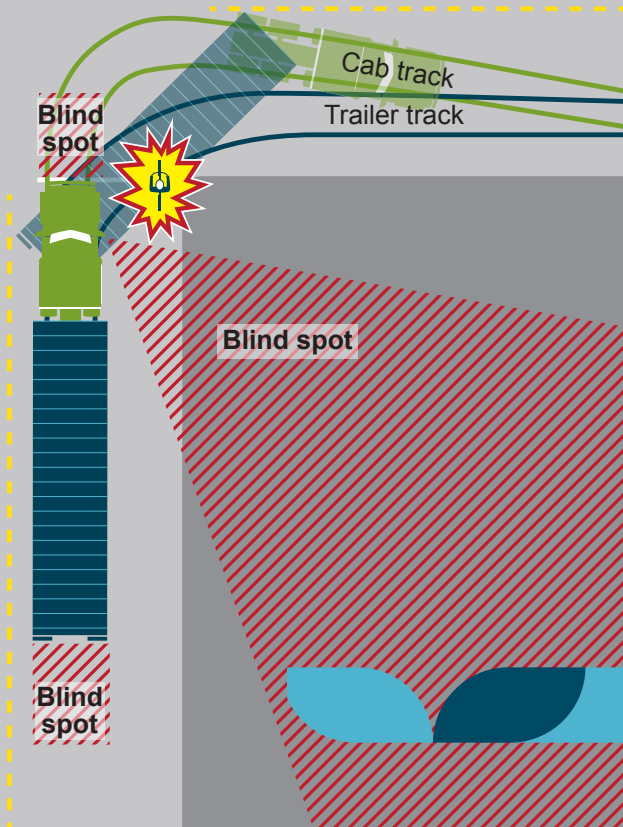## Blind spots & intersections >>>

The blind spot can be the full length of the vehicle, leaving the driver unable to see anyone cycling next to them on the right.

Remember, if you can't see the driver or the mirrors, s/he can't see you.

Don't risk your life by passing a truck on the right when it is stopped at an intersection or driveway, or when it is about to turn.

Most bike-truck accidents happen when trucks are turning right.

Cab track

Trailer track

Blind spot

Blind spot

Blind spot

Biking is growing in Seattle and although it is generally becoming safer, following a few simple tips can prevent crashes.

Most cyclist and truck collisions happen when vehicles turn right at traffic lights or other intersections. Cyclists are more vulnerable than other road users and more likely to be harmed in a crash.

Truck drivers and cyclists prevent crashes by looking out for each other and behaving responsibly.

Resources >>>

City of Seattle Bike Program
www.seattle.gov/transportation/bikeprogram.htm
www.seattle.gov/besupersafe

Trucking Resources
www.wtatrucking.com

Biking Resources
bicyclealliance.org/growing-bicycling/resources
westseattlebikeconnections.org
www.cbcef.org

Port of Seattle Commission:
Tom Albro
Stephanie Bowman
Bill Bryant
John Creighton
Courtney Gregoire

Chief Executive Officer
Tay Yoshitani

Port of Seattle®
www.portseattle.org

Sharing the road

Safety tips for cyclists and truck drivers

Port of Seattle®

SDOT
Seattle Department of Transportation

BE SUPER SAFE
SEATTLE

Tips for cyclists

Tips for truck drivers

Bike sensibly and stay safe >>>

» Stay alert and watch out for trucks.

» Remember, if you can't see the truck driver or their mirrors, s/he can't see you.

» Don't assume the driver has seen you if you are already stopped at an intersection and a big rig pulls up next to you.

» Just because you have the right-of-way doesn't mean you are safe. Always ride defensively.

» Be predictable and stay within marked bike lanes, where available.

» Don't weave through traffic, that makes it harder for truck drivers to anticipate where you are.

» Look out for trucks turning right from beside or behind you.

» **NEVER** stop at an intersection on the right side of a truck.

» Remember that the turning trailer of a truck will track inside the path of the cab.

» Take up a visible position at lights: three yards out in front, not next to right curb or very close to the truck.

» Wear bright, visible clothing, especially at night or in poor weather.

Photo: Don Brubeck

General tips >>>

» Stay alert and watch out for cyclists, particularly on your right side.

» Only pass cyclists when it is completely safe to do so. Wait for the right moment and give them plenty of room. Allow three to four feet between cyclists and your truck.

» Some cyclists can travel quickly (25 mph or more), so allow extra time for overtaking or passing them.

» Don't follow cyclists closely – it can be intimidating.

» Remember how big a truck is compared to a cyclist. An adult cyclist may be no higher than your wheels.

» Stay alert, even when traffic is not moving. Pedestrians and cyclists may weave through slow or stopped traffic.

» Don't cross stop lines or infringe on bicycle forward stop boxes/bars.

» Consider installing truck under-run side protection.

» Get the best mirror you can, eg. a Fresnel lens on the passenger side window, to make it easier to see cyclists on your right.

When turning right >>>

» Always signal well in advance. A cyclist already on your right-hand side or in front of you can't see your blinkers.

» Look for cyclists on your right-hand side. If you even suspect they are there, pause to let them get out of your way, especially when pulling away.

» Remember that if you have passed a cyclist just before approaching a traffic signal, driveway, or intersection, it is very likely they will end up on your right-hand side or just in front of you. Assume the cyclist is in one of your blind spots.

» Be careful when swinging out wide to turn right. Cyclists may not correctly interpret your intentions.

Be aware of blind spots - ride smart.

Blind spot

Blind spot

Blind spot