TOUR DE FAT
COMING BACK TO MINNEAPOLIS!
DON’T MISS THE TRAVELING BIKE CARNIVAL ON JULY 27TH

By Janey Gengel, Public Relations Intern

Get excited, because the traveling bike carnival known as Tour de Fat will once again be cycling its way to Minneapolis at the end of July.

Beginning at 10 a.m. on July 27th, New Belgium Brewing will bring a “ballyhoo of bikes and beer,” to Loring Park.

The Tour de Fat is a family-friendly event that carries with it costumes, local food, live entertainment, a bike parade, unusual bike contests, stellar beer and the joy of cycling.

The event is free to attend, but all proceeds from purchases and donations will go towards helping local cycling nonprofits, including the Midtown Greenway Coalition.

The day opens with a massive bicycle parade that bobs and weaves through city streets; all are welcome and imaginative costumes are encouraged. For the remainder of the afternoon, the stages light up with wild and exciting acts, while the park becomes a celebration like none you have seen.

The pinnacle of Tour de Fat is the ceremonious car-for-bike swap. One person will become the center of the show as he or she gets up on stage, hands over their car keys, and pledges to live car-free for at least one year. Each car-for-bike swapper will choose a local bike shop to help turn a $2,250 budget into an ultimate car-replacement commuter bike.

There will also be lots of fun activities for kids of all ages, who can ride colorful bikes, eat delicious local food, relax in the grass, enjoy live music, and participate in games and activities such as a ‘Thousand Person Dance Contest.”

Another new crowd pleaser will be the Lips of Faith tent. Everyone 21 and older can sample new and specially curated beer selections.

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Corridor, and four at-large seats.

Midtown Greenway Coalition Board Members
Matt Beckman
Organization
Phillips West Neighborhood
Amanda Dlouhy
Association
Road Improvement
Prospect Park East River
John DeWitt
Organization
East Calhoun Community
Longfellow Community
Janet Court
At Large
East Phillips Improvement
Aaron Shaffer
At Large
Cedar Isles Dean
Development Organization
Central Arts Neighborhood
Soren Puzak
At Large
Cedar Isles Dean
Lyndale Neighborhood
Lyndale Neighborhood
Michael Nelson
Whittier Alliance
Jo Ann Musumeci
Organization
Corcoran Neighborhood
West Calhoun
George Puzak
At Large
Cedar Isles Dean
Central Arts Neighborhood
Nolan Peterson
At Large
Central Arts Neighborhood
Morgan Zezner
Lake Street Council
Michael Wilson
Cedar Isles, Dearborn Neighborhood Association
Margaret Wunderlich
At Large
Soren R. Jensen
Executive Director

WHO WE ARE
The Midtown Greenway Coalition is a coalition of neighborhoods and individuals who love the Midtown Greenway. We’re the organization that got the Greenway built by public agencies, and now we work to protect and enhance it. We grow stronger with each new member. Join us to help protect YOUR Greenway and make it even better!

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Dear Friends of the Greenway:

While it got off to a slow start due to the rainy weather, it’s been a great summer so far on the Greenway!

Our second annual Greenway Glow Night Bike Ride and Art Festival was a smashing success, attracting hundreds of people to the Greenway and raising tens of thousands of dollars for our programs to protect and enhance the corridor.

Our next big event is the Tour de Fat on July 27th in Loring Park. This annual bike carnival is one of our largest fundraising efforts. You can help raise funds for the Greenway by drinking a tasty beer - what could be easier?! The event also features live music, a bike parade, puppet shows for the kids, and much more!

We are also very pleased about the progress of the Midtown Corridor Alternatives Analysis, which is looking to improve public transit along the Lake Street/Midtown Corridor. One of the final alternatives under study is a double/single track streetcar in the Greenway. The Coalition has long supported a streetcar that operates on single tracks in narrow parts of the Greenway. We also call for it to run on “turf” tracks, meaning the rails would be embedded in grass. Both the single track and turf track would preserve the ‘green’ in the Greenway. The streetcar itself would improve safety and enhance the corridor by bringing thousands of people to the Greenway every day.

Thanks to all of our volunteers, members, donors, and sponsors who are working hard to protect and enhance the Greenway this summer and beyond. We appreciate your support!

See you on the Greenway!

Soren R. Jensen
Executive Director

Coalition Joins Effort to Create SAFER ROADS FOR CYCLISTS
“Bikeways for Everyone” Campaign Advocates for Protected Bike Lanes

By Janey Gengel
Public Relations Intern

The Midtown Greenway Coalition has joined a coalition of local organizations advocating for the construction of more than thirty miles of protected bikeways in Minneapolis, starting with the redesign of two important roadways: Washington Ave. in downtown Minneapolis, and Minnehaha Ave. in south Minneapolis.

The bikeways for Everyone campaign, led by the Minneapolis Bicycle Coalition, is rallying support for cycletracks (protected bike lanes) to be added to both Minnehaha and Washington avenues. Both streets are up for reconstruction.

Ethan Fawley, President of the Minneapolis Bicycle Coalition said, “The ‘bikeways for everyone’ campaign is about expanding on our amazing greenway and trail network with additional protected bike routes [cycletracks] that connect people to destinations like shopping, work or school. These protected routes could mean that instead of a painted bike lane, you would have a curb, green space, or a parked car between you on your bike and moving cars.”

A cycletrack is a bicycle lane that is physically separated from both car and pedestrian traffic, usually through concrete barriers or plastic bollards.

According to the American Journal of Public Health, cycletracks are five times safer than biking on the street or in a painted bike lane.

“We know many more people would be out cycling, but they are concerned about safety,” said Soren Jensen, executive director of the Midtown Greenway Coalition. “Cycletracks will help alleviate many of these concerns, by creating a physical barrier between cars and bikes.”

The proposed cycletracks would seek optimum preservation of trees and parking, with only minor impacts through thoughtful design. With cycletracks, families can feel safer cycling on roadways with children.

The Midtown Greenway Coalition is especially excited about the potential for a cycletrack on Minnehaha Ave. The avenue will be fully reconstructed from Lake St to 46th Street South. While the cycletrack would end at Lake, it comes within a few blocks of the Greenway and is major feeder route to and from the corridor.

Presently, a little more than 4% of Minneapolis residents bike to their daily destinations. The city has a master cycling plan to increase this number to about 10% by 2015 and 20% by 2020. Cycletracks are a proven method towards reaching these goals.

For more information and to help support the Bikeways for Everyone campaign, visit www.mplsbike.org.

MISSION
We empower communities to develop, improve, protect, and enjoy the Midtown Greenway as a green urban pathway to improve people’s lives.

MISIÓN
Nosotros habilitamos a las comunidades a desarrollar, mejorar, proteger y disfrutar del sendero urbano Midtown Greenway para mejorar la vida de la gente.

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Midtown Transit Study
Narrowed to Greenway Streetcar, Lake Street Enhanced Bus

By Rebecca Harnik, Transit Outreach Coordinator

Last month, Metro Transit held a second set of Open Houses for the public, working to share the latest progress on the Alternatives Analysis and elicit feedback from community members. Approximately 110 people showed up to learn more and voice their opinions.

In early May, the so-called “Universe of Alternatives” was formally narrowed in scope from twelve different proposals (they really thought of everything – even Personalized Rapid Transit ‘pods’) by the Policy Advisory Committee. The Open Houses showcased the final three contenders:

1) A Streetcar in the Midtown Greenway path, stretching 4.4 mi from the Hiawatha light rail to the future SW light rail line.
2) An Enhanced Bus on Lake Street with the same boundaries. Enhanced buses would look different than typical buses: most notably, the driver would have the capacity to delay lights from turning red, and payment would take place before boarding to speed up the bus’ waiting time.
3) Both a Streetcar in the Greenway and an Enhanced Bus on Lake Street. The bus in this option would stretch significantly beyond the original study area of this project, traveling to meet up with the future Green Line Light Rail at University Ave and Snelling Ave in St. Paul; the Streetcar would remain the same.

The Midtown Greenway Coalition continues to advocate for a Greenway Streetcar – we believe it will make the Greenway a safer place for all, and it will increase awareness and visibility of the corridor. It will also provide important connectivity for local residents and businesses, thereby bringing stable economic development to the area.

Perhaps most dramatically, the Streetcar wouldn’t have to cross any of over three dozen stoplights on Lake Street in the 4.4 mile area, so its speed would be significantly faster, and it wouldn’t delay traffic for cars crossing on North-South routes. Finally, the Coalition believes firmly in a turf (grass) track for the Streetcar – in fact the precedent has already been set for this! In the featured photograph, one of St. Paul’s very own streetcars can be spotted on grass Tracks in Phalen Park.

The Alternatives Analysis is a federally funded, in-depth study led by Metro Transit, with periodic community discussion opportunities. Metro Transit expects the next round of Open Houses to take place in Late Fall, as the final set of results is unveiled. The next stage of information will reveal station locations, service plans, running time, operating and maintenance costs, capital costs, right of way impacts, and predicted ridership numbers. In this stage, community input will be critical – Metro Transit will present their recommendation to the public, and to the Policy Advisory Committee (PAC). After the comment period, soon thereafter the PAC will call a vote!

For more information, visit www.midtowngreenway.org

Tour de Fat — continued from page 1

from the acclaimed Lips of Faith series.

Other tents and attractions include the Le Tigre Tent, Port-a-oke, Bike Pit, and Slow Ride. Also new this year will be puppet shows just for the kids.

The festival benefits nonprofit organizations like the Midtown Greenway Coalition; the Bicycle Alliance of Minnesota; Minnesota Off Road Cyclists; and Minneapolis Off-Road Cycling Advocates.

In 2012, Tour de Fat drew a crowd of 3,000 people, including 800 cyclists in the costumed parade, all to raise $19,000 to benefit the city’s cycling community.

Join us in Loring Park to see what TDF is all about. For more information visit the events page on www.midtowngreenway.org.

$19,000 to benefit the city's cycling community.

Email: Jackie@midtowngreenway.org

WANT TO VOLUNTEER WITH TRAIL WATCH?

To get involved with Midtown Greenway’s Trail Watch

Phone: 651-292-9281

Email: Jackie@midtowngreenway.org
The UPS Store—Uptown
Vistaion, Inc.
Wells Fargo
Greenway Donors
($250 - $499)
Cedar Isles Clean Day Neighborhood Association (CIDNA)
Mrs. Meyers’ Clean Day
Phillips West Neighborhood Organization
Smith Foundry Company
SRT Consulting Group
Twin Cities Bicycling Club (TCBC)

GRANTS
Allina Health
The Jay and Rose Phillips Foundation
McKnight Foundation
SUPERVALU Foundation

BUSINESS AND ORGANIZATION MEMBERS
Greenway Champions ($2,500+)
BBB The Current
The Ackerman Group
Allina Health
Bar Louie
Bero Bike Racks
Elan Uptown Apartments
FreeWheel Bike
Mozart Art Park
New Belgium Brewing
Penn Cycle & Fitness
New Belgium Brewing
Hiawatha Bicycling Club
Bryant Lake Bowl
 process type foundry
New Belgium Brewing
89.3 The Current
Greenway Champions
Hiawatha Bicycling Club
Bryant Lake Bowl
($1,000 - $2,499)

STAINING
American Swedish Institute
Belay Realty
Commuter Connection
Minneapolis Design
Peace Coffee
The Sheraton
Spring Grove
Midtown Hotel
Midtown Center Theatre in the Round

MONTHLY AND QUARTERLY SUSTAINING MEMBERS
Mary Annison and Dale Hammerschmidt
Scott Campbell and Lacy Doucet
Joe and Jeanne Crocker
Amanda Dibyhu
Seth Dooms
Chris Erickson
Matt Frank
Hans Gaertjesen
Rachel Gallo
Gail Golder
Arkys Biciclete
Paul Holt
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Julie Ingelbreten
Soren and Sasha Jensen
Kaia Knutson
Kathy Koch
David Kroc
Chris Lavin
Edward Linder
Kristen Milner
Maren Milner
Eric Mueller
Burt Coffin
Michael Nelson and Marco Chaves
Amanda Dixon
Scott Chace

Volunteer for 10+ rides:
Neal Anton
Julie Barton
Barbara Batchelor
Michelle Beaulieu
Sandy Beck
Jonathan Beckel and Chelsea Rue
Aimee Bregay
Simon Blenski
Gail Brusd
Blaize Christensen
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William Chu
Dave Clements
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Bob Corrick
Jenny Dastych
Anthony Desnick
Janessa Dixon
Dave Evans
Leslie and Tim Foreman
Mia Fuhrman and Joey Getty
Rachel Galloke
Michael Gaertjesen
Jeff Gorzak
Harry Greenberg
Molly Hey
Jim Holt
Andrea Holm
Paul Holt
Gary Hoover
Ann Irquay

Volunteer for 6+ rides:
RacheL Jacobson
Marisa Johnson
Joe Johnson
Jim Kahle
Zac Kann
Tom Kern
Ellie Kinsbury
Kathy Koch
Dave Kranz
David Kroc
Andy Magee
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Paul Strebe
David Strom
Martin Swan
Megan Swan
Steve Tannen
Joan Vorderbruggen
Julian Ward
Andy Wyders
Hohan

Adopt-A-Greenway
Albert’s Organics
American Swedish Institute
Birchwood Cafe
Breck Schools
Bryant Lake Boat House
Calhoun Area Regional Action Group (CARAG)
Chicago Loop Hohomakers Association
Children’s Hospitals and Clinics of MN
Cedar Isles Clean Day Neighborhood Association (CIDNA)
Community Connection
Cristo Rey Jesuit High School
Dero Bike Rack Co
Evan Uptown Apartments
Erick’s Bike Shop
First Unitarian Society
Great Team
HMC - Yellow Clinic
Lake Country School
Metamorphosis
Minneapolis Jaycees
Minneapolis Design
Mrs. Meyer’s Clean Day
North Prairie Teleworks
Patagonia, St. Paul
Peace Coffee
Pilgrim’s Garden
Ryan Companies US, Inc.
Seward Co-op Grocery and Deli
Smiley’s Clinic
South Fork Brewing Company
SpringHouse Ministry Center
Sunny Biking Company
West Calhoun Neighborhood Council
Whiter Alliance
ZAP Twin Cities

Membership Benefits Partners
Aesthetic Apparatus
Angry Carfish
The Art Shoppe
Balance Fitness Studio
Barbecues
Bike and Paddle
Bryant Lake Bowl
Community Roots Cafe
Corazon
Do It Green! MN
Freewheel Bike Shop
Galaxtic Pizza
Gigi’s Cafe
Harmony Cycles
Holly Land
International Restaurant and Deli
Kitchen in the Market
Krav Maga
Minneapolis Longfellow Grill
Old Chicago
Opening Night Framing
Services & Gallery
Papa’s Tap
Perky Cycles
Red Stag Supperclub
The Round-Up
Midtown Hotel
Simba Craftworks
Tiger Sushi
Usoro Herbs
MEMBERSHIP AND DONATION FORM

Name __________________________________
Address __________________________________
City, State, Zip ____________________________
Phone, E-mail ______________________________

☐ $250 – Greenway Angel
☐ $100 – Greenway Patron
☐ $50 – Greenway Advocate
☐ $25 – Greenway Sponsor
☐ Business $____________
☐ Any amount comfortable for you $____________
☐ Yes, I want to volunteer
My main interest is: _________________________

Please make your check payable to:
“Midtown Greenway Coalition”
and mail to: Midtown Greenway Coalition
2834 10th Avenue South, Greenway Level, Suite 2
Minneapolis, MN  55407
or donate at www.midtowngreenway.org

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

TOUR DE FAT BIKE CARNIVAL
July 27

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Fourth Thursdays, 6 PM - 8 PM
July 25, August 22, September 27

GREENWAY IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE
Second Thursdays, 6 PM - 8 PM
July 11, August 8, September 12

ARTSPACE COMMITTEE
Third Wednesdays, 5 PM
July 17, August 21, September 18

CRIME PREVENTION TASK FORCE
Second Mondays, 6 PM – 8 PM
July 8, August 12, September 9

Unless indicated, all meetings are held at the Midtown Greenway Coalition’s office (2834 10th Avenue South, Greenway Level, Suite 2, Minneapolis, MN  55407).