



Bicycle Diversion Program

(Traffic School for Bicyclists)

South Bay Pilot Program



SBBC

Background

- 01.01.2016: AB 902 was passed giving each city in California the option to adopt a Bicycle Diversion Program.
- 2017: South Bay Bicycle Coalition (SBBC) began promoting a Bicycle Diversion Program in the fourteen cities in the South Bay.
- 01.01.2018: The South Bay Superior Traffic Court launched a Pilot Bicycle Diversion Program

Why We Need a Bicycle Diversion Program

- Bicyclists receiving a traffic citation should be able to attend traffic school, just like motorists have been able to for decades.
- There are limited education opportunities for bicyclists, unlike motorists.
- Newer bicyclists often learn bad habits from more experienced bicyclists.
- Better educated bicyclists will make smarter and safer decisions on the roadways.

How will a Police Officer's role change?

- When issuing a traffic citation, they will provide the bicyclist with a card showing the **NEW** “Traffic School” option.

**I got a ticket while riding a bicycle...
What are my options?**

- A. Plead guilty and pay a fine, *or*
- B. Plead not guilty and set a trial date, *or*
- C. Complete a court-approved Bicycle Safety Class

Note: If you choose Option C and complete the Bicycle Safety Class within the court-approved time, the Court *will dismiss* your case.



Option C is a pilot program made available
by the Torrance Traffic Court, South Bay Police Departments
and the South Bay Bicycle Coalition
to educate bicyclists on existing laws.

For information on this pilot program, go to the
Torrance Traffic Court, 3225 Torrance Blvd.,
and select Option C.

Then sign up for a class by going to:
www.bicyclesafetyclass.org

Traffic School for Bicyclists

- A three hour+ class taught by Certified Bicycle Instructors.
- Local law enforcement officers have participated in the development of class material.
- The class covers the rules of the road as well as safety tips for bicyclists.
- Attendees will receive a Certificate of Completion to provide to the Traffic Court so their citation can be dismissed.

Current Status

Since Bicycle Safety Classes were implemented 15 months ago:

- Over 200 bicyclists have attended a Bicycle Safety Class.
- Comments from RB Police & Mayor: fewer complaints from the public and safer behavior by bicyclists.
- The Court is currently evaluating whether to expand the South Bay Pilot Program.
- 01.01.2019, AB 3011: Diversion Program for children given a citation for not wearing a helmet on a bike, scooter, skateboard, or skates.
- **Q&A.....**