



Sacramento Region

Mayisbikemonth.com

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NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: A.J. Tendick
(916) 321-9000

REGION ENDS BIKE MONTH WELL OVER A MILLION
Individuals, employers honored for supporting bicycling

People in the Sacramento region are taking bicycling seriously, with **1,288,676** miles logged in May. During the month-long campaign, 7,266 individuals signed up at mayisbikemonth.com to log their miles. The Sacramento region's campaign to encourage bicycling has been challenging residents to ride one million bicycle miles in May since 2005.

Five exceptional individuals and employers have been recognized for incorporating bicycling into their daily routines and improving bicycling options throughout the region, for transportation or health and fitness.

Bike-Friendly Employer of the Year: Mercy General Hospital

Mercy General Hospital has a Commuter Options Program that helps it be environmentally-friendly and reduce its carbon footprint. In 2008, the program resulted in 5,600 commuting trips reduced, and 48,000 miles of those commute trips were by bicycle rather than motor vehicles.

In the parking garage, the hospital has set up a free bicycle shop with tools and an air pump for employees who need help with minor repairs on site.

Mercy's Cycling Club organizes free Fun Rides on weekends for employees, their family and friends. On October 24th, Mercy General Hospital will celebrate its 3rd Fall Classic, a bicycling event open to the public, on the American River Parkway.

Bicycling Advocate of the Year: Bob Smart

For years Bob Smart has attended El Dorado County Transportation Commission (EDCTC) meetings, County Board of Supervisors meetings, and SACOG bike/pedestrian advisory committee meetings to elevate non-motorized issues. He has participated in the development of a number of bicycle plans as a member of the local bicycle advisory committee.

Bob has dedicated a great portion of his time to securing funding, promoting development, and creating awareness for bicycling in El Dorado County. The county will be a better place for bicyclists in large part due to the efforts of this bicycling advocate.

Cyclist of the Year: Ron Kampling

Ron Kampling started as a part-time, part-way bicyclist and has evolved into a full-time complete trip bicyclist and is now the regional leader for most trip reduction miles during May.

Ron sets the example and helps encourage his co-workers to start bicycling to work. At his worksite, he is responsible for establishing bicycle lockers, lockable storage for employees' bicycles, and employee showers. He has arranged for his employer to sponsor bicycling events and be a steward of part of the American River Parkway. He has also helped to establish a work bicycling club, which helps build camaraderie among employees and their family and friends.

Student Cyclist of the Year: Corey Hawkins

Corey Hawkins got involved in advocacy last year by lobbying the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors to make changes to some of the county's rural roads so he and his fellow students could bicycle to school. As a member of the El Dorado County Youth Commission, Corey coordinated other high school students to create and produce a

Safe Cycling video in partnership with El Dorado County Transportation Commission and the 50 Corridor Transportation Management Association.

This month, he helped to put on a Bike Summit including a short student bicycle tour, refreshments, exhibits and speakers from the American River Conservancy and the local transportation planning agency.

Bicycle Program of the Year: Ed Cox, Bike Valet Parking

For 15 years, Ed Cox has managed the bicycle valet parking, lined up crews and maintained the compound, all on his own time. He has a bicycle trailer that he loads with hundreds of pounds of fencing, racks and gear which makes this the only bicycle valet program that is 100% bicycle powered. More than 5,000 bicycles are parked at over 30 events each year, from downtown concerts at Cesar Chavez Plaza to the Salmon Festival along the American River to the air shows in Rancho Cordova. Best of all, the service is free.

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