

# ***Federal Bike-To-Work Challenge, May 2014***



## **Background**

May is National Bike Month and communities across the country hold events to promote bicycling and encourage bike commuting. The Pacific Northwest regions of the EPA and DOT continue to host a Federal Bike-To-Work *Challenge* for Federal agencies, scheduled next for May 2014.

For the last decade, Federal agencies across many U.S. cities have participated in the *Challenge*. Coworkers form teams whose members commit to bike commute during May. Each rider is accountable with an online team profile where bike commuters record trips and see the miles rack up within the team. All tracking is online and free! The *Challenge* promotes camaraderie and healthy competition, and it introduces new riders to bike commuting. Organizations have seen the challenge make active transportation an integral part of their culture.

## **The National Federal Bike-To-Work Challenge**

In 2012, over 500 Federal riders cranked out over 5,200 trips and 65,000 miles in May across the country. Then, in 2013, over 2,100 Federal employees logged 20,000 biking trips and over 240,000 miles back and forth to work; this is roughly equivalent to saving 240,000 pounds of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. This May, we hope to involve you, identify more bike commuting leaders, and highlight Federal agency bike commute successes. Last year, the *Challenge* was even selected by the White House Council on Environmental Quality as a GreenGov Spotlight Community to showcase an example of Federal government sustainability:

<http://epa.gov/fgc/spotlight/bike.html>.

## **Next Steps**

Federal commute challenge organizers encourage your agency to recruit champions and captains to promote the Federal Bike-To-Work May *Challenge*. Although the work of a bike team captain is not complex, each captain is integral to the success of a bike commute campaign within and outside of their organization. Captains only need to recruit 3 others to join a team and ride at least one portion of a commute by bike each week in May – it's easy! Please consider attending an upcoming webinar to learn more!

## **Webinars**

There are two webinars to help you learn more about the *Challenge*. **Wednesday, April 23 at 1 p.m. EDT** and **Tuesday, April 29 at 2 p.m. EDT**.

There is also a webinar for new riders—*Bike Commuting 101*—on **Thursday, May 1 at 4 p.m. EDT**.

To register for a webinar, e-mail [fedbtwc@gmail.com](mailto:fedbtwc@gmail.com).

Tools for reference are already online to help captains get started:

<http://www.doi.gov/greening/transportation/biketowork.cfm>

More Questions? Contact Max Severeid at [max.severeid@dot.gov](mailto:max.severeid@dot.gov) or (206) 919-2194

