

For Immediate Release:
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Contact:
John Brazil
Bike/Pedestrian Program
(408) 975-3206

San José Celebrates New Crosstown Bike Route 11

Event: Route 11 Crosstown Bikeway Ribbon-Cutting

When: Wednesday, May 14, 2008, 12 pm

Where: San José City Hall Bamboo Garden (behind Rotunda)
200 E. Santa Clara Street, San José

Who: City of San José
Jim Helmer – Director of Transportation

As part of national Bike-to-Work Week celebrations, the City of San José will host a ribbon cutting and bike ride for its new **Route 11 Crosstown Bikeway**, the first component to be unveiled as part of San José's plan to complete a 400-mile network of bikeways. Bicyclists, members of the public, and members of the media are invited to join City officials for a brief press conference and short bike ride along part of the new Route 11.

Route 11 runs mainly along streets with designated *Class II Bike Lanes, which provide lane striping and dedicated space for bicyclists. It travels from the northern end of San José at the Milpitas border, to the southern end at Morgan Hill. The green oval-shaped Route signs include a bike symbol, the route number, and the City of San José logo. Directional arrows are provided when the route turns.

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San José implemented the idea of Crosstown Bikeways in response to requests for directional signs to help guide cyclists along corridors better suited for bicycles, and to make it easier for bicyclists to find common destinations.

The City plans to implement additional numbered and signed crosstown bikeway routes in the future. These numbered routes are just one component of San José's plan to complete a 400-mile network of bikeways that will include 100 miles of trails – part of San José's Green Vision - and 300 miles of on-street bikeways.

San José's progress in developing this Bikeway Network has attracted national attention. In 2006, the City of San José received a bronze-level Bicycle Friendly Community award from the League of American Bicyclists. And last week, *Bicycling Magazine* named San José one of the Top 5 Most Improved Cities for bicycling.

To participate in the Route 11 bike ride and ribbon-cutting, meet at the City Hall Bamboo Garden (behind the Rotunda) at 12:00 p.m., Wednesday, May 16, 2008. If you'd like to participate in the short bike ride along part of Route 11, bring a bike and helmet.

*Bikeway: a generic term that refers to all three types of bike facilities described below.

Class I Facility = Path or Trail: a facility totally separate from the road and motor traffic; for example, Los Gatos Creek Trail or Guadalupe River Trail

Class II Facility = Bike Lane: an on-street facility with pavement stripes and signs indicating space dedicated for bikes

Class III Facility = Bike Route: an on-street facility with signs (and sometimes pavement markings) indicating space shared with bikes and motorists.

For more information about bicycling in San José, see the attached Fact Sheet.

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Fact Sheet

Bicycling in San José

- San José's Bikeway Network – The City of San José is developing a 400+ mile network of bikeways. It currently includes more than 30 miles of trails and more than 150 miles of bike lanes and routes. When complete, it will provide convenient places to bike in all parts of the city, connecting schools, jobs, housing, and transit centers.
- Awards Received – The City of San José has received several awards acknowledging San José as a great place to ride a bike. San José is particularly proud of two national awards:
 - *Bicycle Friendly Community Award* – San José received a bronze-level Bicycle Friendly Community award from the League of American Bicyclists. Fewer than 100 communities in the United States have been honored with this award.
 - *Most Improved Cities for Bicycling (Top 5)* – The leading national magazine for bicyclists, *Bicycling Magazine*, recently named San José one of the Top 5 Most Improved Cities for Bicycling.
- Host of World Class Bicycling Events – San José continues to be a hot-spot for bicycling events.
 - *Amgen Tour of California* – The City of San José has hosted a stage finish in each of the last three years of this world-class, international professional bike race.
 - *LiveStrong Challenge* – In 2008, San José will be one of only four cities to host the Lance Armstrong Foundation's LiveStrong Challenge. The event raises funds for cancer research and will include bike rides and runs of various distances.

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