



## Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: October 1, 2007

Contact: Deborah Denis, Marion Pandohie

E-mail: [deborah.denis@gov.ky](mailto:deborah.denis@gov.ky), [marion.pandohie@gov.ky](mailto:marion.pandohie@gov.ky)

### Streetskill revisits bike safety

Members of the *Streetskill* committee have chosen to re-visit cycle safety during the month of October (2007) and are calling on the public to take this opportunity to review their cycling habits.

Many residents in the Cayman Islands use cycling not only as a hobby but also as a means of transport and it is essential that riders do all they can to keep themselves safe.

“Cycles need to be kept in good working order and riders need to consider their actions on the roads carefully,” said Deputy Commissioner of Police, Mr Anthony Ennis. “Mechanics, such as the brakes, need to operate fully and lights need to be fitted to assist in keeping the rider safe in the dark. Extra precautions such as wearing a helmet and light coloured clothes also need to be taken.”

*Streetskill* member Aileen Samuels from the Cayman Islands Road Safety Advisory Council also stressed the need for riders and motorists to be responsible. “Cycling can be daunting to riders, particularly on busy roads,” she said. “Both riders and drivers need to look out for each other.”

Mr Ennis added that traffic laws which apply to motorists also apply to persons riding bicycles. “Cyclists must obey all signs and signals,” he said. “In addition, riders will dramatically decrease their chances of being involved in a collision if they ride on the correct side of the road – which is the left, alongside the traffic.”

Other points riders should follow include:

- **Always** cycle on the left, with the traffic and make arm signals when you turn.
- **Always** have lights on the front and back of your bike so you can be clearly seen in the dark.
- Wear a helmet at all times. The most serious injuries from a cycle accident are to the head.
- Keep your bike in good working order.

- Obey **all** traffic signs and signals.
- Keep both hands on the handle bars unless making a turning signal.
- Do not ride with passengers on the front or back of the bike.
- Keep bikes secure.

In addition, drivers must also play their part in ensuring the safety of riders:

- Keep an eye out for cyclists.
- Always use your mirrors before making a manoeuvre to check the path is clear.
- Always use your indicators to make your movements known to others.
- If you pass a cyclist, make sure you have enough room to do so safely.

The *Streetskill* campaign, launched on May 1 2006 by the National Roads Authority (NRA), the Royal Cayman Islands Police Service (RCIPS) and The Cayman Islands Road Safety Advisory Council (CIRSAC)), is aimed at educating motorists and influencing their behaviour.

Organisers are looking for feedback on the campaign and welcome ideas and thoughts from the community. Residents are encouraged to contact [deborah.denis@gov.ky](mailto:deborah.denis@gov.ky) - 244-3004 or [ariana.rahamut@gov.ky](mailto:ariana.rahamut@gov.ky) – 244-1762 or [marion.pandohie@gov.ky](mailto:marion.pandohie@gov.ky) – 244-5865.

-ends-

Please feel free to copy and use the StreetSkill logo as featured at the top of the release.

Deborah Denis

705 / 01 10 07

244-3004 / 926-2145