

Hello Fellow Bikers,

Just a pre-Camp heads-up and a suggestion.

There will be road repaving to deal with this year on Hwy 17, the road to Balmorhea, on our planned cycling routes both Monday and Wednesday. We have been communicating with TXDOT weekly on this as to schedule. The Monday rides may be changed depending on road conditions. This will be announced Sunday at Orientation.

TxDot tells us that local law officials will increase their presence on the road during construction to help keep down motorists' speed and to encourage closer attention to the road. We plan to put out signs to help alert motorists to "bicycles on the road".

Cyclists should be reminded to not block traffic nor ride 3-abreast. A cyclist can get a citation for blocking the road more than necessary. A bicycle mirror is very useful in a situation like this, as it allows you to ride in the traffic lane and easily monitor the road behind you. When you see a vehicle coming from behind, you can move over to the side of the road. The cyclists I know that use mirrors love them and would never ride without one!

The mirror I like is the "Take a Look" glasses-mounted one. It seems to give a wider field of view and vibrates less than helmet-mounted ones. These are hand-made in Colorado and are available at most bicycle shops.

Also, the mornings at camp should be cool but later in the days it is expected to be hot and dry. There will be support on the rides, but you may want to carry extra water with you, especially if doing a longer ride. Bring the bigger bottles!

See You at Camp-

Mark Weidner
DMFTC Bike Staff