

<u>News Release</u>

Subject: Yakima Bicycle Master Plan

Contact: Yakima Senior Planner Valerie M. Smith– 575-6042 Communications & Public Affairs Director Randy Beehler – 901-1142

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Yakima Bicycle Master Plan Survey Now Available On Line

An online survey is one of several ways that the City of Yakima will use to gather community input on development of a Yakima Bicycle Master Plan. In addition to the survey, an interactive map is also available on the City website that allows users an opportunity to draw bike routes, point out problem areas for bicyclists, and identify popular designations. The online survey and interactive map can be accessed by clicking <u>http://bit.ly/1KoSqF8</u>.

The City has hired the Toole Design Group of Seattle to help coordinate the bicycle master plan development process for Yakima's 300 miles of streets.

The public outreach effort will include a variety of events during the month of May. The first will be on Sunday, May 3rd during the annual Cinco de Mayo celebration in Downtown Yakima. An informational booth will be open from 10:30 am to 1:30 pm to provide an opportunity for the public to learn more about bicycle facilities and current planning efforts.

"Feet in the Street" will be held on Sunday, May 17th adjacent to the Yakima Farmer's Market on North 3rd Street from 11:00 AM to 3:00 pm. The event will provide lots of family fun with a special emphasis on bicycle and pedestrian safety and is sponsored by the City of Yakima, Yakima Valley Conference of Governments, and the Yakima Health District.

The Yakima Convention Center will be the location of the "Voices for Our Streets" event on Thursday, May 21st. The public will have an opportunity to learn about the "complete streets" concept and provide comment on current and future bike facilities needs in Yakima. Informational booths will also allow visitors to connect and engaged with representatives of agencies involved in local and regional transportation planning efforts. The event will run from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm.

The Yakima Bicycle Master Plan is expected to be completed in late 2015 or early 2016.