

What To Do if You're Involved in a Bicycle Collision

Thousands of people ride bicycles in Palo Alto every day, and bike/car collisions are rare. It's good to have a plan just in case, and the information on this sheet will help you decide what to do if you're ever in a collision.

*If you are physically injured or
experiencing pain:* Call 9-1-1 for help.

**IN CASE OF
EMERGENCY** **Call
911**



If you are not experiencing pain and believe you are not injured:
Call the Palo Alto Police Department 24-hour Dispatch Center at
650-329-2413.

It is often difficult for people who have just been in a collision to determine if they have been injured. This is particularly true for children and adolescents. The Palo Alto Police Department recommends students always call either the police or their parents if they are riding a bike and involved in a collision with a car. Remain at the scene until help arrives, no matter who might be at fault.

While filing a police report is not required in all cases, reporting helps the Safe Routes to School team identify problem areas and work with City staff and others to improve safety for all road users. Please consider filing a report if you are in a collision.

Tips for All Bicyclists:

- If you have a phone, add the PAPD 24-hour Dispatch Center number (650-329-2413) to your contacts. If not, write it down and keep it in your bag or wallet.
- Keep a piece of paper in your bag or wallet that lists your name and who to contact in case of emergency.

*For more bike safety information, please visit CityofPaloAlto.org/SafeRoutes
or contact SafeRoutes@CityofPaloAlto.org.*

