

**Subject:** Madison Bikes Newsletter August 2016

**From:** Madison Bikes Newsletter <newsletter@madisonbikes.org>

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**To:** Madison Bikes Newsletter <newsletter@madisonbikes.org>



## Madison Bikes



Madison Bikes --

August is here, and so is the latest installment of our newsletter. Since the last update, we've continued working hard to build our organization's capacities, most importantly applying for non-profit status with the IRS, starting to recruit a wider volunteer basis, and planning our big fall fundraising party.

### Volunteer drive

Madison Bikes is 100% volunteer-run. [Read more on our blog](#) how you can help us grow and succeed. Or go straight to [the sign-up form](#).

### Events

#### Fall Fundraising Party at High Noon - Save the Date!

Save the date: Madison Bikes will have their fundraising launch party at the [High Noon Saloon](#) on

September 19! More details to follow, but we can already promise that there will be great food. Stay tuned, and [contact us](#) if you're interested in sponsoring the event.

## On the blog

### Ride the Drive

While we can't claim any credit for organizing it, Madison Bikes loves **Ride the Drive**. Reclaiming space from cars and trucks, even if it is just for a couple hours on a Sunday, allows us to envision a city where biking, walking, skateboarding, and other forms of active transportation are a viable transportation choice for people of all ages and all abilities. Because of an injury, Madison Bikes member Harald wasn't able to ride himself. Instead he walked the drive and took lots of pictures for our blog. [See all of them here](#).

### Guest Post: Biking with out-of-town friends

Read a [wonderful guest post](#) by Elysha Jones about how she showed out-of-town guests how in Madison getting around by bike is a pretty normal and fun activity.

[...] This past weekend our friends from St. Louis came to visit. Weeks before the visit I talked with Becky about all the stuff we could do here, and I kept mentioning that biking would really be the best way to go to all the different places. She was very skeptical and told me she wasn't sure she could handle biking with her two kids (ages ten and eight). I told her I have a [bakfiets](#) and could borrow a long tail bike from a friend. Another excuse for Becky not wanting to bike was curbs: Becky was sure there would be curbs that we would have to maneuver. So on one of my many errands by bike I stopped every now and then to take pictures of the bike trails and streets they intersect with and sent them to her. Again she worried: What should she wear while biking?! She didn't own "bike clothes" and neither did her husband. And again I tried to reassure her by taking pictures of me in my "biking" outfits, that is, just regular clothes. Still, Becky remained unconvinced and tried one more excuse: Her husband, he didn't want to bike at all. He thought it was really weird and had no desire to do it all. So I hatched a plan to convince him it was normal to bike around in Madison... [\[read the full post\]](#)

## On Facebook

**Little victories:** Peter spotted this truck from a construction company illegally blocking in the University Ave cycle track on Monday morning. He didn't leave it at venting to Facebook but contacted both the city, and Billy, another member of our Facebook group contacted the company. Success followed quickly. Read the full story on [Facebook](#).

**Crossing the isthmus:** Jonny and others [discuss biking on the near east side](#) and how it has been impacted by the various construction projects happening there. Crossing East Washington Ave is a major barrier for people walking and biking.

Madison Bikes Newsletter

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