

Proclamation

Bicycle Friendly Community

WHEREAS, a Bicycle Friendly Community provides safe accommodation for cycling and encourages its residents to bike for transportation, recreation and physical activity; and

WHEREAS, the City and Borough of Sitka is committed to improving existing transportation infrastructure for safe accommodation of cycling, and to including cyclists in the design of future transportation projects; and

WHEREAS, the City and Borough of Sitka recognizes the importance of bicycle and motorist education programs and supports the educational programs of the Sitka Bicycle Friendly Community Coalition, the Sitka Injury Prevention Team, the Sitka Health Summit working group, SEARHC and all public health groups working on safe transportation in our community; and

WHEREAS, the City and Borough of Sitka understands and supports a cyclist's rights to be on the road and encourages commuting by bicycle as an affordable and environmentally way for citizens to fulfill the need for transportation, physical activity, and fun all in one; and

WHEREAS, the City and Borough of Sitka has established education and enforcement of bicycle laws as an important component to public safety; and

WHEREAS, the City and Borough of Sitka is committed to the long-range goals of the Sitka Non-Motorized Transportation Plan, the Sitka Comprehensive Plan, the Sitka Trails Plan, and the Sitka Sustainable Outdoor Recreation Action Plan; and

WHEREAS, achieving the status of Bicycle Friendly Community is an ongoing process of improvement upon the existing standards of cycling transportation infrastructure, education, encouragement, and enforcement; and

WHEREAS, several local businesses and other organizations collaborate to sponsor a variety of National Bike Month events in May (U.S. Coast Guard, Rotary Club, University of Alaska Southeast, Yellow Jersey Cycle Shop, Sitka Conservation Society, Sitka Global Warming Group/Sustainable Sitka, SEARHC, etc.); and


WHEREAS, the City and Borough of Sitka has the highest percentage of bike commuters in Alaska for communities with more than 750 people; and

WHEREAS, the League of American Bicyclists in September 2011 awarded the Sitka campus of the SEARHC, Sitka's largest employer, a bronze-level Bicycle Friendly Business designation, the first in Sitka; and

WHEREAS, the League of American Bicyclists in May 2008 awarded the City and Borough of Sitka a bronze-level Bicycle Friendly Community designation, the first Bicycle Friendly Community designation awarded to a community in Alaska.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Assembly of the City and Borough of Sitka, does hereby proclaim that Sitka is committed to renewing its status as a Bicycle Friendly Community.

Signed and sealed on this 10th day of January 2012.


Cheryl Westover, Mayor

ATTEST:


Sara Peterson, CMC
Deputy Clerk

