

PROCLAMATION

- PEOPLE riding bicycles is a viable and environmentally sound form of transportation and an excellent form of recreation.
- Approximately 60 percent of Rogue Valley residents ride bikes through educational programs, races, trail riding, and charity events as well as daily activities such commuting, running errand, visiting friends, or just getting out and going for a ride.
- Bicycling provides economic, health, and scenic benefits to citizens of Jackson County and the world.
- Oregon hosts 54 or more major bicycle events, including the local Up and Down Ride, and promotes bicycle tourism that attract thousands of cross-country and local bicyclists each year.
- These bicycling activities and attractions have great potential to have a positive impact on Southern Oregon's economy and tourism industry and to stimulate economic development by making the region attractive to businesses and citizens who enjoy the out of doors and healthy lifestyles.
- Creating bicycle-friendly communities has been shown to improve citizens' health, well-being, and quality of life, to boost community spirit, to improve traffic safety, and to reduce pollution and congestion.
- May has been declared National Bike Month for each of the last 61 years, and is so again in 2018.
- The League of American Bicyclists, bicycle clubs, schools, parks and recreation departments, police departments, hospitals, companies and civic groups throughout Oregon will be promoting bicycling as a leisure activity as well as an environmentally-friendly alternative to the automobile during the month of May.
- The education of bicyclists and motorists as to the proper and safe operation of bicycles is important to ensure the safety and comfort of all road users.
- The creation of an "all ages and abilities" bicycle network is essential to creating a transportation system that is suitable for people of all ages and abilities to safely and confidently ride a bike.
- Oregon law provides, through ORS 811.065, special passing requirements for motorists and require that the separation distance must be equal to the "fall-over" height of the cyclist:

NOW THEREFORE, the City Council and Mayor, on behalf of the citizens of Ashland, do proclaim the Month of May 2018 as National Bike Month and the week of May 14-18, 2018 as Bike to Work Week. And urges all who support bicycling to participate in the events planned and urges all local and state roadway jurisdictions to ensure that bike facilities serve all ages and abilities.

Dated this 15th day of May, 2018

John Stromberg, Mayor

Melissa Huhtala, City Recorder

