



DATE: May 20, 2019

TO: Mayor Chelminiak and City Councilmembers

FROM: Paula Stevens, Interim Director, 425-2802
Transportation Department

SUBJECT: Bike Everywhere Month Proclamation

May is Bike Month. Currently sponsored nationally by the League of American Bicyclists, this event was first established in 1956 to encourage people to try bicycling and showcase the benefits of bicycling. According to the League, 40 percent of all trips in the U.S. are less than two miles, making bicycling a feasible option for many trips. Bicycling promotes health and wellbeing and is a sustainable and economical way to get around. According to the U.S. Census, from 2000 to 2017, the percent of people commuting by bicycle in the Puget Sound region increased by 50 percent.

In Washington State, bike month is celebrated as Bike Everywhere Month. The statewide organization Washington Bikes, together with local bicycle clubs, employers and government entities, celebrates Bike Month each May through the Bike Everywhere Challenge. This challenge encourages friends and colleagues to create teams for fun and friendly competitions to make it fun and easy for people to try biking to work or for any type of trip.

Through its Choose Your Way Bellevue travel options program, the City of Bellevue works with Cascade Bicycle Club and other organizations in the region to conduct education and encouragement events throughout the month, culminating in Bike Everywhere Day on May 17. According to Cascade, on Bike Everywhere Day in 2018, 20,000 riders were spotted biking at over 120 Celebration Stations in the Puget Sound region. Each year the City of Bellevue takes part by maintaining bike day stations at Enatai and the Bellevue Transit Center to greet hundreds of riders with refreshments, small reward items and kudos. Bike Month brings out new and seasoned riders alike.

The City of Bellevue supports bicycling in Bellevue through the Pedestrian and Bicycle Implementation Initiative, which focuses on advancing the projects and programs identified by the adopted 2009 Pedestrian and Bicycle Transportation Plan. Through the Initiative, the City is slated to complete 21 miles of new bike lanes in 2018 and 2019 combined.

This Proclamation celebrates those who get out on their bikes in Bellevue this month, and the organizations and staff in Bellevue and throughout the region that support them.