



United States Department of the Interior

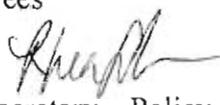
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240



APR 4 2014

Memorandum

To: All Employees

From: Rhea Suh 
Assistant Secretary – Policy, Management and Budget

Subject: Federal Bike-to-Work Challenge—May 2014

May is National Bike Month and the Department of the Interior (DOI) is again joining communities and organizations across the nation to support bicycling as a way to commute to and from work. Bicycling benefits our health, reduces traffic congestion, air pollution, and greenhouse gas emissions associated with automobile use. Many DOI employees already bicycle to work and May is the month to show your support and use of bikes.

For over 10 years, DOI staff has participated locally in popular bicycle commute challenges. These challenges provide a friendly competition to expand bicycling as a method of commuting, and to document support for biking and the need for secure bicycle facilities at offices. Now there is an annual nationwide bike commute challenge for Federal workers, and DOI staff are encouraged to join in the challenge.

To further encourage employees to get out of their cars and on to bikes, the Department has implemented several changes. For instance, there is a new Bicycle Subsidy Benefit Program (the Program). The Program provides a non-taxable commuting reimbursement up to \$20 per month for reasonable expenses incurred by the employees in conjunction with their commute to work by bike. Join the Program and use your benefit to cover bike share membership fees, bike maintenance, bike locks, or bike safety equipment, and much more. For additional Program information and bicycle resources, please go to The Bicycle Subsidy Benefit Program website at: <http://www.doi.gov/ofas/bicycle-subsidy-benefit-program.cfm>.

The Federal Bike-to-Work Challenge started in the Pacific Northwest and has grown to a nationwide challenge with over 2,100 riders representing 37 agencies. Last year, 826 DOI riders logged over 6,900 trips and 73,000 miles in the Challenge, saving the equivalent of over 3,000 gallons of gasoline. DOI was recognized for having the Most New Riders and Most Overall Riders for an Organization by the organizers of the Federal Bike-To-Work Challenge in their June 2013 newsletter. The White House Council on Environmental Quality selected the Challenge as a GreenGov Spotlight Community because it is an example of Federal Government collaboration to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions (<http://epa.gov/fgc/spotlight/bike.html>). For the May 2014 Challenge, let's show DOI's commitment to sustainable commuting practices.

Participation is easy. Employees can conveniently log their bicycle commutes on a website. The website tabulates the number of commutes by bicycle, percent of possible commutes, and total miles bicycled for each participant, team of participants, bureau, DOI and the Federal Government. I invite you to visit the Greening the Department of the Interior website at <http://www.doi.gov/greening/transportation/index.cfm> where you will find more information on the Federal Bike-to-Work Challenge and how to participate in the Challenge.

Thank you for your continued efforts to conserve precious resources, minimize our carbon footprint, and encourage an active lifestyle. The DOI led the Federal Government in number of riders last year, let's see if we can do even better this year.