



Idaho Pedestrian and Bicycle Alliance

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Legislators Walk and Bike to Lunch

The Idaho Pedestrian and Bicycle Alliance (IPBA) has invited Idaho's Legislators to lunch on Thursday, March 13th at 12:00 Noon. But there's no such thing as a free lunch. IPBA staff will lead the legislators to lunch by walking or biking, leaving from the Jefferson Street entrance of the State Capitol. Along the way IPBA experts will give a brief audit of the streetscape, pointing out features that encourage or discourage people from walking or biking.

The purpose of the event is to give legislators an inside look at how community and transportation planning can either deter or promote safe and healthy choices such as walking or biking. Many towns across Idaho are responding to the need to create connectivity within their communities, as a means of addressing such issues as childhood obesity and diabetes.

In 2014, 19 Idaho communities were lucky recipients of grant funding to build new sidewalks to schools, install traffic calming measures to ensure safer street crossings, and introduce more robust bicycle amenities. Communities are clamoring for the powerful benefits of walking and biking. Currently, there is more need for these projects than there is money to construct them.

"There is a huge demand for communities to offer more amenities to the growing number of people choosing active transportation," says Cynthia Gibson, Executive Director of Idaho Pedestrian and Bicycle Alliance. "Our goal is to assist communities in getting funding for projects that will result in more people traveling by foot or by bike, which benefits everyone. It trims the budget for road maintenance, eases traffic, reduces pollution and gets people moving!"

Idaho Pedestrian and Bicycle Alliance is a statewide non-profit advancing active transportation as healthy, safe and reliable for all Idahoans. For further information, please go to www.idahopedbike.org.

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