



Organizing Successful Bike Trains

Thursday, May 5, 1-2PM EDT

Safe Routes to School National Partnership



Agenda, May 5th, 2011

Welcome, Administrative Details, and Introduction

- Dave Cowan, Safe Routes to School National Partnership

“Organizing Bike Trains”

- Kiel Johnson, Bicycle Safety Educator, Bicycle Transportation Alliance (Portland, OR)
- Jason Jackman, Program Planner Analyst, Center for Urban Transportation Research (Tampa Bay, FL)
- Parrie Henderson-O’Keefe, Parent Organizer, Mt. Pleasant Peloton (Washington, DC)

Question and Answer

Closing





Introduction to Bike Trains





Bike Trains

By: Kiel Johnson
(the unemployed guy from Portland)





Biking to Beach

April 2010

- two years ago it was written in Beach Handbook that you could not bike to school
- small dedicated group of parents riding to school

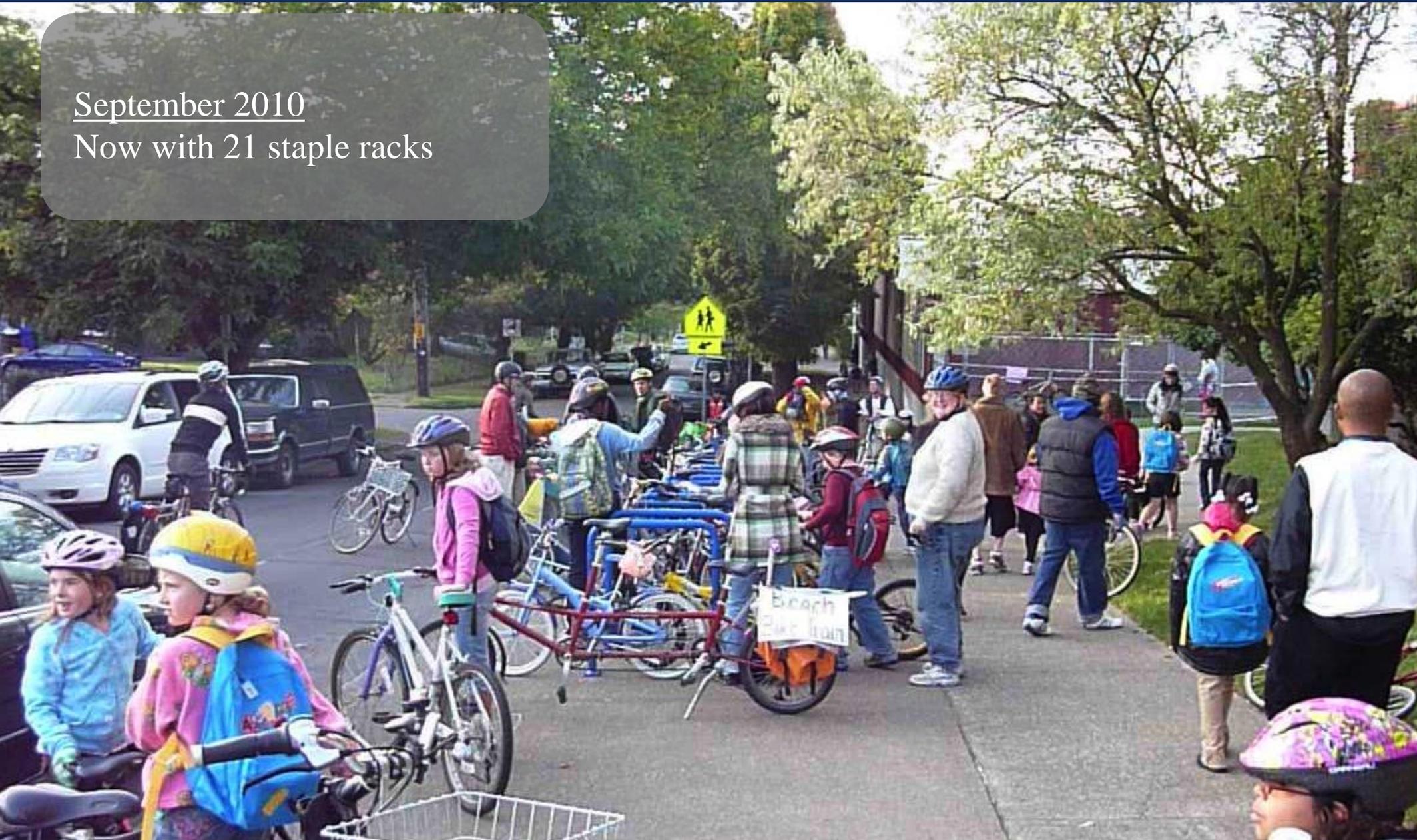




Biking to Beach

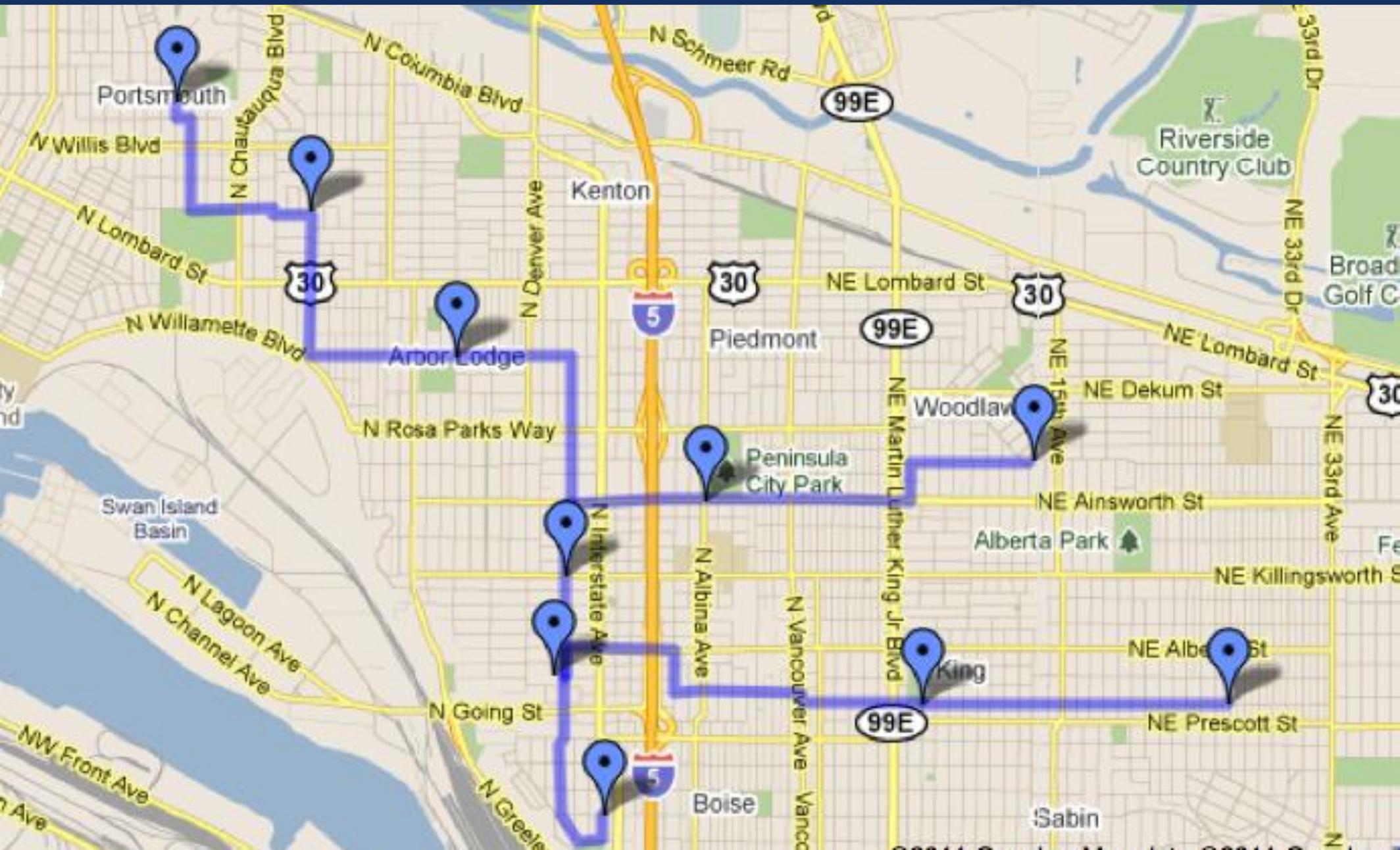
September 2010

Now with 21 staple racks





Beach Routes





Waiting at a Meet Up Spot





The Ride to School





The Year Of The Bike Train

How do we encourage biking to school as a normal everyday activity?

- Bike trains create leadership roles for parents to take ownership
- Weekly event that people can promote and participate in
- Once momentum is built, will sustain itself





Portland Schools with Bike Trains

1. Beach
2. Sabin
3. Alameda
4. Beverly Cleary
5. Richmond
6. Emerson
7. Glencoe
8. Creative Science
9. Abernethy
10. Portland Village School

Bike Train Participants 2010/11 School Year



Over 2,000 rides this year!





- Find interested parents
- Plan the routes
- Go out with parent on first couple rides
- Share stories
- Make them feel included in movement





Bike to School Day

Bike To
School Day

Thursday April 21st
treats, prizes, raffle



BIKE TRAIN
MEET UP SPOT

Interested
in starting
a bike train? t-shirts
\$10





Bucket Building Party





Getting Online

facebook



Wall

Hidden Posts

Info

Photos

Edit

About

Edit

Communities biking to school together, one day a week

43

people like this

Likes



Kidical Mass PDX



Portland Safe Routes to

Search

Bike Train

Like

Transport/Freight Edit Info



Wall

Share: Status Question

Write something...



Bike Train

Inaugural Harvey Scott
Departing from NE Fre
***Annie's Donuts for a

112 Impressions · 1.79

April 20 at 6:20am

Sandra Clark likes



Bike Train The
riders strong,
total, there we
today! 12 mor
snack will be p
cringed at all t
will be posted
April 20 at 8:4

Bike Train PDX

Communities biking to school together, one day a week

Blog

Schools

Bike Train Leader Resources

Volunteer

About

Richmond

Meet Up Spots

Rides Friday Mornings

Email Julie with questions

TABOR TRAIN

7:35 60th & Belmont

7:39 55th & Belmont

7:46 50th & Hawthorne

7:50 50th & Lincoln

LINCOLN TRAIN

20th and SE Harrison Street, 7:40

30th and SE Lincoln Street, 7:45

34th and SE Lincoln Street, 7:50

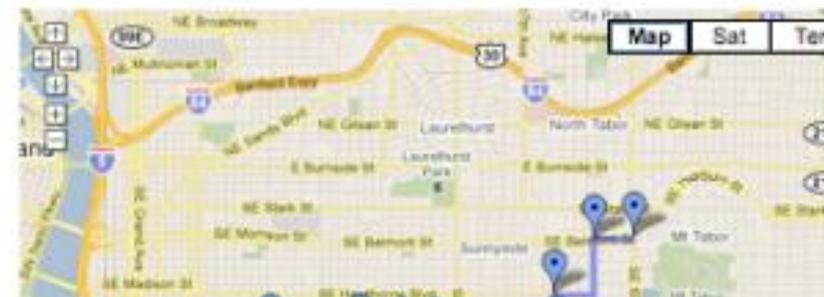
37th and SE Lincoln Street, 7:55

CLINTON FROM THE EAST

66th and SE Woodward, 7:30

49th and SE Clinton, 7:40

41st and SE Clinton, 7:50





The Golden Bike





How Do You Start A Bike Train Where No One Bikes?

- Support culture around biking
- Kidical Mass/weekend bike rides
- Integrate biking into programs that already exist
- Don't give out stuff for free





Next Steps

One month bike rental program

- \$10 monthly allowance
- T-shirt sale
- Online trip history page for each rider and school
- Getting funding from school district





Just Getting Started



Bicycle Trains: Kid Commuters

Walking School Bus and Bicycle Train Program



Jason Jackman
Program Planner Analyst, LCI
Center for Urban Transportation Research (CUTR)
University of South Florida



Program Background

- Walking School Bus & Bicycle Train Program
- Hillsborough County Public Schools
 - Walking School Buses
 - 15 schools 2008-2011
 - 20+ Walking School Bus Groups
 - Bicycle Trains
 - 7 Schools 2008-2011
 - 15+ Bicycle Train Groups



Getting Started

- Meet with Principal (Summer)
 - Explain goals/objectives/expectations
 - Parents, teachers and students
 - Get on school agenda
 - Each school is different; plan accordingly



Bike to School Day(s)

- Target parent bicyclist
- Plan frequent group bicycle rides to school
- Exchanged contact information with parents
- Be ready for teachable moments (bicycle safety) students and parents



Facts & Barriers

“Why aren’t there more families walking and biking to school? It’s all here, flat terrain, perfect weather, sidewalks and bike lanes...”

-Parent (former Portland, Oregon resident)

Facts & Barriers

- **Florida:** 2009 Florida fatalities pedal-cyclists 107, pedestrians 482 (NHTSA 2009)
- Cultural and Neighborhood Barriers
 - Biking more for recreation than commute
 - Bicycle safety laws
 - Parental views on biking
 - Neighborhood infrastructure
 - Aggressive drivers
 - Lack of community



Low Income Neighborhoods

- Parent Involvement
 - More likely to start a parent led walking school bus
 - Students bike in student bike trains (w/out parents)
 - Poor safety habits



Low Income Neighborhoods

- Bicycle safety a big concern
 - Lights
 - Helmets
 - Brakes
 - Air
 - Chain
 - Traffic laws
 - Bicycle theft & crime



Low Income Neighborhoods

- Solutions
 - In school bicycle rodeos (P.E. teachers)
 - Lead a few bicycle trains to school
 - Bicycle equipment (including helmets)
 - Helmet enforcement



Partners



Local Rotary Clubs



Local Bicycle Shops



University of South Florida Bicycle Club



Community/PTA/Bike Advocacy Groups



Parents/Families



Safe Kids Tampa

Future Bicycle Train Program

- Schools Out for Summer
 - Summer community/neighborhood rides
 - Bicycle skills course for parents & teachers
 - More dialogue with P.E. teachers
 - School and neighborhood bicycle clubs



For More Information Contact

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[Facebook: SRTSTB](#)





The Mt. Pleasant Peloton

Parrie Henderson-O'Keefe, Washington, DC





How it started

- School location changed
- Another neighborhood parent decided to join.
- Attracted other families
- The Mount Pleasant Peloton was born.







How it operates

- We meet at a near-by park.
- Our drop off at one campus 1.3 miles away and then go on to second campus a further 1.2 miles
- One parent leads, one in the middle, and one bringing up the rear.
- Regularly nine kids.
- Ride with rules.
- We ride four days a week weather permitting.





Factors that have helped the bike train

- Distance
- Neighborhood
- Culture
- School and its community
- Roads
- Boy Scout badges
- Flexibility





Mt. Pleasant Challenges

- Kids grow up
- Habitual tardiness
- Divorce
- Behavioral issues





NOTICE
THE NEW LIBRARY
IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2017
AT 10:00 AM. THE
LIBRARY IS OPEN TO THE
PUBLIC ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2017.



Questions?





Contact Information

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Thank you for Joining Us!

Tip Sheet “Organizing Bike Trains” and webinar recording will be available at:
<http://www.saferoutespartnership.org/SRAM-Bicycling-Webinar2>

Please join us in July for: Bicycle Racks, Storage, and Security.

Thank you to the SRAM Cycling Fund for sponsoring this webinar series!

