



MEDIA RELEASE

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Public invited to learn about transportation while having fun

WHAT: Community block party

WHEN: Sunday, May 19, 2024

12:45 – 1:00 PM: mini-parade with the One More Time Marching Band

1:00 – 5:00 PM: transportation exhibits, demonstrations, and activities

WHERE: Farmers Market Pavilion & Plaza, 85 East 8th Avenue, Eugene

If you liked Eugene Sunday Streets, you'll love the fun, free, and kid-friendly Better Ways Block Party!

People of all ages and abilities are invited to engage with a variety of transportation exhibits, demonstrations, and activities.

University of Oregon students will provide DIY toolkits for improving your local street. The Lane Council of Governments will hand out free bike helmets for kids, making sure they are properly fitted. The Oregon Department of Transportation will provide information on riding the Amtrak Cascades train and other options. There will be electric vehicles, electric bicycles, cargo bikes, folding bikes, and shared bikes on display, with some opportunities for test rides. Lane Transit District and other agencies will ask for your input, and local groups will invite petition signatures. Eugene Bike Polo and Emerald City Roller Derby will showcase what they do. Displays will include a mobile shelter on a bicycle trailer and The Glory, a 1,500-pound, 4-wheel, 5-seater, human-powered kinetic sculpture vehicle.

Local experts will hold short chats on various topics. Featured speakers will be Kaarin Knudson with Better Housing Together, Jameson T. Auten with Lane Transit District, Brodie Hylton with Cascadia Mobility, Ms. Wheelchair Pacific Coast USA Melinda Preciado, and Carmel Snyder with AARP Oregon.

Musical performances will include a mini parade by the One More Time Marching Band, soaring harmonies and rollicking instrumentals by Meadow Rue, and dancing to the beats of Samba Ja. Or take a hayride on an e-trike with music!

For kids, there will be free face painting, a coloring contest, and a scavenger hunt, with prizes awarded.

Food will be available from various trucks. Eugene Tea Festival will offer free samples.

The Better Ways Block Party is presented by Better Eugene-Springfield Transportation (BEST), AARP Oregon, and University of Oregon LiveMove. It is made possible with generous support from the City of Eugene and the Oregon Department of Transportation.

Learn more at best-oregon.org/BlockParty.

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