

Bike Month Proclamation

WHEREAS, People have been enthralled by self-propelled modes of transportation since the Velocipede or dandy horse was developed in 1817, and its successor, the first pedal-propelled bicycle appeared in the 1860s; and

WHEREAS, National Bike Month began in May 1956, and today, millions of Americans engage in bicycling as affordable, environmentally-sound transportation, an excellent form of exercise, and wholesome family recreation; and

WHEREAS, Moscow is among the top 1% in the Nation for bike-to-work commuting, with 9% of residents choosing bicycles for their longest commutes and 41% of adults using them for part of their commuting each year; and

WHEREAS, Local government is committed to the objectives of Let's Move!, Safe Routes to School, the Active Living Task Force, and the concept of integrated Complete Streets, and to educating cyclists and motorists about safe vehicle operation to reduce accidents, injuries and fatalities; and

WHEREAS, Bicycling is good for business, contributing to retail sales, tourism dollars, and planning and implementation of infrastructure and policies that support livable communities and associated economic advantages, and

WHEREAS, Members of our community are excited to host the *Ride Idaho* annual cycling tour again this August 11, and by the prospect of attracting visitors from the sold-out *Ride Around Washington Pedal Palousa* tour August 4-10; and

WHEREAS, Bicycling reduces the incidence of heart disease, obesity, diabetes, and hypertension, and improves mental health and cardio-vascular fitness; and

WHEREAS, Representatives of healthcare, government, education, families, businesses, environmental groups, and others are working together to coordinate a variety of *Bike for Life* activities around Moscow this spring; and

WHEREAS, Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood recommends going beyond minimum design standards, to create safe, attractive, sustainable, accessible, and convenient bicycling and walking networks; and

WHEREAS, Our region is gaining favorable recognition for bicycle-friendly accommodations, including development of Moscow's new Intermodal Transit Center and our growing network of bicycle-pedestrian routes, including the Paradise Path and Chipman-, Latah-, and Kendrick-Juliaetta Trails;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Nancy Chaney, Mayor for the city of Moscow, do hereby proclaim May 2012 to be

BIKE MONTH

in Moscow, and I urge all who are able to celebrate by cycling to work, school, shopping, and errands, or simply for pleasure, to improve their health and find refreshment and invigoration; to lessen adverse impacts on climate; and to reduce transportation expenses.



DATED this 16th day of April, 2012

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Nancy Chaney, Mayor