

Bike Bytes:

Bike More, DRIVE A WHOLE LOT LESS, Stay Active as the Sunlight decreases!

1. Your help is needed with new safe passing law
2. Auction Tickets are Still Available
3. Katrina and the Gas Pump

Earlier this year the Bicycle Alliance with your help, worked to pass the Safe Passing Bill which became law in July. (Motorists are prohibited from passing another vehicle when bicyclists are approaching from the opposite direction.)

To publicize the new law and educate the driving public, the Bicycle Alliance has partnered with the Washington Traffic Safety Commission to launch a statewide media campaign to be centered around an event on October 15th. The event will commemorate Ann Weatherill who was killed outside Walla Walla by a passing motorist in May of last year.

Your help is needed in two ways:

\* In order to reach into all the major media markets , the Bicycle Alliance needs personal stories from Bellingham, Spokane, Vancouver, Seattle, Everett, Wenatchee, Tri-Cities, Yakima, Tacoma, Olympia and anywhere else. We are interested in SHORT 2-3 paragraph stories of near misses, crashes, and personal loss stories that illustrate the point of the safe passing law. We are also interested in people willing to tell their story to a reporter, and will be collecting names of anyone willing to be interviewed or be a spokesperson in their community.

\* We are also collecting your best ideas of 5 SIMPLE things motorists can do when interacting with bicyclists (for instance: don't turn right in front of cyclist, etc.) And we are collecting your ideas of the 5 TOP things a bicyclists can do (like signal when turning, wear a helmet, etc.)

All ideas and sources of information appreciated. A Safe Passing Taskforce has been convened and will be reviewing your ideas and incorporating them into our talking points, press release, etc. Thanks, and please pass this along to other cyclists who may be interested. YOUR IDEAS ARE NEEDED BY FRIDAY 9/23.

## 2. Auction Tickets still available.

The 13th Annual Bicycle Alliance Auction is just 10 days away and we still have tickets and tables available. Tickets are \$65.00 or a table of eight is \$520. The auction will feature Holland America tours, Adventure Cycling Tours, a Swanky Downtown Seattle Package, A custom made Davidson frame, gear, lots and lots of non-bicycling items for your non-cycling friends and relatives. Call the Bicycle Alliance at 206/224-9252 and charge your ticket today. Support advocacy and a bicycle-friendly Washington with your tax deductible dollars.

## 3. Katrina and the Gas Pump

To quote the New York Times, "Gasoline prices seem destined to stay elevated until at least next spring....Our gas-guzzling ways promise to keep gas prices up, threatening the nation's economic well-being. Our focus must be on reducing oil consumption." As a bicycle advocate, call on Congress for a rapid, mandatory increase in automobile mileage standards. Call on the president and Congress for an all-out conservation program. Look to your own oil consumption and skip a trip = walk or bike to the store, to school and to work. Tell us how you plan to conserve fuel, and we'll start a list on our web site of ways to reduce our oil consumption.

THANKS for riding your bicycle.

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Bicycle Alliance of Washington advocates for bicyclists and a bicycle-friendly Washington.