



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
Tuesday, September 1, 2015

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FREE BICYCLE SAFETY WORKSHOP ***Open to the Public Saturday, September 12***

(Stockton, CA) — Stockton will be the latest community in the state to receive a free, half-day bicycle safety training program conducted by the UC Berkeley Safe Transportation Research and Education Center (SafeTREC), Saturday, September 12, 2015, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. This workshop and training will be held at Huddle Cowork, 235 N. San Joaquin Street, downtown Stockton. Whether you are a recreational or competitive cyclist, a motorist who shares the road with cyclist, or are interested in hearing more about bicycle safety, you are invited to attend this training workshop to learn more about bicycle safety.

This four-hour workshop is designed for community members and provides presentations by transportation experts on basic bicycle safety best practices. It will explore how communities plan for bike lanes and paths, bike boulevards, as well as education, engagement and enforcement strategies. Workshop participants will experience a walking tour and assessment of a selected bicycle route in need of safety improvements. Small-group discussions will help to set priorities for recommended safety improvements. Representatives from the City of Stockton and other local public will participate in the workshop along with members of the community.

“The opportunity to host this bicycle safety workshop couldn’t have come at a better time,” said Public Works Director Gordon Mackay. “We recently received a grant from the

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State of California to update our community plans for bicycle routes in Stockton. We are working with Fehr & Peers, transportation consultants that have connected us with SafeTREC. It is a great launching point to get the entire community engaged in the conversation of planning for a more bicycle-friendly community.”

This training is part of the Community Bicycle Safety Training Project, funded by the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Cities are selected on the basis of incidents of serious bicycle injuries and fatalities, as well as community interest in sustaining safety activities.

Jill Cooper is the co-director of SafeTREC. “There were over 335 bicycle crashes in the City of Stockton between 2010 and 2014 resulting in fatal and severe injuries. With more people interested in bicycling as an environmentally friendly form of transportation and healthful exercise, communities need to ensure that streets are safe to support more bicycling activity. The SafeTREC program and workshop will help introduce community members to methods of addressing bicycle safety problems, through engineering, enforcement and educational programs, in order to make their neighborhoods more bicycle-friendly.”

Advance registration is not required. For additional information about the workshop or the City of Stockton Bicycle Master Plan, please visit www.stocktongov.com/plan4bikes or contact City of Stockton Public Works Department Associate Engineer Karla Corral Cervantes (209) 937-8492.

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