IDAHO COMMUNITY

Community is about the amazing people who live within. No matter how big or small, urban or rural your town is, it should be a healthy, safe and economically vibrant place to live and raise your family.

IDAHO WALK BIKE ALLIANCE

ANNUAL REPORT

WALKING. BIKING. GOING PLACES.

Safe Routes To School Update-Our Work Continues!!

Idaho Walk Bike Alliance was a daily presence at the Capitol as 2017 marked a significant milestone in our history - we sponsored our first bill in the Idaho Legislature. The Safe Routes to School – Healthy Kids campaign, co-sponsored by American Heart Association, supported the national Safe Routes to School program with state dollars.

Senate Bill 1121 was heard before the Senate Transportation Committee on March 2. The committee room was packed as passionate speakers testified in support of S1121 and it passed with a UNANIMOUS vote. Days later the full Senate endorsed S1121 with a 27-8 vote, adding more momentum and crucial support. Thank you to all of YOU who wrote letters and called your senators!

Members of the House were prepared to support this bill, which would benefit all communities in Idaho. Unfortunately, the House Transportation & Defense Committee Chairman declined to give us a hearing, preventing Representatives from having the opportunity to support Safe Routes.

We concluded the 2017 session would end anticlimactically and began strategizing for a new and improved bill for 2018. Then an astounding thing happened.

On the second to last day of the session, Rep. Janet Trujillo (R), Idaho Falls, offered legislation co-sponsored by Rep. Mat Erpelding (D), Boise, addressing child pedestrian safety. House Bill 334 passed at the eleventh hour as a companion piece to the transportation bill the legislature wanted to pass before adjournment.

We are excited for all the communities who will benefit from this bill to build sidewalks, paths and crosswalks. But our work continues as we push for dedicated funds each year so communities can improve the safety and health of every member. We aren’t done yet!

555 Number of bicyclists and pedestrians injured or killed in crashes on Idaho’s roads in 2016.

$333M Total cost of bicyclist and pedestrian injuries and fatalities to Idaho citizens in 2016.

97% Increase in economic cost to Idahoans from 2015 to 2016 involving pedestrian and bicyclist crashes with motor vehicles.
Thank You!

We appreciate YOUR support in 2017. YOU are the reason we do the work we do, every single day. Thank you for every letter, phone call, or email you made on behalf of our work. You make our job easier AND more fun.

YOU help make our communities great places to live, where children can walk or bike to school. Where your parents can remain mobile as they age comfortably. And where economies thrive because of equitable transportation choices where every person no matter what their mode of travel, has the freedom to move about due to adequate infrastructure.

As President of the Idaho Walk Bike Alliance Board of Directors for the past two years, the board and I continue to be impressed with the success the organization made during the 2017 Idaho Legislature. Due in no small part to the tireless efforts of IWBA staff and our partners, the Idaho Senate approved a Safe Routes to School bill after a two-year effort that finally bore some fruit.

Although the legislation did not pass the House of Representatives, more and more legislators are aware of IWBA’s advocacy as well as the importance of this legislation to the safety of Idaho’s schoolchildren. While we are told anecdotally that it often takes three years to pass a bill in Idaho, I can now fully appreciate the likelihood that this is more than anecdote, having observed IWBA and its partners working as hard as they did with its limited success in the Senate. These efforts will continue unabated.

Even though as a past member of the Boise City Attorney’s Office

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**Rebecca Rusch**

What an honor to host the “Queen of Pain” for her award-winning movie Blood Road with our partner Boise GreenBike. We also brought Blood Road to Idaho Falls to fundraise for Idaho Falls Community Pathways.

**Road Diet in Paris, Idaho**

We look for great examples in small rural communities to educate others on what is possible. Because of the vastness of Idaho, IWBA is part of a statewide network to share information between towns to help spread the word.

**Park(ing) Day Tradition Continues with More Partners**

On September 15, 2017, the Idaho Walk Bike Alliance “took back” parking spots to give space back to people.

We continued our pop-up parks for Park(ing) Day on an even bigger scale by including great partners. Ada County Highway District Commuteride, American Heart Association, Oliver Russell, and Stack Rock Group joined us to show that roads belong to all of us so let’s take back the space and enjoy a Friday afternoon of sunshine and great people.

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**Visitors stop by Oliver Russell’s Park(ing) Day exhibit and help bring an Idaho landscape to life using paint by numbers.**
where I played a small role in the revision of Boise City’s ordinance governing the rights and responsibility of cyclists, much work remains on a statewide basis to provide safe transportation options for pedestrians and cyclists. According to Idaho’s Office of Highway Safety, bicycle crashes in Idaho increased by 12% in 2016, while six bicyclists were killed, compared to zero fatalities in 2015. Crashes involving pedestrians increased by 14% in 2016, while the number of pedestrians killed in motor vehicle crashes increased by an astounding 125%, from eight in 2015 to 18 in 2016. Clearly, all of us must continue to advocate for safe, convenient infrastructure for cyclists and pedestrians alike.

On a personal note, I live in a subdivision with very walkable sidewalks but with very few crosswalks. This requires crossing streets with no crosswalks while contending with automobiles that more often than not are exceeding the posted 30 mph speed limit. On more than one occasion I have had what can best be categorized as ‘close calls’ while crossing the street within the crosswalk. My guess is that many of you are aware of similar situations in your neighborhood.

In closing, I would challenge each of you to make yourself aware of those conditions and to bring them to the attention of your local elected officials, whether they are city council members or highway district commissioners. Only through concerted action by our members throughout the state can IWBA achieve its goals of WALKING. BIKING. GOING PLACES.

Finally, a heartfelt thank you to each and every member of IWBA’s statewide Board of Directors for his/her efforts at making Idaho a safer place to walk and bike.

J. Patrick Riceci
President-IWBA Board of Directors, 2016-2017

2017 Legislative Session Re-Cap
Youth Lobby Day and presenting our Safe Routes to School bill in Senate Transportation Committee

High school students joined by Miss Teen International 2016 lobbied legislators on February 3 to educate why the Safe Routes to School program should be funded each year in Idaho. Pictured are Pam Dell, Brittany Sullenger, Garin Harris, two youth advisory council students and Representative Wendy Horman (R), Idaho Falls. In addition to our Safe Routes bill, we tracked several pieces of legislation including a bill to outlaw “Rolling Coal,” one that tried to redefine maintenance to clear sidewalks of snow and another to authorize personal delivery devices operating on sidewalks.

Above: Boise Bicycle Project Executive Director Jimmy Hallyburton testifies at the Senate Transportation Committee hearing for Safe Routes to School.
We Hiked with Mike

IWBA “Hiked with Mike” to help Congressman Simpson’s office raise awareness about the benefits of walking as we participated in a virtual walk from the DC Capitol building to the Idaho State Capitol.

DONATE...YOU Can Make Idaho’s Roads Safer for All!

We rely on support from PEOPLE LIKE YOU! Please become a member to bring us closer to the day when all Idahoans can move freely throughout their communities however they choose. Return the enclosed card or give online.

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2017 Financials

Income: $210,328
Expenses: $169,735

Advocates Circle

These generous supporters gave $250+ in 2017.

A.J. and Susie Balukoff
ACHD Commuteride
American Heart Association
Bardenay Boise
Bill’s Bike and Run
BizPrint
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Contribute

ANNUALLY OR ONE-TIME: idahowalkbike.org/donate
MONTHLY: idahowalkbike.org/monthly-champions

The Idaho Walk Bike Alliance, a statewide nonprofit, promotes active transportation as healthy, safe and reliable for all Idahoans.