



ODOT – BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN PLAN UPDATE

ODOT has initiated an update of the Oregon Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan which, like other ODOT modal plans, provides a vision and a policy framework for decision making and investment strategies within the context of the transportation system as a whole. Mode and topic plans refine the broad goals and policies of the [Oregon Transportation Plan \(OTP\)](#), applying considerations particular to the specific mode or topic.

ODOT's [original Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan](#) (PDF) was developed in 1995. In 2011 the [Design Guide](#) was separated from the policy portion of the Plan and updated. The new Plan will not include a new design guide, though it may inform a future update of the Design Guide.

Public involvement is critical to ensuring a successful Plan, and it is required under Goal One of the Oregon Statewide Planning Goals and the Federal Highway Administration. ODOT is committed to providing opportunities for public involvement throughout Plan development. Development of the Plan is guided by a Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) appointed by ODOT Director Matt Garrett and led by Oregon Transportation (OTC) Commissioner Tammy Baney. PAC members represent diverse stakeholders from around the state; local members include Jenna Stanke and Bill Thorndike.

Sign up here for the [interested parties list](#) to receive new information as it becomes available on the Plan website. A [summary of stakeholder interviews](#) and other background information is available on the [Pedestrian and Bicycle Plan website](#). You can [submit comments](#) to ODOT at any time throughout the update process.

The Club's Board would like a few Club members to form a review committee to monitor the planning process and develop a draft Club recommendation. The committee would probably meet a couple of times during the next six to eight months over coffee or a beer. It would be fun and stimulating. If you are interested in participating please forward an email to president@siskiyouvelo.org.

— Gary Shaff

ANNUAL PARTY

Wednesday, December 10 6:30—9:30 PM

Howiee's On Front

16 North Front Street, Medford

Wednesday, December 10 6:30—9:30 PM

Velo Club members: be prepared to let your hair down and have fun at our December Annual party, featuring music by **Colonel Mustard**, which plays top rock and popular music from over our lifetimes. Yes, you may tap your feet, but letting loose on the dance floor will be the choice for all of our fun-loving members. After all, if you can ride a bike, you can dance!

Howiee's will offer a buffet dinner and of course their many taps of microbrews and a full (cash) bar. Dinner, dancing and frivolity will cost members only \$10 and non-members \$14. Be sure to bring spouses, partners and guests. The more the merrier!

At 7:00 we will have a 15-minute meeting to elect the Club's Board of Directors for next year. We will present a slate of nominees and will also accept nominations from the floor. Velo Club members may attend the meeting at no cost in order to cast their votes. We will also recognize our many devoted ride leaders of 2014.

And then we will return to music and merriment until 9:30. [Register](#) now online.

OCTOBER RIDE LEADERS

Dennis Cramer

Phil Gagnon

Tom Ryan

Fred Stapenhorst

Ken Kelley

Ginny Jensen

Wayne Evitts

Ray Forsyth

Ron & Tracy Bass

Bob MacCracken



7 SISKIYOU VELO CLUB MEMBERS RIDE BRNW

by Dennis Cramer

Velo Club members Bill Dorris, Shane Spano, Steve Levesque, Dan Morse, Bill Tout, Rick Berlet and I joined a BRNW (Bike Rides Northwest) tour in central Oregon in August. Our ride



was set up to handle a maximum of 300 people, but they only had about 180. The entire ride was 464 miles over 7 riding days, with a little under 30,000 feet of total climbing. It was great having some friends along to share in the riding fun. The ride started in Spray, Oregon, which is about 70 miles NE of Prineville. We did a loop out of Spray that took us up through Heppner, Meadow Creek, Prairie City, John Day, and finally back to Spray. We followed the John Day River several times, through numerous canyons, the John Day Fossil Beds, into the Strawberry Mountains, and into the Blue Mountains. The planned loops out of John Day (2 days) had to be altered on the fly due to fires in the area. There were two rest stops on the daily rides, and each one had a fabulous selection of food

and drinks to keep us fed and fueled. This was much appreciated, especially on the 2 days we had that were 105 degrees!

I hadn't been to this part of Oregon before and was surprised to find some of these lush areas tucked between much of the desert areas. All the towns we went through were very small and glad to see our group come through or stay the night in their parks. This was the first supported tour I have ever done, as I usually am pulling a trailer with all of my stuff. I would highly recommend trying one of the supported tours if you haven't tried it. I am hooked on anything that gets me out into the country on my bike. I am already looking forward to some more tour ideas for next year.



NEW BIKE LANES IN ASHLAND

ODOT has designated (by striping with an 8 inch strip) bike lanes on OR66 in Ashland, which extends from the railroad overcrossing on Ashland Street, to Exit 14, and on out to Crowson Road. The new lanes add approximately three and one-half miles to the existing bicycle network in Southern Oregon. The addition also complements Ashland's "gold" ranking as a bicycle friendly community. Kudos to ODOT District 8 for making these changes and a special thanks to Art Anderson and Dan Dorrell of ODOT and ODOT's striping crew.

UPCOMING EVENTS

November

5 **VC Board Meeting** Grotto Pizza, Talent Bandgfam@jeffnet.org

December

10 **Annual Party** Howiee's On Front, Medford [Register](#)

-denotes a Velo Club event

-all Club events for the coming month are highlighted elsewhere in this issue

Where are you?

Dennis Cramer was the first of several to identify John Fertig's photo taken at Scenic Ave. and Tolo Rd.

Whoever can identify Dennis' photo at right may submit their own for the December newsletter.



NEXT VELO CLUB BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, November 5, 7:00 pm

Grotto Pizza

302 E. Main St., Talent

All Club members are welcome

For minutes of previous meetings, contact the Secretary at Glenna.Vanbuskirk@asante.org

Who are you?

John Fertig enjoys every kind of cycling and is committed to making the cycling environment a better place for us all.



How long have you lived in the Rogue Valley, and where did you come from? I've lived in the Rogue Valley since 1990 (Oregon since 1978). I grew up in Kentucky.

How long have you been a SVC member? About 20 years.

Tell us about your first bike. It was a single speed cruiser with coaster brakes that I rode to middle school. My first "10 speed" was a Schwinn Super Sport that I had while in the Marine Corps. The only speeding ticket that I have ever received was on that bike (28 in a 25 zone).

How often do you get on your bike, and what is an average ride for you? One-three days a week in the winter (I prefer skiing in cold weather) and four-five days a week in the summer. Winter & tandem rides are about 30-35 miles. Summer rides are usually 50-60 miles. My butt has a comfort rating of about 70 miles so I don't generally enjoy rides longer than that.

What do you ride? I have five bikes that I ride. Primarily, I ride a Trek Madone which replaced my steel Serotta last fall. My wife (Bonny) and I ride a Co-Motion Tandem, and I tour on a Co-Motion bike. I also ride a hardtail Mountain Bike, and I ride a fixed gear bike on errands and in the winter for exercise.

How many miles do you ride in a year? 5000-6000 since I retired six years ago. Over the last 20 years, I've evolved from a runner/skier/backpacker/cyclist to primarily a cyclist/skier.

Tell us about the most miserable day you've ever had in the saddle. Last fall I rode to Mt Ashland on a crisp, breezy sunny day. At Mt A it was 55 deg with clouds to the north. Less than 10 minutes later it was 38 deg with high wind and rain

threatening. Two minutes later it was snowing which turned to a heavy cold rain as we descended. Below Callahans the wind and rain had stripped the leaves from the trees onto the road. We were all hypothermic which made controlling the bike on a wet, leaf-covered road very difficult and scary. I was still hypothermic after 45 minutes in the car with the heater on max.

What is your favorite ride in the Rogue Valley?

There are so many great rides in the area it's hard to choose, but Crater Lake and Conde Creek (from the Lake Creek Store) are my favorites.

What is your favorite ride world-wide? Crater Lake Rim and the Icefield Parkway in Alberta.

What's the best thing about riding a bike? Riding is the best way to view and enjoy scenery (unless you're in a pace line). It's also great exercise, very relaxing, and low impact physically and on the environment.

What is your most embarrassing experience on a bike? While commuting home from work, I was clipped in, balancing on the bike at a traffic light. When the light turned green, I accelerated hard and the chain broke. I went over the handlebars and splayed myself on the road in front of a lot of traffic (still clipped in).

What's still on your cycle bucket list? Adirondacks to Maine tour.

What is your vision for cycling? I would like to see governments put as much emphasis on cycle/ped/mass transit infrastructure as they do on making driving convenient for motorists, so that society is prepared for when fuel prices really increase. It would be a relatively low cost effort with high long-term benefits.

CLASSIFIEDS

For sale: One LOT \$75.00

2 rear bike racks, 1 front pannier rack, 1 rear bag, 1 seat bag,
5 saddles (1 Brooks), 2 headlights, 1 pump, 1 Trek frame,
2 wheels, 1 handlebar, 2 bar ends

541 482 8390 or helmuts@ashlandcreek.net



Wanted: Trikers

I recently bought a trike and am looking for names of other such bent riders. I've run across a few on the greenway (Phil, Jerry, Ray and Bill excluded), and in conversation it turns out they are not Siskiyou Velo members, but often know one of us. So if you have any friends outside the club who would be interested in riding during the week (Phil has the week-ends covered), have them call or text me. I'll be out in the cold, but not the wet, leaving from Lyn Newbry Park most Tuesdays and Thursdays for 10-15 miles at the speed of a tadpole.

Judy Kerr [541-488-0758](tel:541-488-0758)

SISKIYOU VELO CLUB COMMITTEES

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Visit us on the Internet: <http://www.siskiyouvelo.org>
or at www.facebook.com/siskiyouvelo.bicycleclub

Newsletter contribution ore accepted until the 20th of the month.

Contact the editor at mlmoore97520@gmail.com for more information. Members are welcome
to submit letters, photos, stories, classifieds or other notices of interest to the club.

Siskiyou Velo Club PO Box 974 Ashland OR 97520

REGISTER YOUR BIKES

at

<http://www.ashland.or.us/FormPage.asp?FormID=145>

or

<http://www.ci.medford.or.us/FormPage.asp?FormID=58>



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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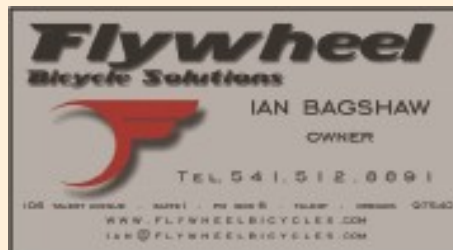
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The businesses above are Siskiyou Velo Club sponsors and offer members a 10% discount.