

# Cycling in Amsterdam

How to be a safe and confident cyclist,  
and enjoy cycling in Amsterdam

by [Fietsersbond Amsterdam](https://www.fietsersbond.nl/), bike advocates since 1975

# Content

- Amsterdam, a Bike City
- Safe cycling, what do we need?
- Different roads and areas
- Cycling confidently
- Attention!
- Smart cycling

## This presentation online:

<https://bit.ly/CyclingAmsterdam>

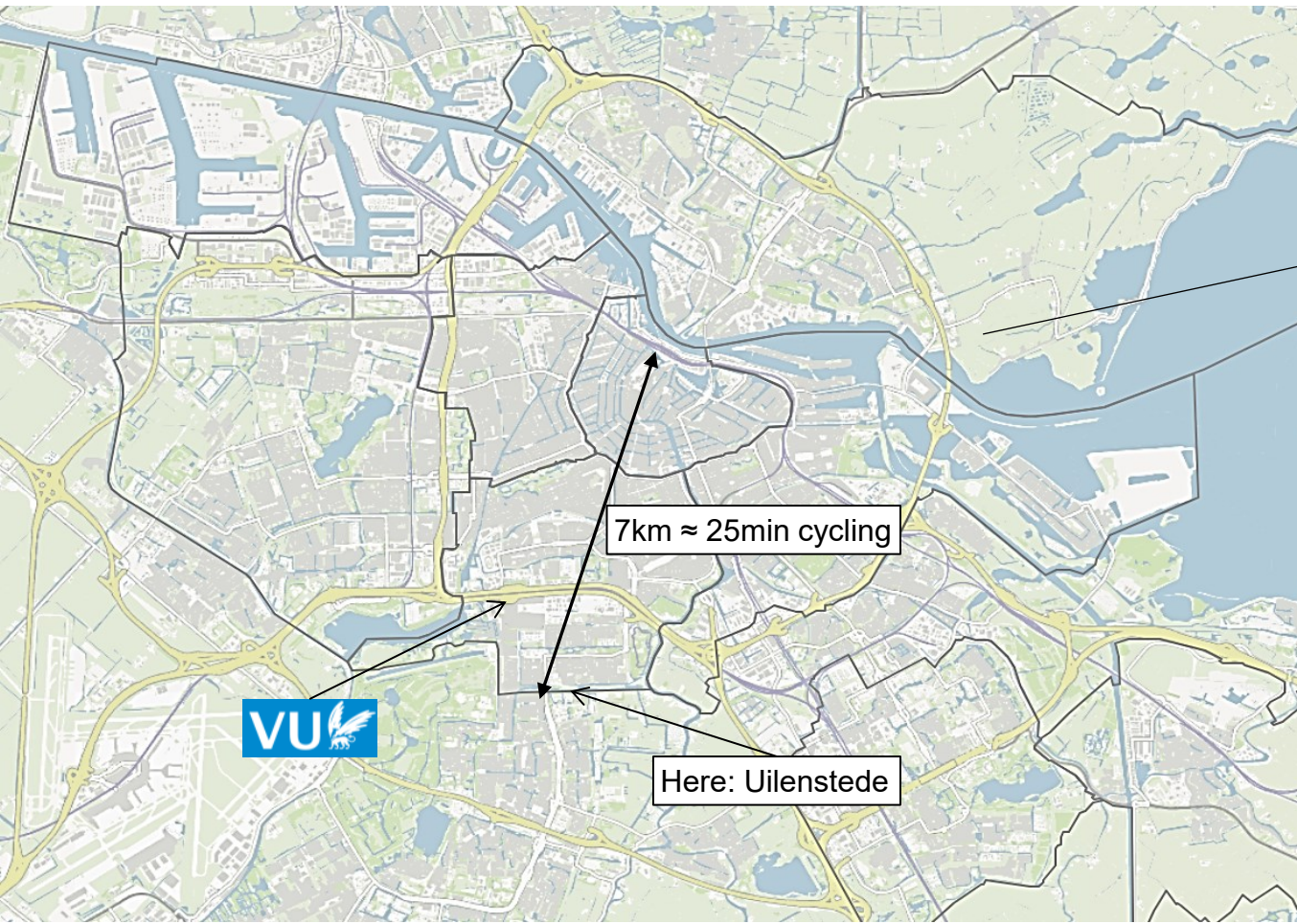




# Amsterdam

capital of the Netherlands, in north west of Europe

City at cycling scale





# Amsterdam, bike city from early on

But with growing nrs of cars since 1950's cycling became unsafe and unattractive.

Civil protest and dedicated planning and policy from 1970's made Amsterdam a Bike City again.

Learn how this was done in the book [Bike City Amsterdam](#).

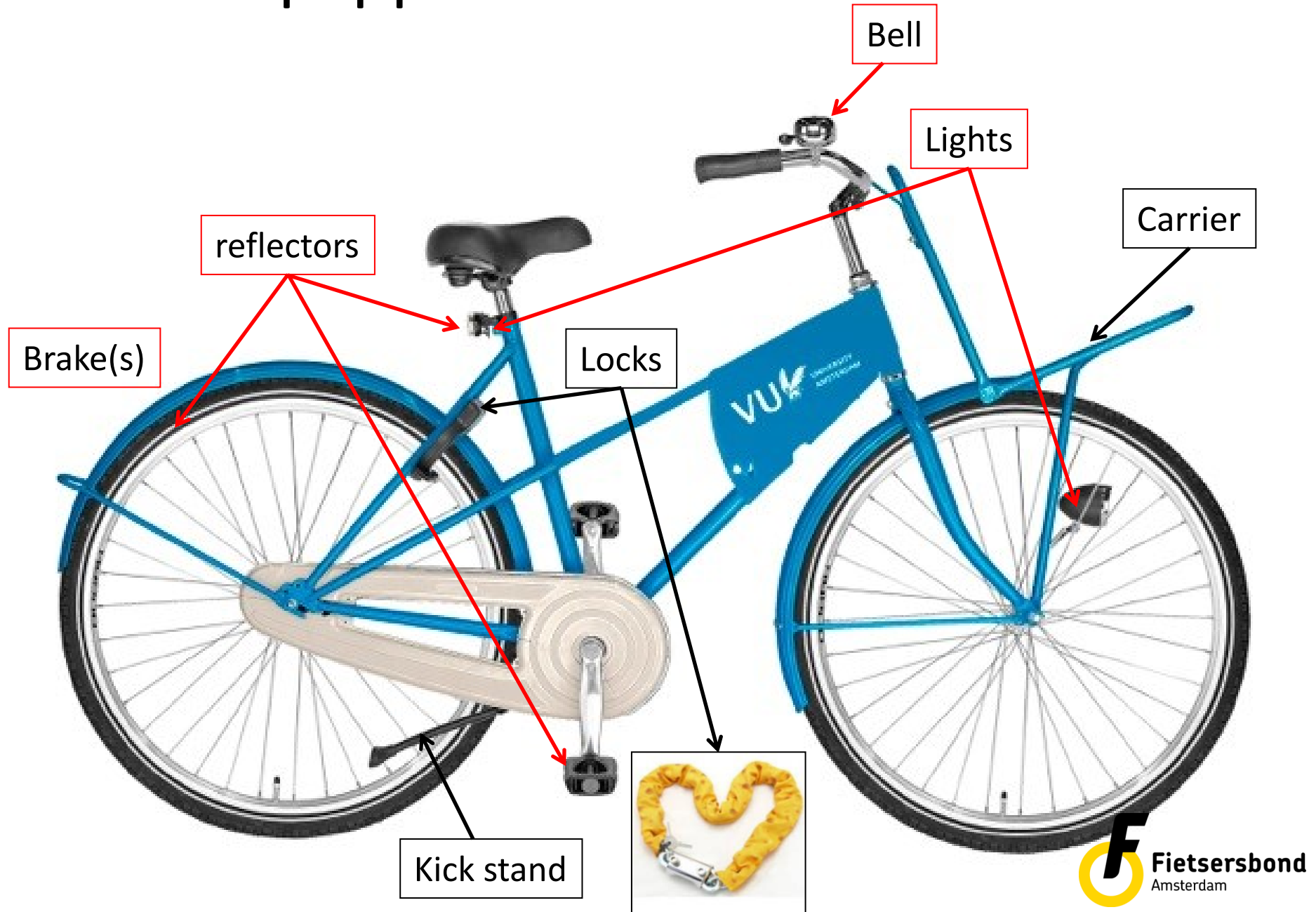




# Safe cycling, what do we need?



# A well-equipped bike





# A well-equipped cyclist

## **Act responsibly and safely:**

- Make clear what you want
- Look, react, communicate
- Be confident

## **Chose the right position:**

- Keep to the right
- Not too close to the side,  
or too close to others. [\(video\)](#)
- Take your space
- Use mandatory cycle track,  
in the correct direction
- **Follow the rules of the road:**
- Give way when required
- Obbey traffic signs & signals



# Priority, right of way

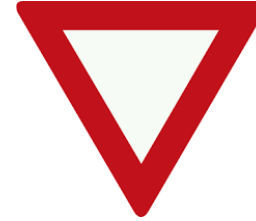
## Stop or give priority when:

- Priority sign, triangles on the road pointing towards you
- Stop sign || Stop line
- Red traffic light
- Pedestrians on zebra crossing
- Entering or exiting an **entrance construction**
- When tuning, give way to everyone going straight on the same street as you

When none of above:

Give way to all riders (cars, cyclists etc.) coming from the right

## Priority rules (video)

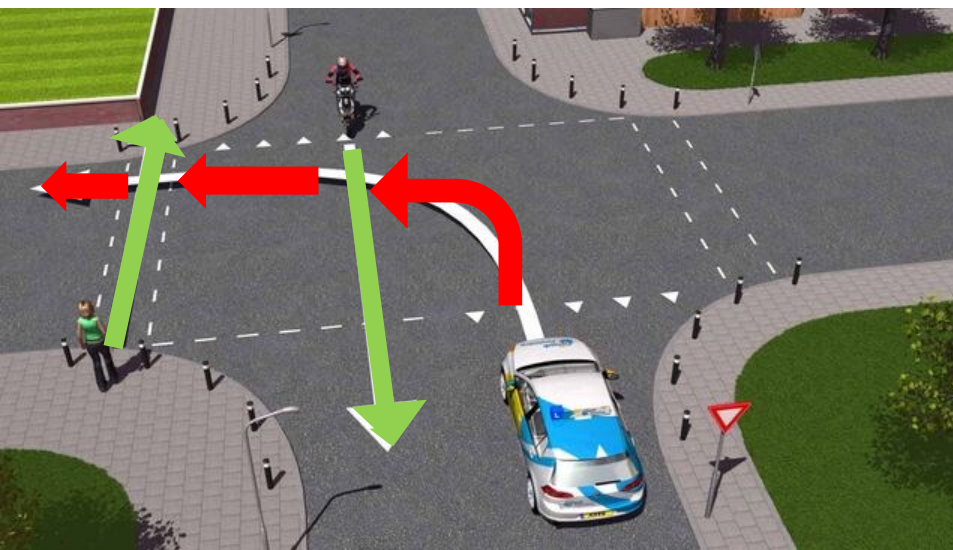
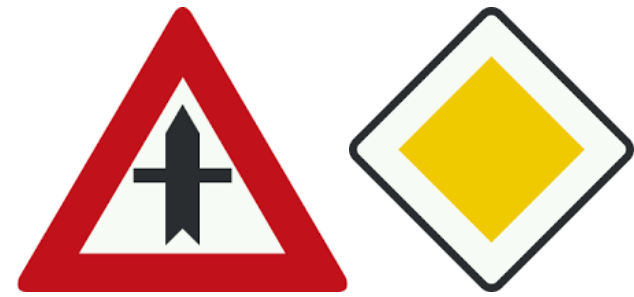




# Priority, right of way

## Others should give priority to you when:

- Priority street sign or priority direction sign
- When you come from the right on an intersection of equal streets
- When you go straight ahead and others on the same street as you turn and cross your line
- Riding (and walking) over an **entrance construction**



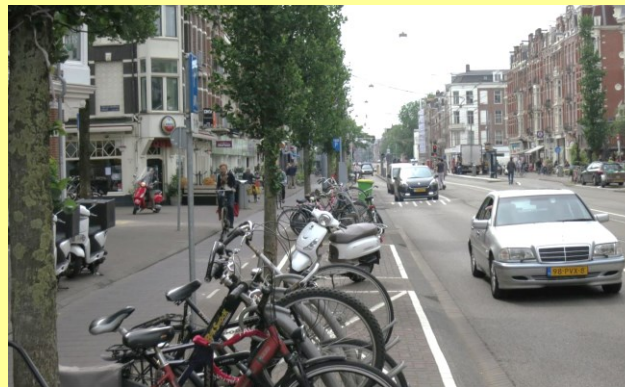
Learn more in [Bicycle Dutch](#)'s video :

[Road signs and regulations for cycling in the Netherland](#)

With from 3:30 all about priority



# Different roads and areas





## Residential streets:

low speed (max30), few cars, bikes and cars can mix





Residential street and main cycle route:

On this one along river Amstel over 25,000 cyclists/day

**One-way for cars, two-way for cyclists**, as on many streets in Amsterdam (uitgezonderd = except)





## Main roads:

Seperate bike lanes, Priority, Since 2023 max 30km/h.

**NB: Segregated tram/bus lanes are still max 50**





**Beware!**

Not all main roads have safe cycling, yet ....



Most cycle paths are one-way.

**Don't be a 'ghost cyclist',**  
use the cycle path on right side of the road.



Only a few cycle paths are two-way  
This is indicated by signs and road marking





Independent bike lanes are two-way  
Along canals, through parks, ...



# Cycling with confidences



# Turning right

Let everyone going straight ahead on the same street as you go first

- Watch, indicate, give way
- Turn right when you can





# Turning left

Let everyone going straight ahead on the same street as you go first

## Quiet road:

- Watch, indicate
- Move to the left when you can
- Turn left



## Busy road:

- Turn left directly, or
- Use bike box, or
- Cross to the other side, and then turn left



# Road marking





# Signs for cyclists



and all general signs





# Signs for no cycling





# It can be busy on bike lanes

Then extra important to look, interact and make clear what you are going to do.

Don't stop or turn abruptly. Don't stop in the middle of the road.





# Attention!





# Large vehicles have blind spots, to the right and in front.

## Be aware, stay out of there!

- Esp. when large vehicles turn right and at traffic lights
- They come closer when turning
- **Keep behind them**



# Dooring

Keep enough distance to parked cars



## The dooring





# “Single” party accidents



# Trams

- Trams have right of way when turning
- Look well, you don't hear trams!
- Collision with tram cause serious injury
- Cross tram tracks as much as possible at right angles!
- Beware of speeding taxis on tram lanes





## At night

- Lights and reflectors by law
- Reckon for cyclists without .....
- Cars drive faster at night,
  - taxis especially
- Many traffic lights are turned off at night
- Alcohol and drugs .....

Find the cyclist....

# Different vehicles on the cycle path:

Bicycles, e-bikes, fast e-bikes, e-cargo-bikes, fatbikes, scooters, .... **Some at high speeds**





# Smart cycling





# While cycling, can I...





# Luggage

Carry it safely packed on your bike, or fixed to yourself





# Parking and locking

- Best in a bicycle rack and ‘fixed to the earth’,
- (or) in a bicycle parking lot
- Lock both wheels
- Don't block the way for others





# Bicycle parking rules

At busy sites, such as train stations:

- Only in official parking facility
- Max. 2 weeks
- Many guarded bike parks 1st day gratis

Other places

- Max 4 weeks

At VU

- Racks
- Indoor bike park (??)

**Your bike may be taken away when you don't park it correctly!**



**When you didn't park your bike  
correctly, it may have been taken to  
[the Fietsdepot](#)**





# Things that can go wrong

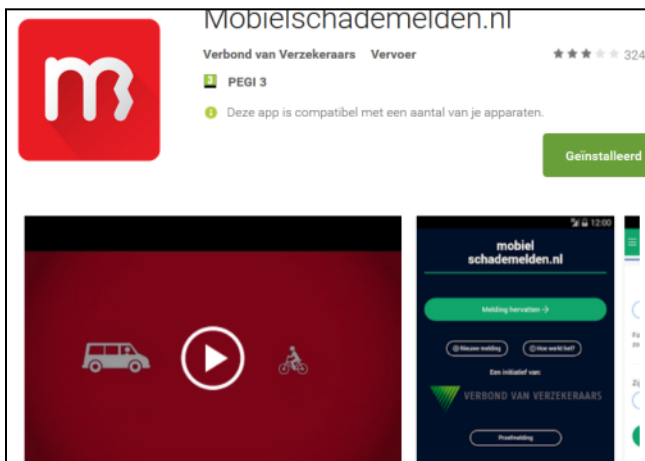


**Flat tire, chain off, ....**  
Fix it, or have it fixed



## **Bike gone?**

1. Check [the Fietsdepot](https://www.verlorenofgevonden.nl/melding)
2. If it isn't there, report via:  
<https://www.verlorenofgevonden.nl/melding>



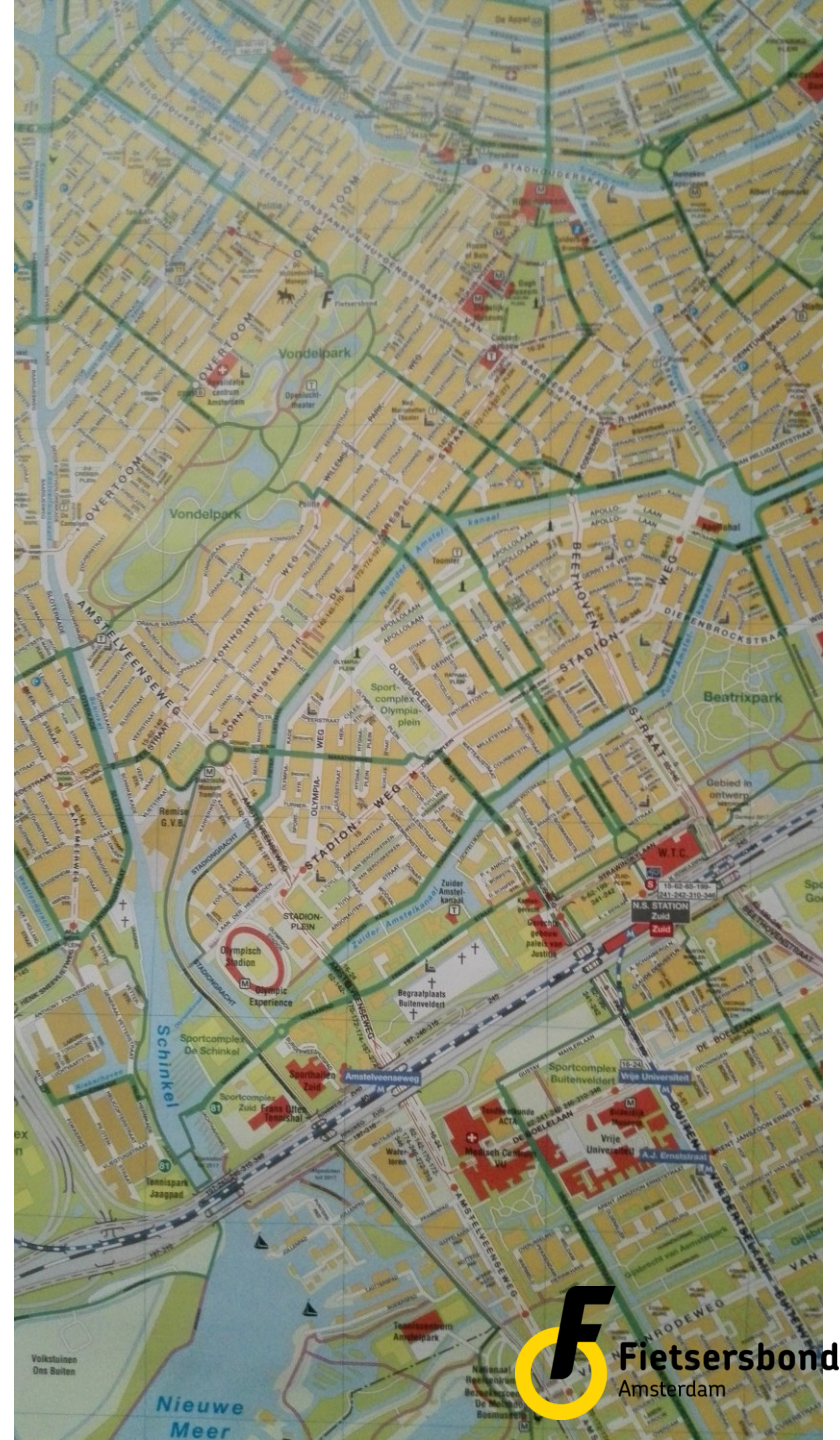
## **Accident?**

Dial **112** when serious  
Not so bad? Notify via app:  
[mobielschademelden.nl](https://mobielschademelden.nl)

# Finding good routes

- Signposts for cyclists
- Bicycle maps: esp....
- Routeplanner for cyclists:

<http://en.routeplanner.fietsersbond.nl>





# Welcome in Bike City Amsterdam!

## Take care and enjoy!



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