



**Pedestrian and Bicycle
Information Center**



Building Momentum for Youth Biking: Bike Buses, Bike Trains, and Bike & Roll to School Day

Nancy Pullen-Seufert UNC Highway Safety Research Center

Sam Balto Portland Public Schools

Megan Ramey Hood River County School District

pedbikeinfo.org

   @pedbikeinfo

Housekeeping

- ⇒ **Submit your questions**
- ⇒ **Webinar archive: www.pedbikeinfo.org/webinars**
- ⇒ **Certificates and professional development hours**
- ⇒ **Follow-up email later today**
- ⇒ **Review previous episodes and sign up for upcoming sessions**

BIKE & ROLL TO SCHOOL DAY JOIN US MAY 3, 2023!



Register today for Bike & Roll to School Day!

Washington, DC Mayor Bowser on Bike & Roll to School Day



Photo source: www.walkbiketoschool.org

BIKE & ROLL TO SCHOOL DAY

- One-half of events part of ongoing promotion of walking/biking to school
- In 2022, 75% motivated by building a sense of neighborhood



Photo source: www.walkbiketoschool.org

WALK BIKE & ROLL TO SCHOOL

PLAN
an event

SEE
who's signed up

BEYOND
the event

LEARN
more

REGISTER
Sign up today!



Register today for Bike & Roll to School Day!

pedbikeinfo.org

[f](#) [t](#) [v](#) @pedbikeinfo



Bike Bus

... just riding on vibes!!

Sam Balto - PE Teacher
Walking School Bus & Bike Bus Specialist
Twitter, TikTok, Linktree: @CoachBalto
CoachBalto@gmail.com

The State of Student Transportation:

“The percentage of students walking or biking to school has decreased dramatically over time, from 42 percent in 1969 to only 10 percent in 2017.”

-Why, and How, Kids Should Walk or Bike to School by Bonnie O’Keefe

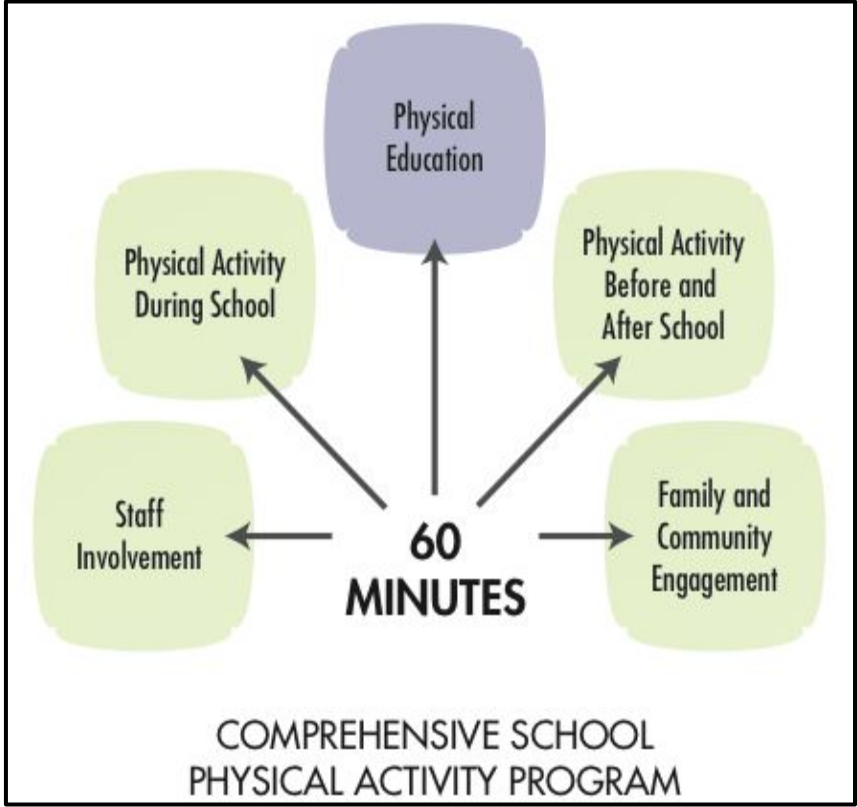


THERE IS TOO MUCH TRAFFIC
FOR BILLY TO WALK TO SCHOOL ;
SO WE DRIVE HIM.



Lockwood

Traffic Inducing Traffic



Join the movement!!!



What is the bike bus?



Building a successful Bike Bus program

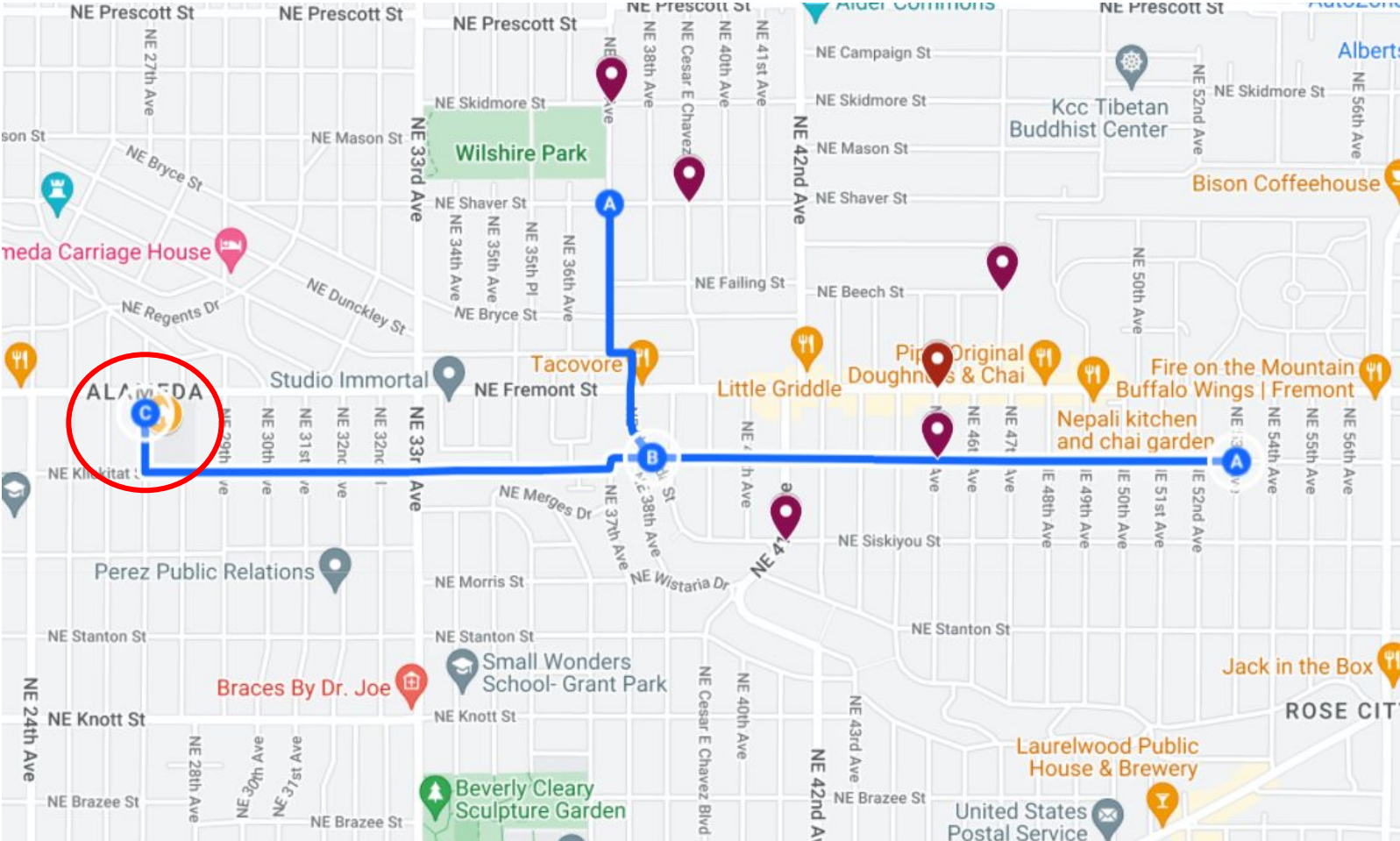
- 1) Find another family to do it with.
- 2) Make a map with meeting times and share it with everyone. Be inclusive and welcoming.
- 3) Be consistent. Our bike bus has had consistent growth because we are consistent and students/families can plan for it.
- 4) Just do it. Even if it's a three-block ride, that is amazing. You have to start somewhere and build support.



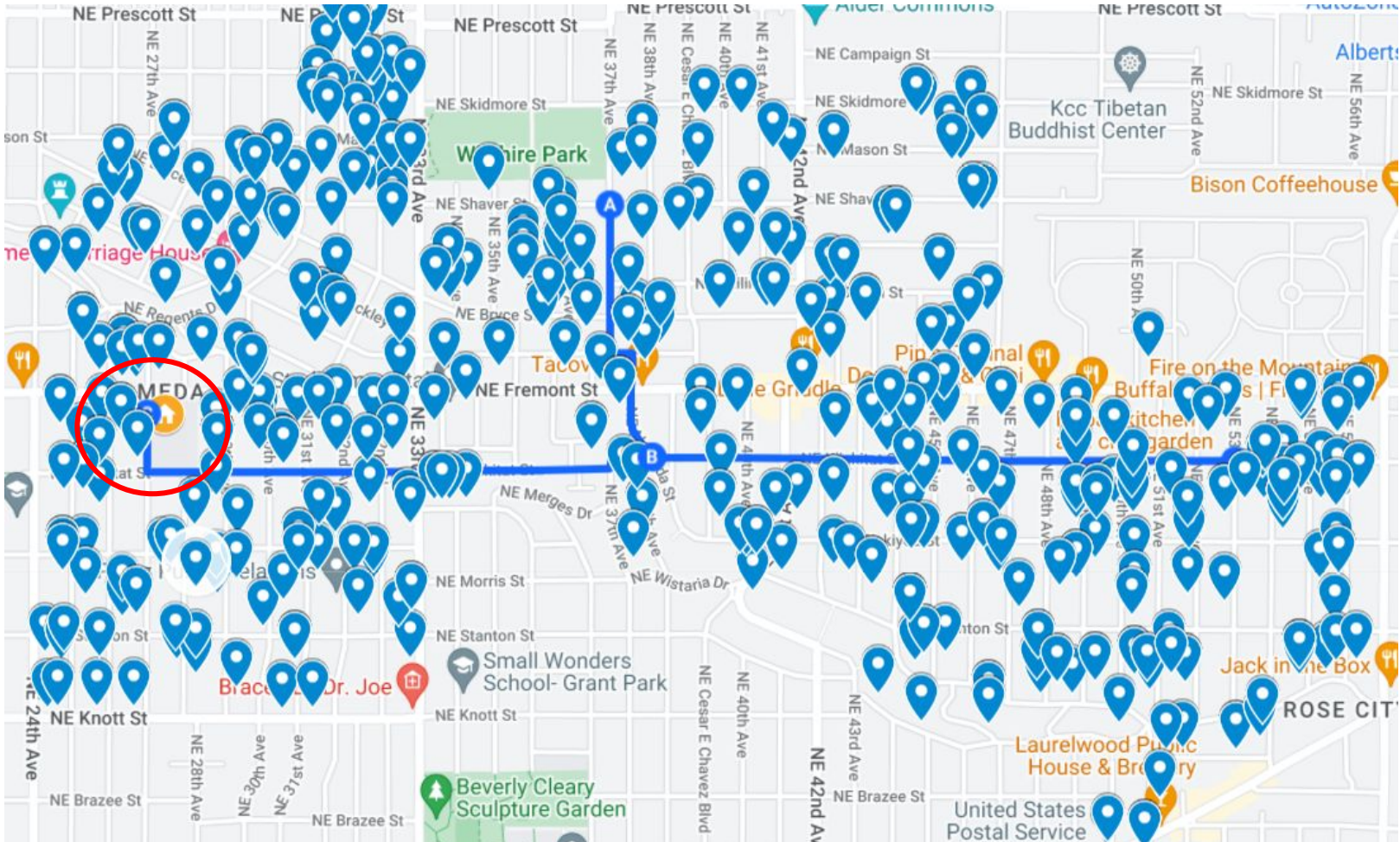
bikeportland.org

Sam Balto on how to start a bike bus of your own

Picking a Bike Bus route:



Bike Bus route with student map:





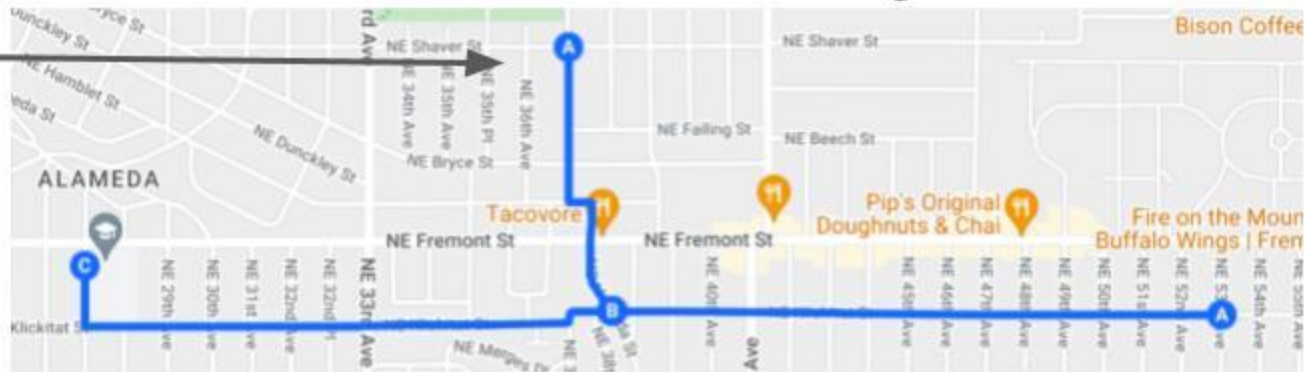
Bike Bus for Earth Day

BikePortland · 2.4K views · 10 months ago



Alameda Bike Bus Every Wednesday

New Location!



A 8:10am-
NE Shaver & NE 37th or
NE 53rd & NE Klickitat

B 8:15am-
NE Alameda & NE Klickitat

C 8:25am-
Alameda School



Email Coach Balto with
any questions or
concerns @
sbalto@pps.net

Be consistent





"BIKE BUS"



>>> SOME PARENTS IN OREGON ARE HAVING LARGE GROUPS OF THEIR CHILDREN RIDE THEIR BIKES TO




The Washington Post
@washingtonpost

"Bikes provide a sense of freedom and joy that I was not expecting," said teacher Sam Balto, who leads a caravan of kids to school in Portland, Ore.



washingtonpost.com
These kids ride a 'bike bus' to school. Residents line the streets and cheer.



 Oregon PE Coach Leads Weekly 100-Kid Bike Bus To School

Live Tracker
bergenbiketrain.glitch.me

BERGEN BIKE BUS

ROCKAWAY AVE TO COURT ST
EVERY WEDNESDAY, 7:15-8AM
(RAIN OR SHINE!!)



BARCELONA BIKE BUS SUMMIT 2023

30th - 31st March 2023

A global collective of leaders in
sustainable and active transit for
children



HAPPY HYDERABAD
THE BANYAN OF HAPPINESS

IN COLLABORATION WITH



PRESENTS

BICYCLE BUS

DATE: 22nd January
TIME: 6:00 am - 7:30am

LOCATION: Academic Heights
Public School &
Bachpan School, Madhapur.
Contact: 9618755500

-CHIEF GUEST-



Ms. K Shiipavalli (IPS),
Deputy Commissioner of Police,
Cyberabad.



An Initiative By
Bicycle Mayor Of Hyderabad - Santhana Selvan

#CyclingCommunityOfHyderabad

RAVI: 97017 44814 | ANJANI: 79813 23170

Bike Bus Brazil is starting with a handful of kids in a few São Paulo city neighborhoods. 🇧🇷



folha.uol.com.br

Pais criam bonde das bikes para levar crianças à escola - 04/03/2023 - Coti...
Iniciativa com alunos acompanhados de adultos busca reduzir uso carro e ampliar vivência da cidade de São Paulo; veja dicas de segurança

Just do it!!



Let's talk policy!

Four truths:

- 1) Children & cars aren't friends.
- 2) It is inequitable or unsustainable to rely on people to volunteer.
- 3) Induced demand works in all aspects of our lives.
- 4) We can do hard things. If we had political will to demolish entire neighborhoods to build highways, we can make streets safe for children to walk and bike to school.

Bike Bus Bill- HB 3014

Oregon mulls 'bike bus bill' to fund alternative transportation to school

Updated: Mar. 06, 2023, 7:01 a.m. | Published: Mar. 06, 2023, 7:00 a.m.



Alameda Elementary School students participate in a bike bus on Wednesday, September 14, 2022 in Portland. Vickie Connor/The Oregonian

KOIN.com



Mor Furniture for Less
Mor Furniture for Less



Bike buses could expand at Oregon schools if lawmakers pass proposed bill

Amanda Arden

4 days ago



Students gather for the start of a ride with the Alameda Bike Bus. Kids from Alameda Elementary School are invited to ride their bikes together to school once a week with adults volunteering to supervise. Photo courtesy Sam Balto

'Bike Bus Bill' would give school districts more flexibility with transportation funding

February 14, 2023 by Taylor Griggs (Staff Writer)

A large group of children and adults are riding bicycles on a residential street. The scene is bright and sunny, with houses and trees in the background. The children are wearing helmets and colorful clothing, and the adults are also wearing helmets and some are wearing high-visibility vests. The bicycles are of various colors and sizes, and the group is moving along the street in a line.

THE BIKE BUS GOES TO SALEM
PUBLIC HEARING ON HB 3014:
THE BIKE BUS BILL
Monday, February 20th
WEAR YOUR BIKE HELMET!

LIVE 3PM
OREGON STATE CAPITOL HEARING ROOM D

RSVP TO JOIN US!
[HTTPS://LINKTR.EE/REPKHANHPHAM](https://linktr.ee/repkhanhpham)



Sam Balto

CoachBalto@gmail.com

Twitter, TikTok, Linktree:

@CoachBalto

The Bike Train: when kids' visual presence reminds us what matters

Megan Ramey
Safe Routes to School Manager
Hood River County School District



PBIC Mar 2023

Megan

- Safe Routes to School Manager
- Founder of Bikabout.com
- Board Member, Columbia Area Transit
- ODOT Active Transportation Rep for Region 1: 4 counties of metro-Portland



Why I'm Passionate





“Many kids go to neighborhood schools on foot and by themselves, that’s quite typical...Roads and street networks are designed for kids to walk in a safe manner,” Hironori Kato, a professor of transportation planning at the University of Tokyo. via Time, April 22, 2022.

© Netflix / Old Enough

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How the bike train was born in Hood River, Oregon

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Nuts & Bolts

How does the bike train work?

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Kids' stories, observations, effect on leadership and culture

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Future

Policy opportunities, Infrastructure and School Demonstrations



Hood River, population 9,000



HORIZON CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Choo choo

The Hood River Bike Train is a Covid silver lining story



GENESIS

NUTS & BOLTS

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Principal Kelly takes a chance on me



A Bike Train Sparks Change

PBIC Mar 2023

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NUTS & BOLTS

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National Walk & Roll to School Day, October 2020

 **Megan Ramey** @BIKABOUT · Oct 9, 2020

102 kids and parents took a break from distance learning to ride in 2 bike trains 🚲 🏫 for #biketoschoolday and I was the conductor!

When in-person school is safe again, we need to make this happen every day

[#hoodriver](#) @SafeRoutesPNW



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NUTS & BOLTS

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Bike Train Shines a Light



Tom Flood
@tomflood1

The simple act of walking/biking/rolling your kids to school will forever change how you see our “shared” spaces. The imbalance and absurdity of it all is shocking.

4:47 AM · Mar 2, 2022 · Twitter for iPhone

348 Retweets 25 Quote Tweets 2,702 Likes



Megan Ramey @BIKABOUT · Mar 2

Replying to @tomflood1

15 kids on a 6 foot strip of pavement while 60 feet sits unused next to it.

This is why the #biketrain is one of the best tools in advocacy because it shows how misaligned our priorities are and what needs to change.



8

56

414



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Bike Train Shows Us A Better Way



A Bike Train Sparks Change

PBIC Mar 2023

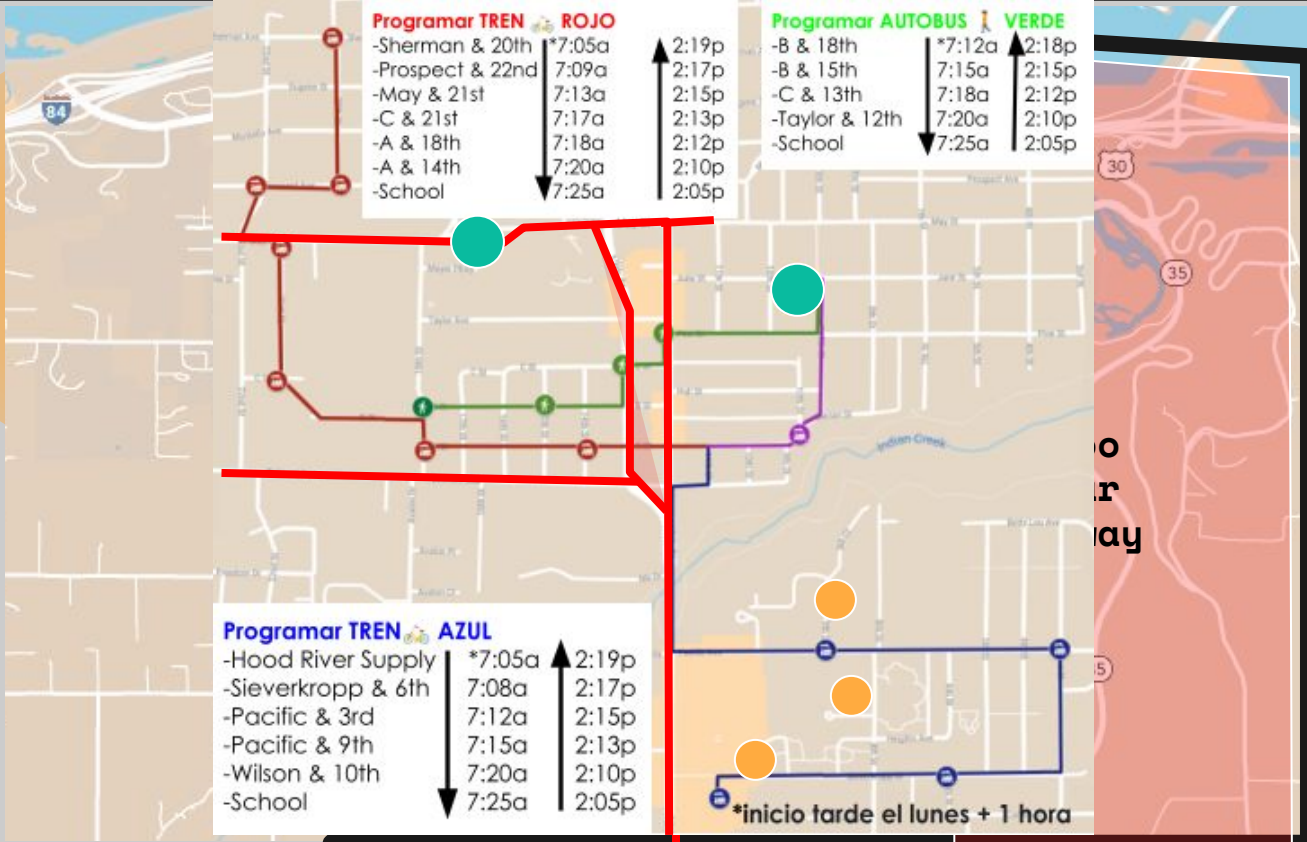
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PLANS & BOLTS

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Route Planning: Barriers to Overcome?



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WUTS & BOLTS

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Recruiting Volunteers



A Bike Train Sparks Change

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Learning As You Go



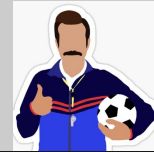
Volunteer Mindset

Be a shepherd and take deep breaths.



Learn Kids' Names

Get parents' contact info. Partner with PTO & School in communications



Be Ted Lasso

Wide spectrum of personalities. Listen and help.



Schedule

Stick to schedule and alter seasonally, if needed. Use SignUp for volunteers.



Roll Wit It

Mechanicals, weather, wardrobe, crashes...sh*t happens. Treat kids like your own.



Liability

Parent-lead program. Schools treats program the same as students who walk or bike.

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WHEELS & BOLTS

IMPACT

FUTURE



By Megan Hammer

A young girl named
Liam, who lives in the
Hillside neighborhood,
was the first to
ride a bike to school.
He was 6 years old
and had been riding
for a few months.
His parents had
bought him a bike
and he had been
riding it every day.
His parents had
bought him a bike
and he had been
riding it every day.

worry, and that afternoon,
when school for us kids
started, we had a
conversation about
Liam's bike. We talked
about how he was
riding to school and
subject to school that
day. I asked if he
wanted to ride to
school every day.
That same evening,
as the city was running
the Kids Lead program,
I called the city and
asked if we could
participate. They
said yes, and we
started the program.
We have been
riding to school
every day since then.


in some kids, the
idea of riding to
school is a big
challenge. But for
kids like Liam,
it's a natural part
of their lives. We
want to make sure
that every kid has
the opportunity to
ride a bike to school.
We want to make
sure that every kid
has the opportunity
to ride a bike to
school.

At our first meeting,
we had about 20
kids. We had a
lot of fun. We
talked about how
to ride a bike to
school. We talked
about how to
stay safe. We
talked about how
to get to school
on time. We talked
about how to
ride a bike to
school.


It's easy to get lost
in the details of
the program. But
it's important to
remember that
the goal is to
make sure that
every kid has the
opportunity to
ride a bike to
school.



Won \$20,000 grant from ODOT



Expand Bike Train
Grow and add walking bus



Safety Rodeo
Add biking and walking curriculum to PE



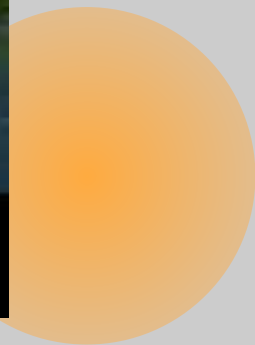
Free Bikes 4 Kids
Donate used bikes to underserved kids and their parents

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Bike Rodeos



Megan Ramey
@BIKABOUT

Top 5 places kids want to ride their bikes to*:

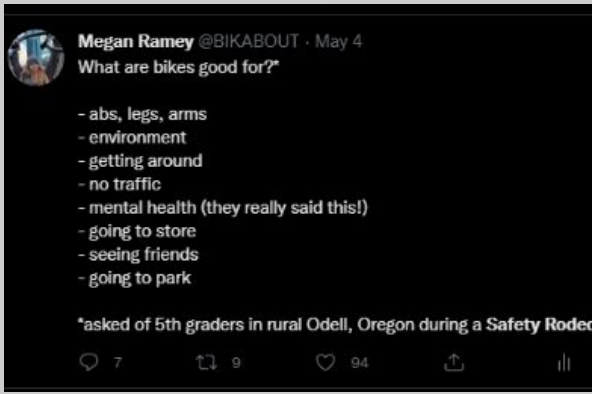
1. Parks/playground
2. Friend's house
3. Library
4. Pool
5. Food/Retail - Dairy Queen, Starbucks, Subway, grocery, Walmart

* according to Kindergartners and 5th graders that I am teaching how to ride this week

7:53 PM · Mar 28, 2022 from Hood River, OR · Twitter for Android

View Tweet analytics

28 Retweets 21 Quote Tweets 310 Likes



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TOOLS & BOLTS

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100 Bikes Donated!

Students and families in need received bikes through a partnership with Anson's Bike Buddies, our Free Bikes 4 Kidz program.



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Sell Leadership on Bikes

Mayor Kate rode with the bike train, rode on an ebike, policymakers ride and bought an ebike the next day.



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TOOLS & BOLTS

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Hood River City Council adopted SRTS Plan and won the \$100K ODOT Education Grant!

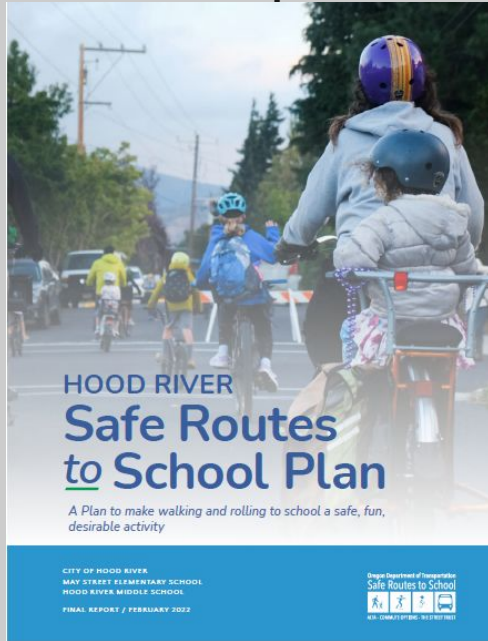


Table 3. Top-Priority Safe Routes to School Locations on ODOT Roadways

CONTEXT	SHORT-TERM IMPROVEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS	JURISDICTION
May Street and 12th Street Intersection		
The intersection of May St and 12th St is an offset intersection with significant vehicle traffic, including freight (AADT -10,300 for the segment of 12th and 10,000 for the segment of May west of 12th). People driving north on 12th St turn right onto May St and then immediately turn left to rejoin 12th St, often without expecting pedestrians to be present at the crosswalk on the north side of May St, where students travel to and from both schools.	Restripe all crosswalks to high-visibility, continental markings. Southside: Reduce the curb radius of the SE corner of 12th St and May St with striping to encourage people driving to slow down and watch out for people crossing as they approach May St.	ODOT
May Street and 13th Street Intersection		
The free right turn for vehicles turning from May St (westbound) to 13th St (northbound) creates a challenging crossing for students traveling along the north side of May St. The crossing distance at this crosswalk is also very long, as this turn must accommodate freight vehicles. As mentioned above, May St is a popular route for students walking and biking to both May Street Elementary and Hood River Middle School. Ultimately, a protected bicycle facility on May St is desired, and the south side of the street would preferably be improved to facilitate walking.	Restripe all crosswalks to high-visibility continental markings. Realign the crosswalk on the north leg of the intersection across 13th St to be more perpendicular to the path of travel being crossed, improving visibility of students in the crosswalk.	ODOT
12th Street		
12th St is an essential route for students travel north-south. Students walking and biking from the Sieverkopp neighborhood use the sidewalk along the east side of 12th St as it crosses Indian Creek, and several conflicts have occurred, including a few involving people with mobility impairments. 12th St is also a significant barrier for students traveling east-west, especially at the following intersections: Taylor St / Pine St, B St, Wilson St / A St, and Pacific Ave.	Remove parking south of the crosswalk at Pine St to improve pedestrian visibility. Coordinate with ODOT to re-open closed crosswalks.	ODOT
13th Street		
13th St is another important north-south route, as well as a barrier for students traveling east-west. Significant intersection barriers along 13th St include Sherman St, Taylor St, B St, A St, and Belmont Ave. 13th St serves as an access point for Jackson Park, just south of Hood River Middle School.	Add a speed feedback sign coming up the hill towards the Taylor St intersection to slow traffic down. Consider re-opening the north leg of the intersection, if traffic speeds can be reduced.	ODOT

8 schools in the Hood River School District have a dedicated SRTS manager for 2022-2024

Supported by 9 agencies: City, County, Fire, Police, PT0, Health, Parks

Ramey named Safe Routes to School manager

■ **By Stephanie Hoppe**
HRCSD communications director

After receiving the Oregon Department of Education (ODOT) Safe Routes to School grant in June, Megan Ramey was named the manager of the program for Hood River County School District (HRCSD). Ramey is the mother of a HRCSD student and is an advocate for safe routes to school.

“I am really passionate about kids walking, rolling and biking to school, giving them childhood independence, health and a sense of place,” Ramey said. “Providing mobility education to our Hood River County students while helping our city, county and parks district build sidewalks,



Megan Ramey teaching bike safety at Mid Valley Elementary earlier this year.

Contributed photo

Routes to School Education grant funding the position awarded to Ramey. Moving

When in-person school resumed in March 2021, Beard asked Ramey to “con-

law and etiquette and 50 students received free bikes through the program. For the

Advocacy for Safer Streets



A Better Heights
Rendering of 12th Street, design alternative #3

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INFRASTRUCTURE



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PIECES & BOLTS

IMPACT

FUTURE

Infrastructure & Equity

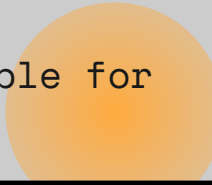


14%

of Middle School Parents said they would let their kids walk or bike to school, despite saying they strongly support safe walking or biking access to school.
-2018 Safe Routes to School survey

41%

of Middle School students eligible for free or reduced lunch



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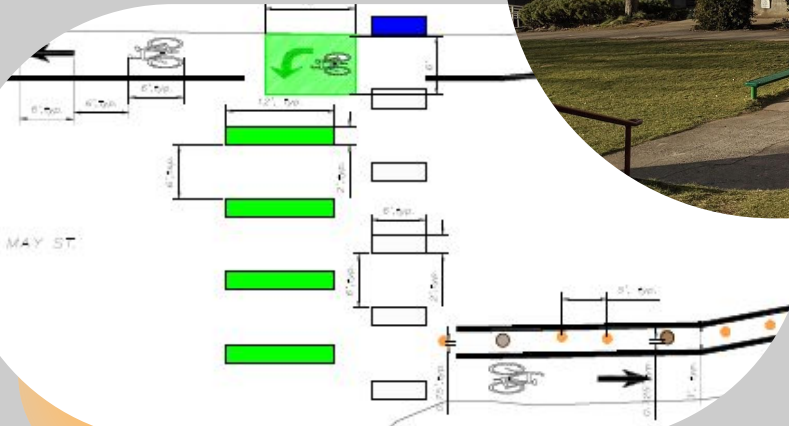
PLANTS & BOLTS

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School Club & Demonstration

\$20,000 program funded by ODOT Safety Grant



August-October 2023

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TOOLS & BOLTS

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80s Walk & Roll Club

80s Walk & Roll Club

Free to join

bikes and helmets provided or students can BYOBike
Details & Sign-up: or QR code below
<http://tinyurl.com/3c4mpmzf>

When: 4 Jan - 4 Jun, Mon & Fri, 3:30-5:30pm
Where: Hood River Middle School

for 5th-8th graders inspired by 80s movies and Stranger Things, we'll explore town by bike and foot to your favorite places. Also includes bike shop class, street design and a Biker's Ed License.



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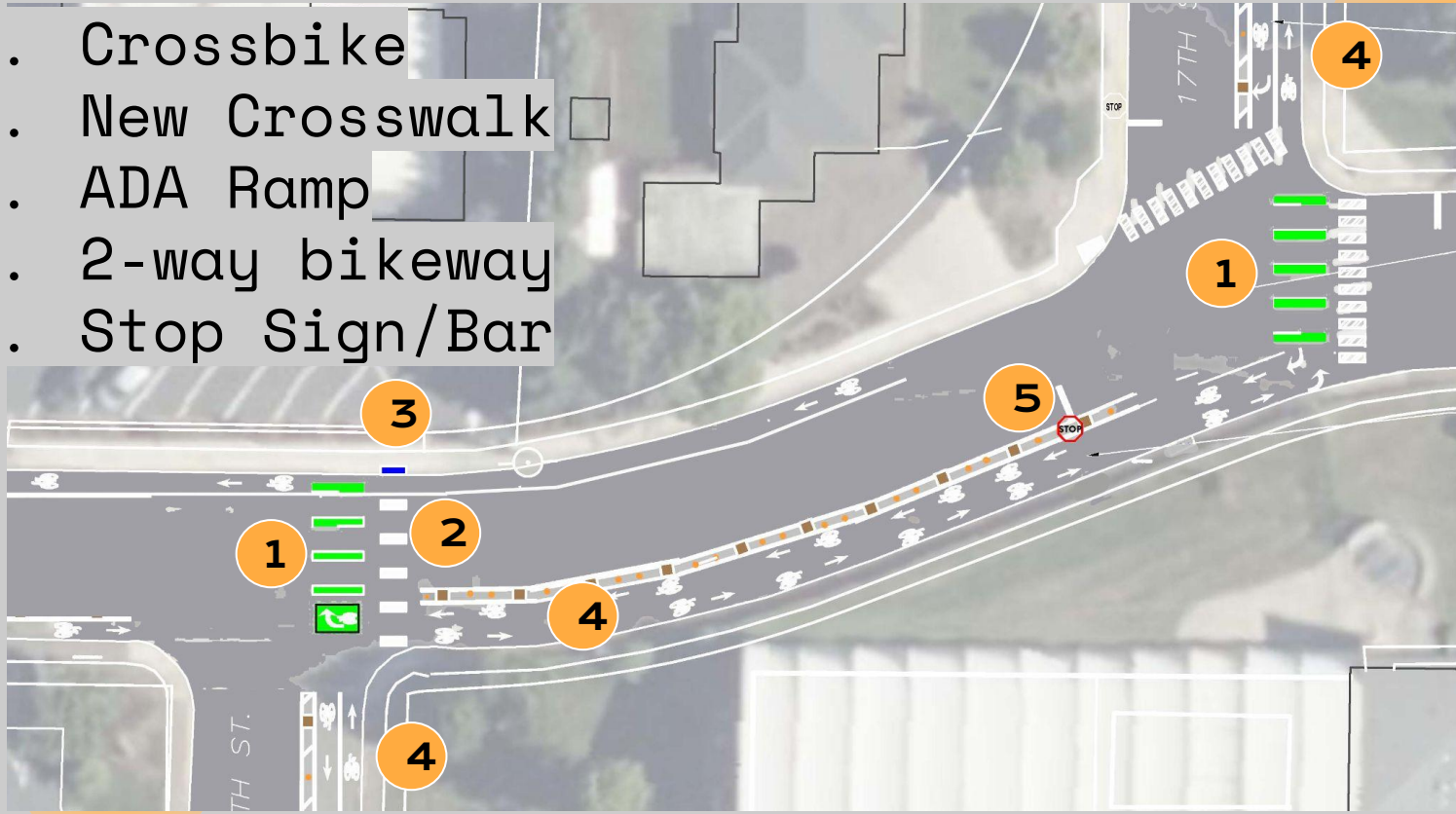
TOOLS & BOLTS

IMPACT

FUTURE

Demonstration at Middle School

1. Crossbike
2. New Crosswalk
3. ADA Ramp
4. 2-way bikeway
5. Stop Sign/Bar



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FUTURE

Demonstration at Middle School

Looking east at 18th and May

Before



AFTER



Rendering by Transform Your City

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Inspiration

Active Towns on Youtube

2 videocasts on my story and Sam Balto to get inspired about starting a bike train or walking bus at your school



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Thanks!

megan.ramey@hoodriver.k12.or.us
+608-215-1154
Bikabout.com



@hoodriverwalkandroll



@bikabout



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