the last 12 months, while biking at USC, 18.6% of **undergraduates** have collided with a bicycle. (Q73)

### 4. Confidence

- a. 65.6% of USC bikers feel confident cycling on the urban streets around campus. (Q72)
- b. 34.4% of USC bikers do not feel confident cycling on the urban streets around campus. (Q72).

### 5. Interest in Skill Building

- a. 82% of USC students are not interested in attending any of the proposed information sessions about safe cycling and bicycle traffic laws. (Q74)
- b. 10.4% of USC students would be interested in attending a thirty minute video/webinar to learn more about safe cycling and bicycle traffic laws. (Q74)

In order to ensure the safety of the campus community, the university recently adopted the following guidelines, which are posted throughout campus:

- **Share the Pathways and Yield to Pedestrians.** On all walkways throughout the university, bikers should use the right side and foot traffic should use the left side.
- **Walk your Bikes.** In heavily-trafficked areas and crosswalks, dismount and walk your bike. This includes Trousdale Parkway, Childs Way, and near the Lyon Recreation Center.
- **Encourage Safety.** Model safe and courteous bike/rider behavior and remind offenders that Trojans are considerate.
- **Park It.** Bikes should be parked in designated parking racks. Parking your bike in front of a building entrance/exit or a handicap ramp will result in impounding.
- **Watch the Road.** When riding your bike, focus on riding. Distractions such as cell phones, headphones, or riding "hands-free" increase accidents.