

Washington leads pack again as 'Bicycle-Friendly State'

Local News

Posted by: David Haviland

Posted on : May 1, 2013 at 6:00 pm

OLYMPIA — As the nation celebrates Bike Month in May, Washington state has one more reason to cheer: For the sixth consecutive year, the League of American Bicyclists has named Washington No. 1 "Bicycle-Friendly State" in the country. Strong partnerships among the state's cities, counties, advocacy organizations, state agencies and transportation providers form the foundation of Washington's success in improving conditions for bicycling and walking. "This title confirms that Washington is on the right path in recognizing bicycling as part of a sustainable, multimodal transportation system," said Gov. Jay Inslee. "Bicycling is embraced by Washingtonians as a form of transportation that enhances our quality of life and honors our environment." The League of American Bicyclists evaluated the state's cycling success in categories, including legislation and enforcement, policies and programs, infrastructure and funding, education and encouragement and evaluation and planning.

"We've made significant gains in improving the conditions for bicyclists and pedestrians in our state, but there much more that we can do through partnerships and low-cost enhancements," said Washington's Secretary of Transportation Lynn Peterson. "The League's evaluation reinforces the need to include bicycle facilities as part of our transportation programs." WSDOT [supports bicycling](#) through a number of efforts including: [State Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan](#) that guide investments and policy decisions based on goals to improve connections, increase coordination and reduce traffic congestion [Pedestrian and Bicycle Program grants](#) that improve infrastructure and facilities for walking and biking [Safe Routes to School](#) that improve conditions and provide information for children who walk or bike to school [Designing for bicyclists](#) to include bike and pedestrian facilities in urban-area construction and preservation projects [Washington State Bicycle and Pedestrian Documentation Project](#), which tracks the number of cyclists and pedestrians annually to identify opportunities for improvement The [League of American Bicyclists](#) promotes bicycling for fun, fitness and transportation and works through advocacy and education for a bicycle-friendly America. Hyperlinks within the release: · WSDOT supports bicycling: wsdot.wa.gov/bike/default.htm · State bicycle and pedestrian plan: wsdot.wa.gov/bike/bike_plan.htm · Pedestrian and bicycle program grants: wsdot.wa.gov/bike/call.htm · Safe Routes to School: wsdot.wa.gov/LocalPrograms/SafeRoutes/ · Designing for bicycles: wsdot.wa.gov/bike/designing.htm · Bicycle and Pedestrian Documentation Project: www.wsdot.wa.gov/bike/Count.htm · League of American Bicyclists: www.bikeleague.org/index.php