

SP KE LIFE

SPRING 2017

Porter Park Pathway Grand Opening



**Great Cities
Have Great Streets!**

Adventure Challenge
Come Out & Test Yourself

Bike/Dog Leashes - We Tested Them
See How They Did

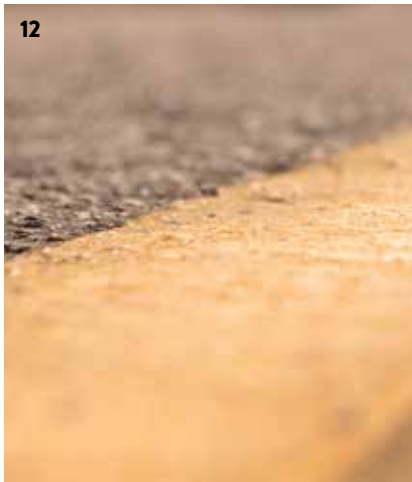


- 4 Contributors
- 6 I Bike Mesa
- 7 Beat the Heat
- 13 Maps
- 20 CycloMesa

5 **Welcome** **Greetings from Spoke Life MESA** Looking at what Mesa has become and how far we still have to go.

8 **Fun & Exercise** **Biking with Dogs - Gear Test** Now that the weather is great here in Arizona, it's time to dust off that bike, grab your helmet, and leash up the dog!

10 **Survey Says...** **2016 Bicycle & Pedestrian Survey** Gauging the activity and overall satisfaction of the program and facilities offered to residents.



- 21 Mesa Adventure Challenge
- 22 Local Love
- 24 Report From Your Ride
- 24 Cartoon
- 26 What/Where/When

12 **Streets for All** **Great Cities Great Streets** Where Mesa residents celebrate and come together with our neighbors.

17 **Expanding Pathways** **Creating New Routes for Bikers and Pedestrians** The City transformed the way people move around Mesa.

18 **Grid Bike Share** **Fun, Affordable Transportation** A transit system consisting of a network of stations where bikes are publicly available for short-term rental.



Sign up for e-notifications on Mesa's Bike & Pedestrian Program at mesaaz.gov/bikeped

Report potholes, graffiti, street light outages and more, download the City's free mobile app. Search Mesa CityLink to download from the App Store or Google Play.



MesaBikePedProgram



@cityofmesa



@mesaazgov





Jim Hash is the City of Mesa Bicycle and Pedestrian Program Manager and avid cyclist. Jim began riding at a very young age and grew up in the Seattle area where he spent the majority of his youth competing in the ranks of the American Bicycle Associations BMX racing series. Jim has spent several years dedicating his life to bicycling and advocating for cycling infrastructure and safety. Jim is a League of American Bicyclist Certified Bicycle Safety Instructor and has been at the helm of the City of Mesa Bicycle and Pedestrian Program for 10 years.

Ashley Barinka is the City of Mesa Transportation and Bicycle Safety Educator. Ashley is a certified Child Car Seat Instructor and longtime member and current board member of Safe Kids of Maricopa County. Ashley has committed her career to provide education to Arizona resident's with varying injury prevention programs and development. Ashley spends the majority of her summer vacations bicycling with her dogs in her home state of Michigan.

Mark Venti is living his dream job as a senior transportation engineer who has always loved biking. He combines the two by developing bike and pedestrian programs and facilities for the City of Mesa.

Al Zubi is a Supervising Transportation Engineer at the City of Mesa. As a Professional Engineer, Al has served in many roles in the Transportation field, including design, construction, research and safety. After working with different agencies and private organizations, Al decided to bring his expertise to the City of Mesa. Al spends his off time enjoying cycling with his family and teaching.

Editor-in-chief: Amy McConnell



"For your child and the child within you"

Must See Exhibition!

Caped Crusaders & Everyday Heroes

February 10-May 28, 2017



Artist Credit: Greg Gossel, Minneapolis, MN



Receives support from the State of Arizona and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Supports "Access for All - No Barriers to Learning" Program

Imagine · Explore · Learn



Enjoy early learning activities in ArtVille, a sock-only space for children 4 and younger.

Nurture creative thinking with hands-on STEAM-based activities for all ages in the HUB Gallery.

And don't miss the museum's groovy black light room!

Save \$2 on admission!

Expires 9/10/17. Coupon code: BIKE LIFE

150 W. Pepper Place, Mesa, AZ 85201
480-644-2468 | www.ideaMuseum.org

Greetings from Spoke Life MESA

When looking back on what we have accomplished during my tenure as Mesa's Bicycle and Pedestrian Program Manager, many emotions including a feeling of pride and accomplishment begin to well up within me.

Looking at what Mesa has become and how far we still have to go, I often reflect on the vision created by the residents of Mesa as part of the City's Bicycle Master Plan. I am energized and motivated by these dreams and aspirations. It is exciting to know that our residents expect bicycling and walking to be a viable option for their daily travels.

While coming a long way in our journey to provide a safe yet inviting environment for walkers and riders of all abilities and comfort levels, I will remain steadfast in my charge as ambassador for Mesa's bicycling community. Mesa's streets are not solely for the purposes of moving motor vehicles 'through' our community. They must be balanced and focused to move people to places within our community.

Creating streets that are inviting as well as functional for all modes of transportation will provide the primary driver for placemaking to occur and the primary driving force for community development.

We can no longer build streets with the mindset that everyone is athletically inclined. We must strive to accommodate all users of our streets no matter their age or ability, by ensuring that we are providing not only a network of streets, but a network of places that people can gather and feel as they are a part of the community.

I invite you to join me on this journey.

Cheers,



Jim Hash

City of Mesa Transportation Department
Bike & Pedestrian Program Manager



The City of Mesa has proudly ranked a "Silver Status" as a Bicycle Friendly Community by the League of American Bicyclists since 2015. Mesa's Bicycle and Pedestrian Program provides many services and educational opportunities for residents, to enrich the safety of cyclists and pedestrians in the City. The goal of the Bike and Pedestrian Program is to increase the ridership and activity throughout the City to increase the benefits residents can take advantage of from this affordable and healthy forms of transportation.

Valley Metro Honors Mesa's Bike & Pedestrian Program as Champion for Clean Air

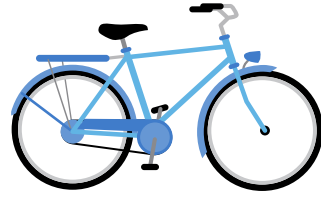


The City of Mesa Transportation Department's Bike and Pedestrian Program joined more than 50 Maricopa County Travel Reduction Program employers and individuals on stage to be recognized for their exceptional clean air activities this year at the 29th Annual Clean Air Campaign Awards and Luncheon. In attendance were nearly 500 guests who continually support and promote trip-savings as a way to keep pollution from Valley skies.

"It's our honor to recognize the many local employers and their employees who are making a commitment to help improve air quality and reduce congestion in the Valley," said Valley Metro Interim CEO Scott Smith. "They are very dedicated to making a difference for all of us as they carpool, vanpool, walk, bike or ride transit to work or school."

Jim Hash, Program Manager of the Bike and Pedestrian Program at the City of Mesa, accepted the Outstanding Marketing and Creativity Award, in the category of events with a budget of more than \$500 dollars to execute, for their April 2016 Bike to Work event. Coinciding with Earth Day, the event gave away participant t-shirts and hosted a pancake/smoothie breakfast benefiting local non-profit, Helen's Hope Chest, boasting nearly \$500 dollars donated and more than 1,228 miles logged by employees cycling to the City. 🚲

I BIKE MESA



Shane Gibson

Age: 33
City of Mesa
ITS Operations Foreman
for Transportation

Two-wheel bio: My wife Amber and I love to mountain bike together, riding the trails at least once a week together. We enjoy traveling for trails, going as far as Colorado and New Mexico for good mountain biking. I also commute to work on a road bike, once or twice a week. It's a pretty quick ride to work, about 20 miles round trip. **Where I ride:** In addition to my daily work commute to downtown Mesa, our go-to trail riding is Hawes Trail in northeast Mesa, because it's technical enough to provide a good challenge for us and makes us work up a sweat. **Miles per year:** Nearly 3,000 miles logged last year.



Jim Mack

Age: 62
IT Manager

Two-wheel bio: As a kid, I loved riding and then grew out of it as I grew up; In my 40s I decided to dust off the two-wheeler and get biking once more. Since then, I've continued to pedal through Mesa. **Where I ride:** Mesa's multi-use paths allow me to ride without being on major streets and near cars. **Miles per year:** Last year I hit 1,200 miles for the year. **How often do I ride:** 8-10 rides a month, each with an average length of about 12 miles. **Favorite thing about riding in Mesa:** All the bike routes and wide streets. The lights at crossings on the Sun Circle Trail are awesome – and also that the Bike and Pedestrian Program has lots of support and is expanding. I'm very excited about the new Stadium Connector Multi-Use Path that's under construction. It will be a great connector to Riverview, Tempe Town Lake and the Scottsdale Greenbelt.



Ryan D. Winkle

Age: 37
Mesa Councilmember,
District 3

Two-wheel bio: I got my first bike in second grade to start a lawn mowing business. Now, I've got three bikes and for a few years, until 2012, would ride literally everywhere – to work, school and for social activities. Back then I was logging up to 20 miles a day. Now days I enjoy riding to social activities like bike crawls and breakfast meet-ups, and up to South Mountain for off-road fun. **Where I ride:** Now days I ride at least a few times a week on shorter jaunts, just two or four miles from the house. Riding the neighborhood gets a great sense of each area. I especially enjoy riding on the bike paths around Dobson Ranch – most of the neighborhoods there are connected so I don't even need to ride on a main street. **Miles per year:** Just over 1,000 per year.

Lighting Up the Night

By Jim Hash

With warmer temperatures on the horizon as we transition into summer, our riding extends further into the hours of darkness and our thoughts as cyclists turn to staying visible in the dark while staying cool. Over the past decade or two there have been astonishing advancements in bike light technology - in only 10 years we have gone from brick-weight monstrosities which produced a scarcely noticeable luminosity and ran out of battery life nearly as fast as we ran out of energy from carrying their load, to incredible, light technology that makes it easier than ever to ride safely at night. Battery life of bike lights was once measured in minutes in lieu of hours, are now tiny USB-charged devices with supernova-power LED streams of light. The bike lights of today come in a number of sizes, shapes, colors and features. You can get lights that are inexpensive and basic in function to lights that are full of features and capable of bringing down aircraft on a foggy, rain-cursed night.

As far as the law is concerned in Mesa and the State of Arizona (ARS 28-817), lights must be attached to your bike in a fixed manner. Lights must be white when on the front of the bike and red when mounted on the rear of the bike and must provide enough light to be visible up to 500 feet to the front and 300 feet from the rear.

During the City of Mesa's Free Bicycle FUN-dementals education classes, I have been asked several times if all bike lights on the market meet the minimum state law lighting requirements. Well, in the long and the short of it, there are no specific federal manufacturing laws that are in place to regulate the compliance of bike lights within current bike laws in the United States.

With that being said, in the last year or two the brightest lights are claiming outputs of several thousand lumens, which in many cases are more than a car headlight. Other more general purpose lights range from 50 to about 500 lumens. Typically, the lumen conversion is somewhere in the area of 1 lumen = 4 feet depending on concentration and throw of the light.

Bike lights serve two functional purposes: (1) help the rider to "see" in the dark, and (2) help the rider to "be seen" in the dark. ARS 28-817 indicates that you must "be seen" at the distance standards previously mentioned. When most cyclists are in the market for lights they are in search of one or the other, "seen" or "been seen" lights and the price point will definitely demark the differences between each of the types.

When choosing a light there are a few things to consider:

What am I using the light for? Are you going to be tootling down to the corner market or bombing down some single track on the way home? You need to consider how much light you need, and the direction you need it to be positioned. Brighter is often better, but look for lights with good side visibility if you are riding a lot across town.

How regularly will I use the light, and how long per day? If your commute is an hour, but you have your light die after 50 minutes then you're in trouble. If it has a proprietary charger rather than batteries or a USB charge option, then it needs to last to where you're going and back again or you will have to carry the charger with you. Think about when you'll recharge the light and how long that will take. Many lights today have low-power selections that will lengthen battery life, so it's important to figure out if these options will give you enough output for certain sections of your ride. Also many lights have fuel gauge displays to let you know the existing life of the battery, these can be very useful if you ride regularly or are not good at remembering to charge your lights.



Types of Bike Lights

Emergency Lights: Small enough to fit in your bag for when you need them, emergency lights usually attach with some sort of stretchy band to the bars or the frame and are powered by a small watch battery. They do not put out a great deal of light, but are better than nothing. **Small Steady/Flashers:** The next step-up is a bar/frame-mounted flasher. Most of these are capable of putting out a steady beam, too. They're a bit bigger and sturdier than an emergency light, and they generally take AAA batteries which last for ages. You can pick them up cheap so they can be better value all round as commuter light. **Headlights/Taillights:** There's a lot of choice when it comes to torch-style front lights. Powered either by AA/AAA cells or – more commonly now – a rechargeable battery pack, they put out a bit more light. If your riding takes you anywhere you need to "see" – rather than just "be seen" – you'll need at least one of these. Often manufacturers will bundle a torch-style front light with a rear flasher, seeing to both ends of your bike and scoring you a bit of a discount in the process. Rechargeable units sometimes come with a mains adapter but USB chargers are becoming increasingly common, allowing you to juice up your light at your desk. The brightest torch-style lights now kick out over 1,000 lumens, which is more than you'll ever need for road riding, but on lower settings the best ones will run all night. **Rechargeable systems:** These tend to be characterized by a separate battery pack attached to a smaller head unit that's a lot more powerful than a standard light. If you want to go out regularly and train after dark on the road, or venture off-road, then a rechargeable set may be your best bet.

To get a good idea of your specific needs be sure to evaluate your riding conditions and comfort ability when night riding and it's always a good idea to consult your local bike shop professional where you can actually put your hands on the lights and get the scoop before making your final decision. 🚲

2 Wheels & 4 Paws: Biking with Dogs

Spoke Life's office dogs tested gear to see what stands up to a ruff-ride

By Ashley Barinka

Now that the weather is great here in Arizona, it's time to dust off that bike, grab your helmet and leash up the dog! Biking with Fido is fun and a healthy way to both exercise together. For the dogs, running alongside a bike gives them a great opportunity to stretch their legs, adds variety and excitement to their day, and creates a great bonding experience.

A few things to consider before hitting the bike trails with your dog:

➔ Make sure you have all the proper safety gear such a helmet that fits properly, bright/reflective clothing and that your bicycle is in good shape with air in the tires, brakes working and no loose parts.

➔ Be realistic about your dog's ability to run or jog alongside of you. How "in shape" is Fido? How old? Prior health issues? Certain breeds and overweight dogs may be prone to overheating easily. Running on pavement can be hard on their joints, so it is best to find a dirt road or path to use. But even if your dog appears to be in the best of health, you should have your veterinarian check your dog over before starting a new exercise routine.

➔ Start slow, build up stamina. Get them used to the bike, bike attachment, and any accessories you might use.

➔ Don't expect your dog to be able to run for miles at a time in the beginning. Just like us, dogs need some time to get in shape, too! Continue to monitor your dog during your ride and take breaks or stop

the ride if Fido appears tired, is panting heavily or drooling excessively, or is stumbling.

➔ You will also want to watch your dog closely for anything that might distract them such as another dog, animal, or person causing your dog to pull away possibly triggering a fall. If you are just starting out remember to give your dog lots of praise for being a good biking partner.

➔ Make sure to check them over after each ride, especially their paws. Remember, some dogs might not be cut out to bike with you or even enjoy it, so don't force them to do it.

➔ Now, onto some of the essential biking gear you will need for your dog: a non-tangling attachment; a body harness (attaching the leash to only a neck collar could be dangerous); reflective collar/bandanna and/or light so you can be seen better especially at dawn, dusk and night time; paw protection, a small first aid kit; an extra leash for detaching your dog from the bike to do other things; yummy treats for training, and water bottles for both you and your dog.

› The Gear

Cycle Dog

www.cycledog.com

No-Stink Anti-Bacterial and MAX Reflective Collars \$23-29



Cycle Dog's goal is to create the world's best dog products with a focus on the environment and to raise awareness of the millions of bike tubes thrown into landfills every year.

Hand sewn products are proudly made and tested in Portland, Oregon.

Since 2009, Cycle Dog has reclaimed hundreds of thousands of discarded inner tube rubber targeted for landfills.

They have a variety of collar choices. Reflective, water-proof, stink-resistant collars are great for those early morning, late night rides when you need to be seen, or when you might need to hose off a hot, stinky dog after your ride.

Collapsible Water Bowl \$16



Backcountry K-9

is a go-to resource for learning how to adventure with your dogs. Offering a wealth of knowledge on their blog including pack-lists and product reviews, the site also sells top-quality tools every pup needs to adventure comfortably and safely.

Be sure to follow them on Instagram at [@backcountryk9](https://www.instagram.com/backcountryk9) to see their latest adventures!

Leak proof, easy to clean, holds 20 ounces of water and folds flat.

Ruffwear Performance Dog Gear

www.ruffwear.com
www.backcountryk9.com

Ruffwear Front Range Harness \$39.95



Provides comfort and safety in style. The is an ID tag sewn in as well as a pocket to keep tags from being lost or catching on something during a bike ride, along with two leash attachment points. We found it super easy to put on and off, once its been sized up correctly. Readers take note, it tends to stretch when it is wet and used with a strong puller, so occasional readjustment maybe needed.

Grip Trex Boots \$75 for full set of four



Great for rough or slippery terrain and hot surfaces, these boots are flexible and light weight. Make sure to measure each paw as most back and front paw vary slightly in size. Instructions on how to measure for the best fit is one Ruffwear's website. Most dogs need to get use to wearing these before heading out for a long bike ride, so take time to walk them around with them on and make sure they are fitting securely.

Treadwell Pet Products

www.musherssecret.net

Musher's Secret \$10 and up

Musher's Secret is a dense, barrier wax that forms a breathable bond with your dog's paws. Protects paws in extreme conditions such as ice buildup, hot pavement, rough terrain, sand, salt and chemicals. This is another option if the boots don't work for you or your dog. Just rub a layer on before your ride to help add protection to the paws. Be careful of letting the dog walk around on certain surfaces such as carpet right after using, as it will stain!

Best Bets for Bike Tow Leashes

We tested out several bike attachments on several different sized dogs, all with varying pulling habits. These are our top three picks. All of them impressed our office pups and owners with the increased ability to ride safer and smoother. Prior to using these specific attachments, our testers rode a bike while simply holding the dog's leash. What a scary ride! These make rides safer and more enjoyable for both dogs and owners alike.

The customer service for each product we tested was amazing – don't be intimidated to ask for insights, recommendations and tips from each seller. They answered any questions we had regarding the items. Depending on the price point, your dog's build and behavior, you can find one of these attachments that would best work for your needs.

There are some great options for items that you can use when biking with your dog to make it easier, safer, and more fun! So what are you waiting for, get riding!



Bike Tow Leash \$146

www.thedogoutdoors.com

Pros: Light weight • Easy to install – no rope or elastic to mess with • Can attach to other things besides a bike, like a wheel chair • Great customer service

Cons: No easy disconnect • Does not work well with large dogs, better suited for small breeds • Don't like that it could potentially damage the paint of the frame • Being on rear triangle it tends to pull the back of bike around



Springer \$130

www.springeramerica.com

Pros: Well made • Easy & quick disconnect from dog • Does not pull when dog lunges • Easy to adjust for different size dogs • Keeps dog a good distance from the bike for safety • Love the break-a-way concept in case of an emergency • Great customer service

Cons: Very heavy • Fit and finish is not very professional • Attachment to seat post is not very convenient to remove • Seemed too flexible and dog had more freedom than preferred



WalkyDog Deluxe \$70

with optional Power Puller stability strap

www.thedogoutdoors.com

Pros: Well engineered – simple and easy to use • Love quick disconnect • The axle attachment would make this very solid and better for small dogs • Worked well with a variety of sized dogs • Least expensive of the three • Great customer service

Cons: Hard to get secure with large dog that pulls • Tends to move around a lot and can stick into your leg with an aggressive puller but can purchase a strap to reduce movement • Do not care for the stabilization method

How the 2016 Bicycle & Pedestrian Survey Helped to Shape New Projects

By Michelle Sciortino

Annually, the City of Mesa Transportation Department’s Bicycle and Pedestrian Program releases a survey to gauge the activity and overall satisfaction of the program and facilities offered to residents. The survey helps guide the department’s project planning so that it may constantly increase its efforts to provide a modern, innovative cycling environment throughout Mesa.

The 2016 survey was conducted over the months of February through April with 161 respondents. Here’s the highlights of what we heard, and what we’re doing with the insights you provided. ➔

What We Heard

Boosting Confidence: One of the Program’s main goals is to boost the overall confidence of cycling throughout the City. Seventy-nine percent of the total participants fall within the “confident and enthused” or “strong and fearless” about riding. Only 21 percent fall within the “interested but concerned” or “would not participate” in cycling classes. Overall, the City as a whole is quite confident in regards to bicycling. [See graph A.](#)

Reasons to Ride: There are numerous reasons people choose to ride their bicycles in Mesa. Eighty-one percent of the City’s riders classify themselves as recreational cyclists; nineteen percent use their bike for primary transportation uses such as commuting or running errands. Many residents are discovering the benefits from riding by utilizing bicycling as a mechanism to exercise, save on transportation costs and to preserve the environment. [See graph B.](#)

Satisfaction: Currently, 46 percent of those surveyed were satisfied with the current design of the community in regards to safety. Although this is decent gratification, the results highlight opportunities to increase safety initiatives in future planning and outreach education. In 2017, the Program aims to garner at least 50 percent satisfaction. Ultimately, a long-term goal of 75 percent or greater would be an ideal target as we continue to plan future projects and initiatives. [See graph C.](#)

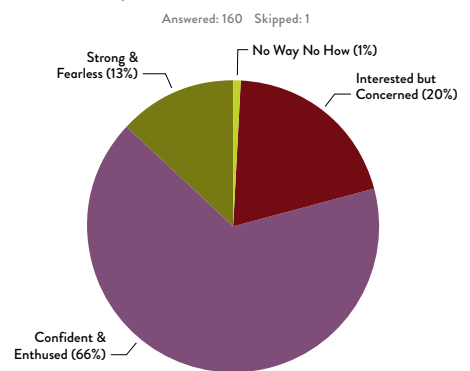
All-Inclusive Programming: After further analyzing the data, another major data set was brought to the attention of Bicycle and Pedestrian staff: Most cyclists are adult males. Mesa wants to remain an active community, engaging all ages and genders to participate in walking and biking. The Program hopes and predicts that with further planning, improvements and adjustments to programming, this goal may be achieved. [See graphs D and E.](#)

Improvement Opportunities: As always, there is room to improve. For future surveys, the Program plans to create more specifically targeted and detailed questions to capture more detailed responses. Although the questions are sufficient, reformatting the questions to the main focuses will help gauge future projects, programs and facilities. By improving these specific measures, the City hopes to increase ridership and promote the safety of bicycles and pedestrians to more residents. [See graph F.](#)

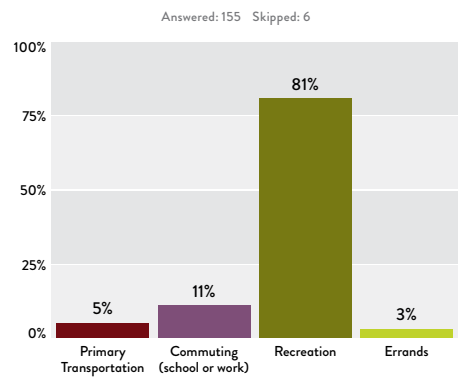
➔ Key Findings

1. Most cyclists wear a helmet and ride for recreation, health and exercise benefits.
2. Cyclists feel most threatened by motorists’ behavior and inability to share the roadway, deterring them from commuting by bicycle.
3. Eighty-one percent of riders requested more bike racks.
4. Distinction between bike lanes and improvement of right-turns are the most desired features.
5. Seventy-three percent of respondents wish to see separated, or buffered, bike lanes.
6. Most respondents are unaware of the Bicycle & Pedestrian Program website and have never attended a free educational class.

A What best describes your confidence level as a cyclist?



B In general, what type of riding do you do?



C How satisfied are you with how your local community is designed for making walking safe?

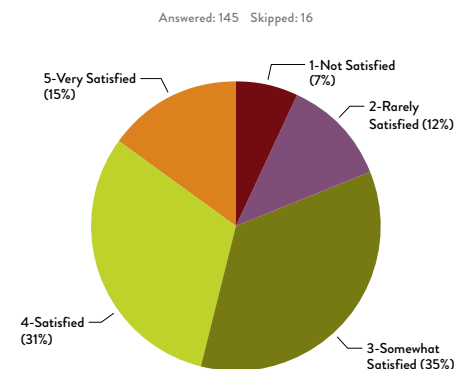
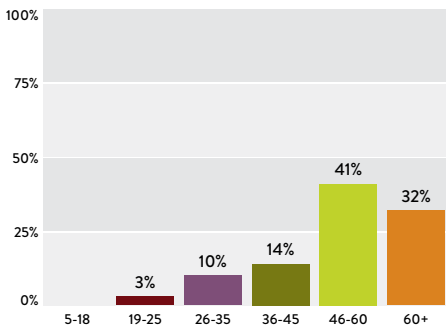




Photo: Slaven Gujic

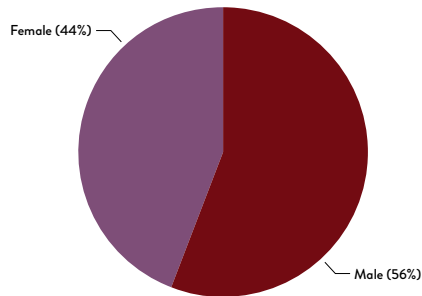
D What is your age?

Answered: 159 Skipped: 2



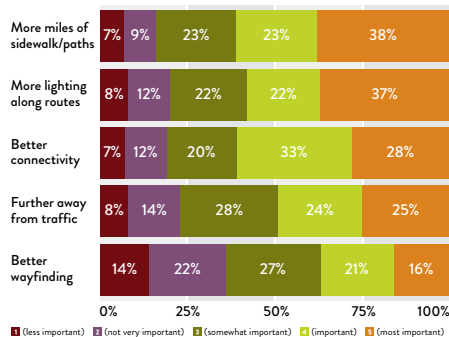
E What is your gender?

Answered: 160 Skipped: 1



F What pedestrian improvements would you like to see...choose all that apply?

Answered: 136 Skipped: 25



Future Projects & Plans

Since 2015, the City has purchased and begun the installation of 50 additional bike racks for the public to utilize.

The City of Mesa's Transportation Department has funded and launched a new pilot project for its first buffered bike lane. A buffered bike lane is an on street traffic lane meant specifically for cyclists, that is separated by a physical barrier. The project will be approximately two miles in length on 32nd Street, expanding between Broadway and Baseline Roads. Completion of the project is projected to be completed no later than 2018.

With safety being a main priority, the Program has continued to develop new strategies to educate the public on bicycle and pedestrian safety. The City currently offers safety education courses for both children and adults where participants receive free bicycling safety gear such as: helmets, bike lights, locks and other tools for safe riding. Based on survey feedback, the Program has decided to add seven more children's courses and an additional 12 adult courses for 2017. Mesa's diversity has encouraged the Program to translate the safety courses into other languages, including Spanish. Another additional factor the City hopes to provide, is converting the current course to an online course for residents with busy schedules or that anyone can readily access the safety information at all times.

A new Share the Roadway public service announcement campaign focused on the safe driver awareness, is also in current planning stages, hoping to be released within 2017.

Great Cities Begin with Great Streets

By Jim Hash

Photo: Ryan Glauser

What are Mesa streets? From Motorcycles on Main and the Mesa Music Festival, to farmer's markets and public gatherings such as, block parties, Second Friday's and Merry Main Street, streets are where Mesa residents celebrate and come together with our neighbors. They're where we bump into friends, and one of the few places where we routinely encounter people who are different from ourselves. They're where people have gathered to protest injustice for centuries. Streets are more than just a means of transportation. Mesa's streets themselves are vital public spaces that lend richness to the social, civic and economic fabric of our community.

Of course, another important function of Mesa's streets is to facilitate travel from one place to another. But many of our streets – especially those such as Main Street, and Southern Avenue in the Fiesta District – can be so much more than just a conduit for traffic.

Streets in Mesa account for approximately 25 percent of our land area and well over 50 percent of City-owned open space. These conduits that transport people across our city require a major part of the Federal, State and City funding sources to own and maintain. So, shouldn't we be ensuring that the tax payers and residents of Mesa are receiving the most out of their investment?

"Streets as Public Spaces and Drivers of Urban Prosperity," a recent UN-Habitat report, demonstrates how "those cities that have failed to integrate the multi-functionality of streets tend to have lesser infrastructure development, lower productivity and a poorer quality of life." Keeping that statement in mind, how will Mesa move forward to guarantee that our streets are living up to their potential?

When looking at progressive cities around the world with great streets you can see a pattern begin to emerge that indicates that streets not only need to move people quickly and efficiently, they need to connect people to key destinations and places. The importance of layering multiple activities and uses together – opportunities to sit and relax, to eat, to socialize, to play, to shop – to create dynamic streets that attract many people and encourage them to spend time there.

There has been a large paradigm shift in Mesa over the last decade that has shown that the residents of Mesa are wanting to reclaim their streets as public spaces. Current trends show

that cities that have high levels of street connectivity are more inclined as a community to have higher productivity, sustain a better quality of life and therefore lend themselves to have more prosperity.

City prosperity implies wellbeing, opportunity and success. The UN-Habitat in 2012, developed the "City Prosperity Index", which measures five key components of a city's prosperity: Infrastructure Development, Environmental Sustainability, Productivity, Quality of Life, and Equity & Social Inclusion. Prosperous streets traditionally are inclusive to these key components creating a highly functional well-connected, multi-modal transportation system that creates a sense of place and facilitates opportunities for the community to interrelate and share common interests. When looking at these five factors more closely, they can be viewed as spokes of a wheel that drives prosperity of a community. Each spoke provides additional opportunity for residents to interact and connect.

Infrastructure Development: Focuses on the basic needs of the community to ensure that services such as water, sanitation and technological services are in place to improve the work, live, play environment being sought after by people and companies.

Environmental Sustainability: Promotes the protection of the urban environment and natural assets, which will minimize pressure on surrounding land and natural resources while generating creative solutions to enhance the quality of the environment.

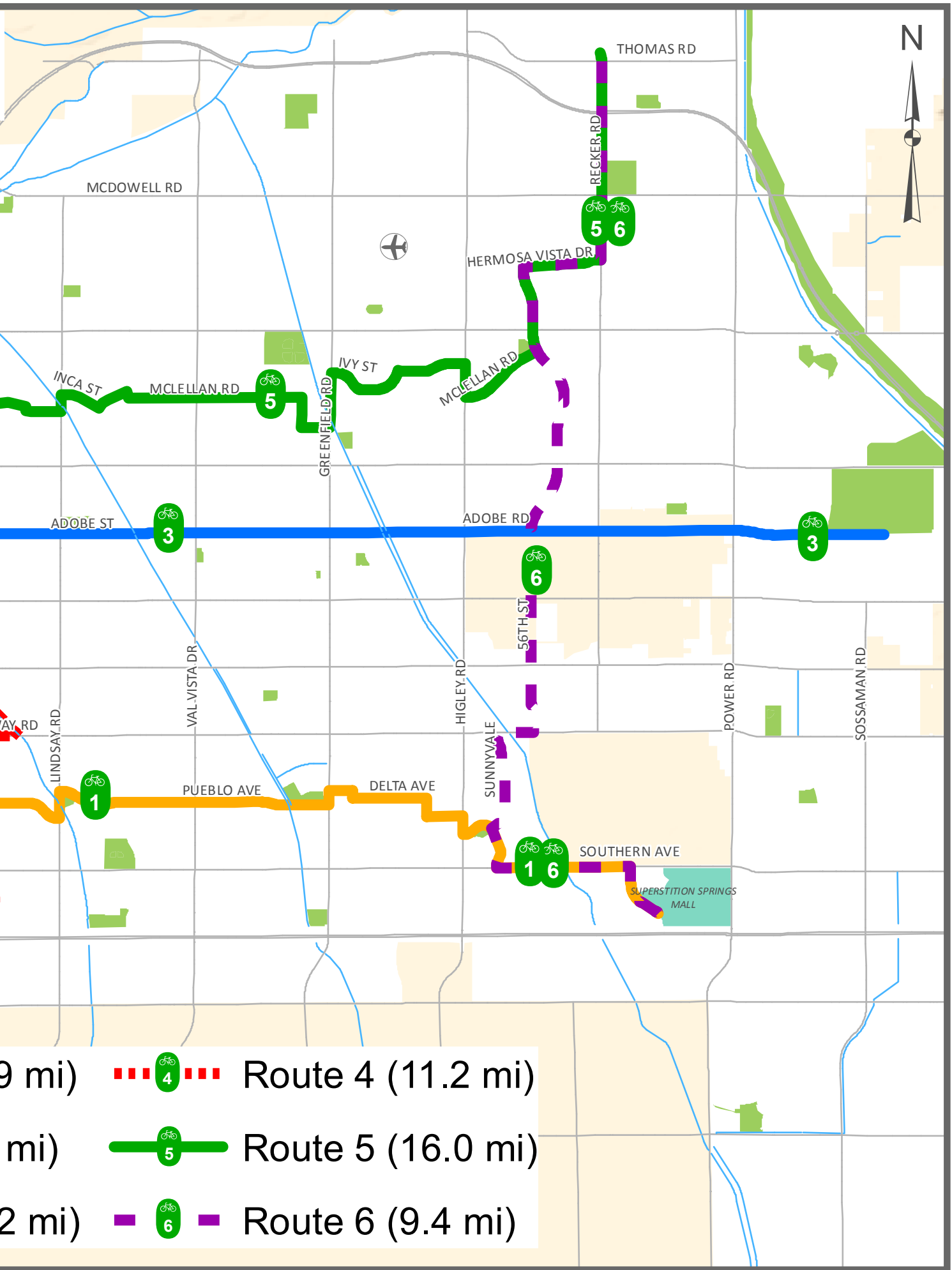
Productivity: Adds economic growth, generates income and jobs with equal opportunities for everyone through economic policies and reforms.




Quality of Life: Focuses on the enhancing of public spaces, guaranteeing the safety and security of lives, and property therefore increasing the cohesion and character of the community.

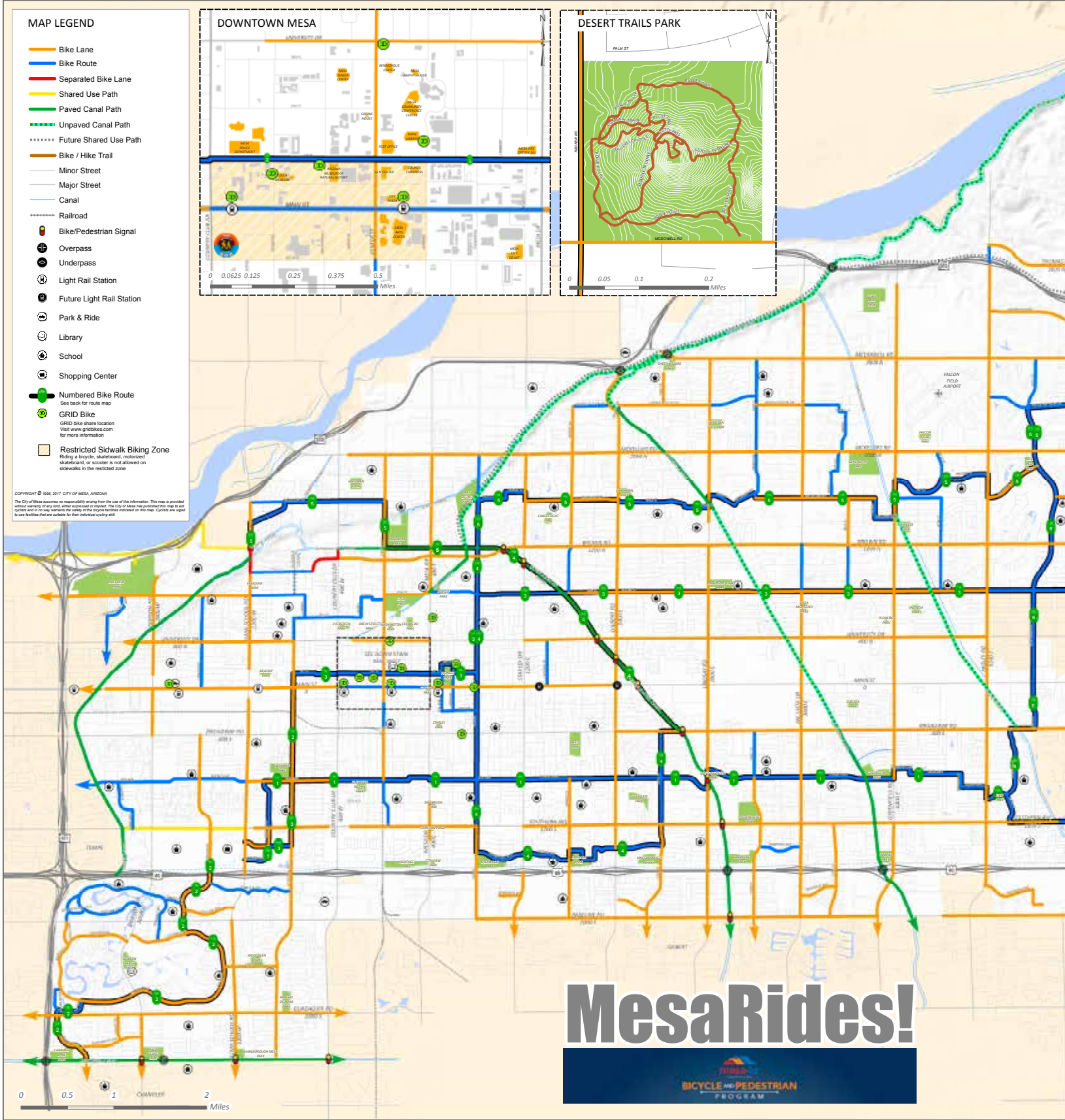
Equity and Social Inclusion: Ensures equitable distribution/redistribution that benefits all, through the reduction of poverty, protecting vulnerable groups and providing better opportunities for participation in social, political and cultural spheres.

By creating this five spoke wheel of prosperity to drive the development of Mesa's culture of streets for all, Mesa will enjoy the successes of an urban fabric core that will provide livable, complete streets and ensure the continued evolution of our prosperity. 🐾





- 10.9 mi)  Route 4 (11.2 mi)
- 16.0 mi)  Route 5 (16.0 mi)
- 9.4 mi)  Route 6 (9.4 mi)



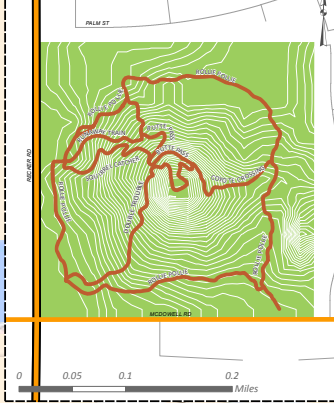
MAP LEGEND

- Bike Lane
- Bike Route
- Separated Bike Lane
- Shared Use Path
- Paved Canal Path
- - - Unpaved Canal Path
- - - - - Future Shared Use Path
- Bike / Hike Trail
- Minor Street
- Major Street
- Canal
- - - - - Railroad
- Bike/Pedestrian Signal
- Overpass
- Underpass
- Light Rail Station
- Future Light Rail Station
- Park & Ride
- Library
- School
- Shopping Center
- Numbered Bike Route
See back for route map
- GRID Bike
GRID bike share location
Visit www.gridbikes.com
for more information
- Restricted Sidewalk Biking Zone
Riding a bicycle, skateboard, motorized
skateboard, or scooter is not allowed on
sidewalks in the restricted zone

DOWNTOWN MESA



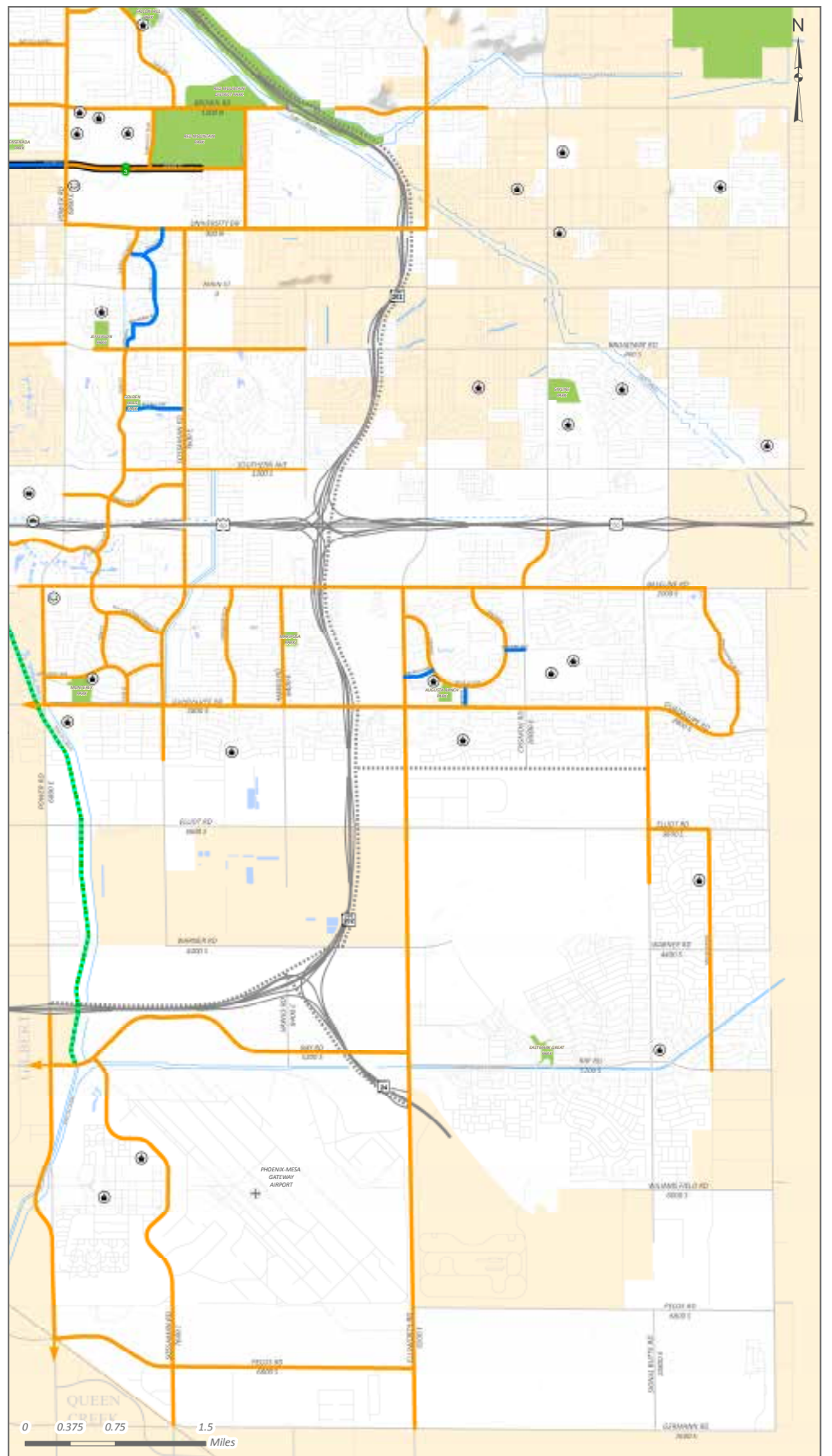
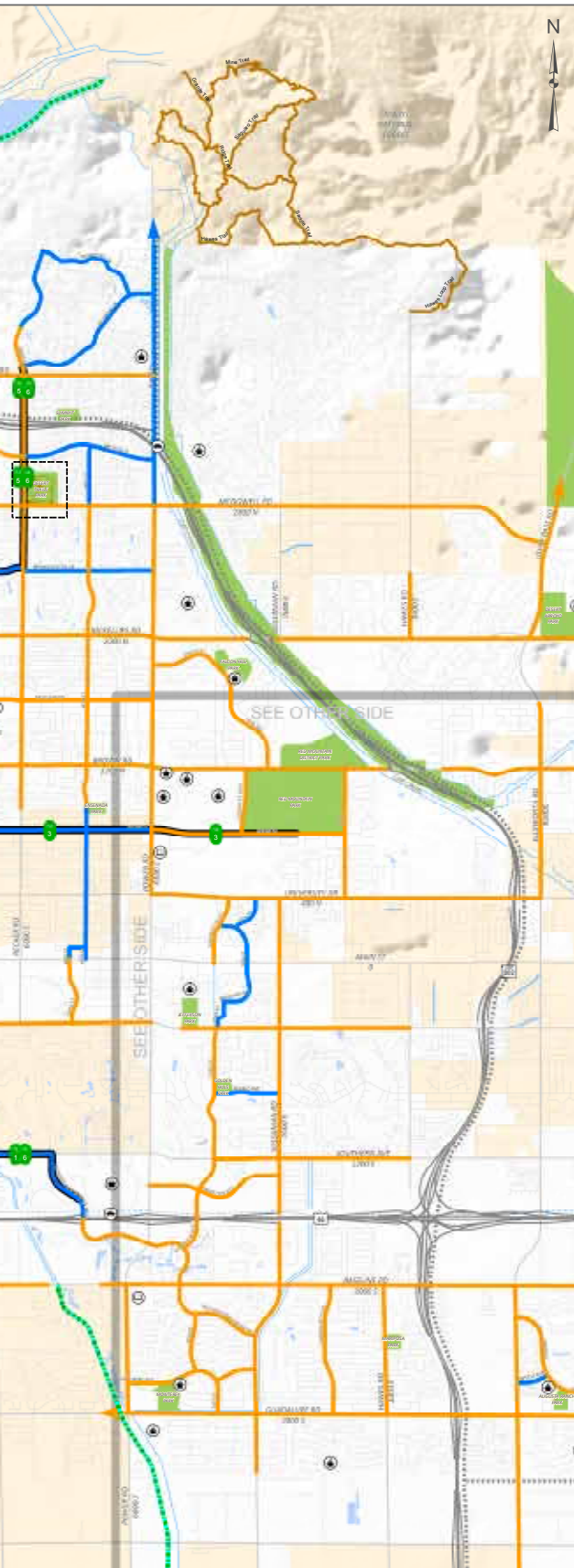
DESERT TRAILS PARK



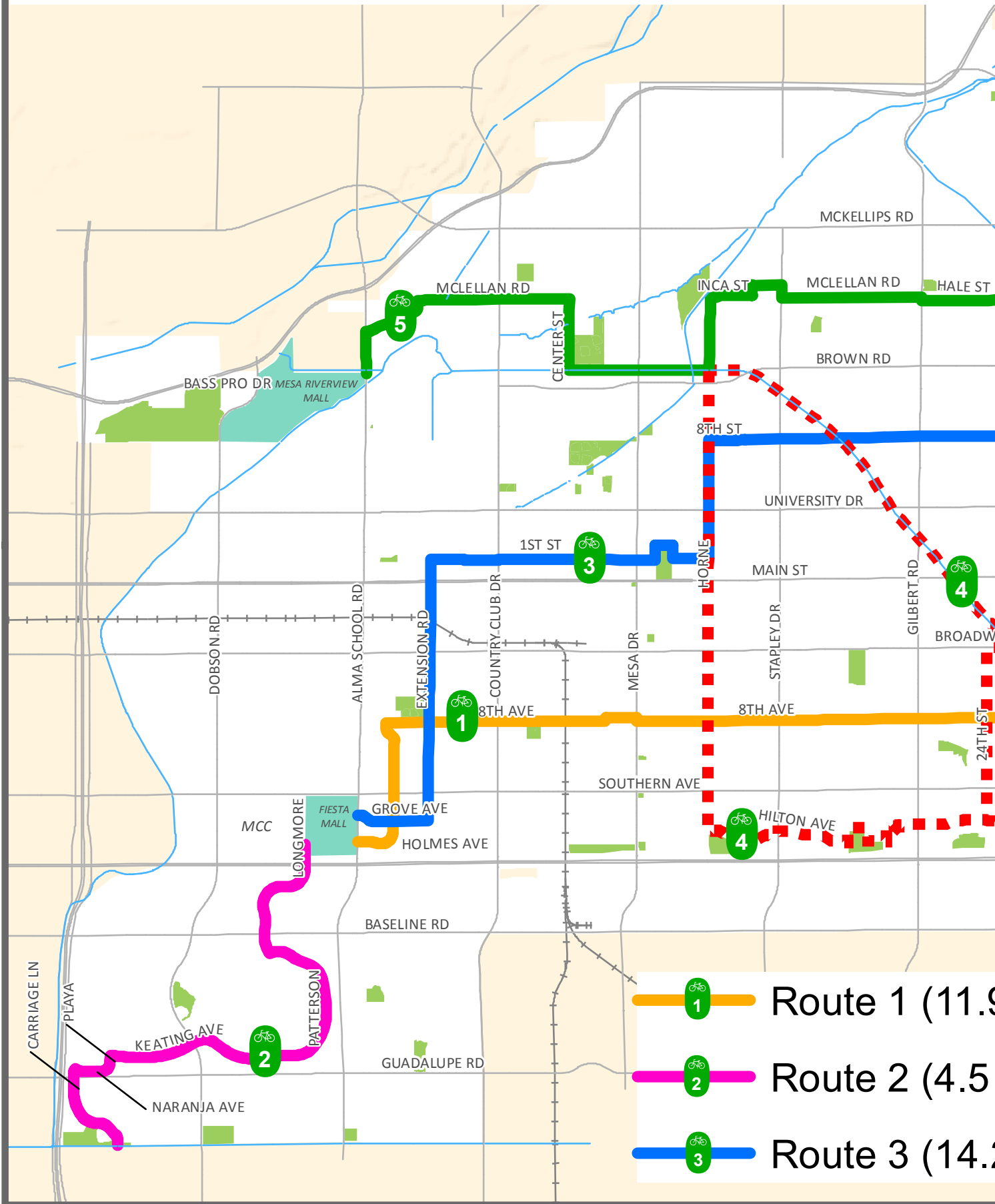
COPYRIGHT © 1998, 2017 CITY OF MESA, ARIZONA
The City of Mesa assumes no responsibility arising from the use of this information. This map is provided without warranty of any kind, either expressed or implied. The City of Mesa has published this map in good faith and to the best of its knowledge and belief. The City of Mesa is not responsible for any errors or omissions on this map. Cycles are urged to use facilities that are suitable for their intended cycling and use.

MesaRides!





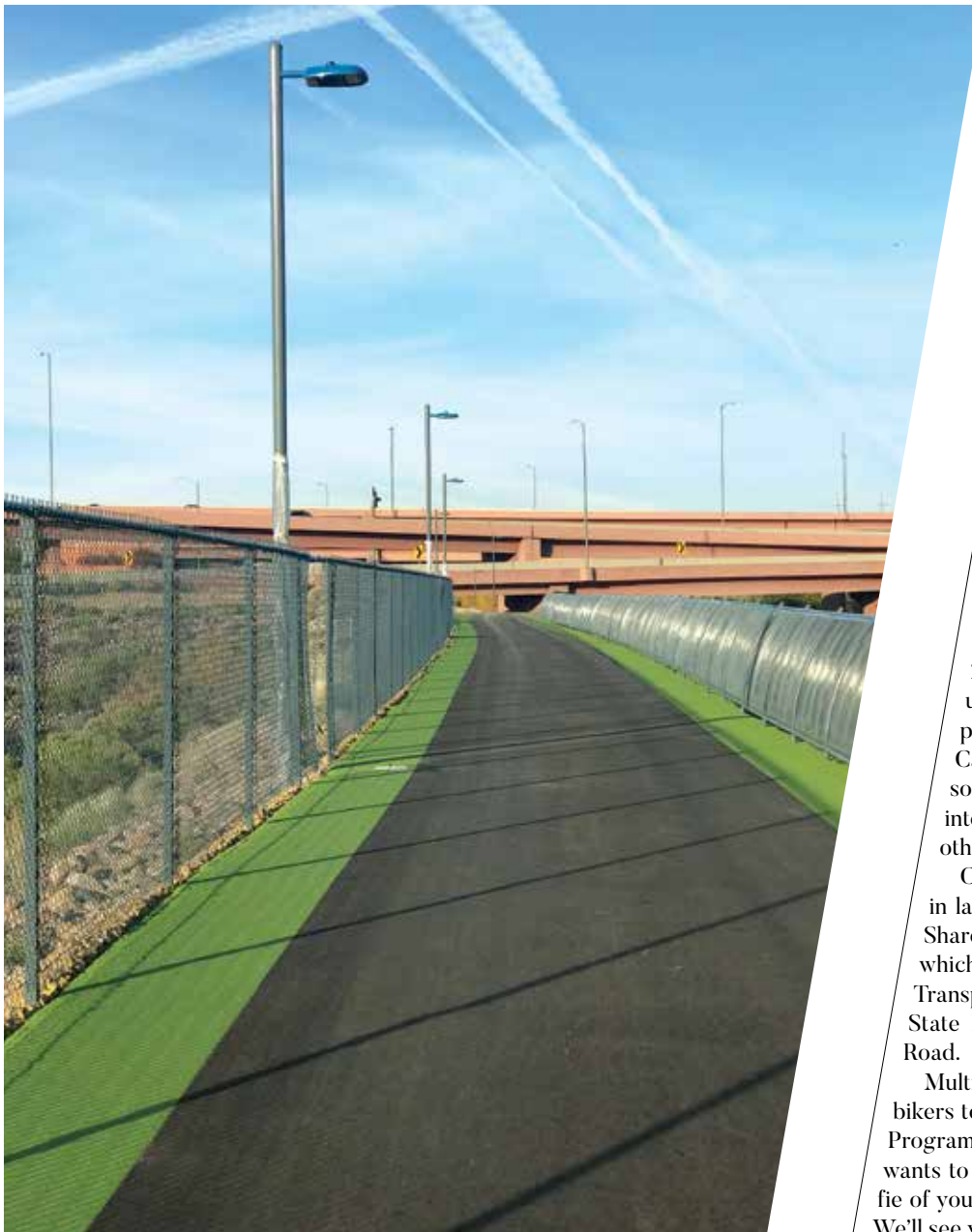
NUMBERED MESA BIKE ROUTES



Shared-Use-Paths Continue to Expand Across Mesa

Pathways Create New Routes for Bikers and Pedestrians

By Jim Hash



The City transformed the way people moved around Mesa as new shared use paths opened over the course of the past fiscal year and other paths became popularized by residents. These paths are creating new alternative routes for pedestrians and bicyclists alike, and more are already being developed.

First, the Fiesta Paseo Nodes on Southern Avenue were completed in December 2015. This created pedestrian nodes (refuge and stops) for the Fiesta Pathway (1/4-mile south of Southern Avenue) and acted as an extension to the Tempe Canal Pathway.

The City of Mesa also reactivated and old underground irrigation canal into a revitalization project named Porter Park Shared Use Pathway. This old alley, from the intersection of East Eighth Street and North Mesa Drive, northeasterly to East Brown Road, opened to the public in September of 2016.

The Rio Salado Pathway, from the Tempe border to Dobson Road in Mesa, is a regional icon pathway project completed in March 2017. This path is one of the final links in the chain that will connect riders across the entire Southeast Valley to the rest of the region without having to ride among vehicle traffic.

What's even more exciting is that there is more on the horizon. In March of 2017, lighting was provided for phase two of the Consolidated Canal Trail from Eighth Street to Lindsay Road. Then, the Crosscut Canal – also known as the Stadium Connector Shared Use Path, is scheduled to be completed in June 2017. This project is the final 2.5-mile link in the Rio Salado Pathway. The Stadium Connector will extend from the current end of paved pathways at Center Street and the Crosscut Canal and connect to the Rio Salado Pathway at Dobson Road and the Loop 202 Red Mountain Freeway interchange. This pathway will include lighting and other amenities as needed.

Currently in the design phase and slated to begin in late 2017, the project known as the Southeast Mesa Shared Use Path Segment One will be constructed, which will be located within the Arizona Department of Transportation's right of way along the west side of the State Route 202 Freeway from Baseline Road to Elliot Road.

Multi-use paths continue to provide another option for bikers to ride throughout Mesa, and the Bike & Pedestrian Program at the City of Mesa's Transportation Department wants to see you ride! Next time you're on one, snap a selfie of you in your helmet and use #MesaRides for us to see! We'll see you on the paths. 🚲

A Fun, Affordable Transportation Option

Grid Bike Share is a transit system consisting of a network of stations where bikes are publicly available for short-term rental through several affordable fare options. These green bikes will help you connect with Valley Metro by solving the 'first-mile, last-mile' problem and they're also a fun way to see the city, run errands, meet up with friends or commute to work. Most trips are typically short and quick, usually under two miles. The City of Mesa has 11 stations and 100 bikes to help you to easily navigate the downtown area. Hop on the light rail and you're an easy trip away from hundreds of bikes in Phoenix and hundreds more arriving in Tempe in the spring.

Renting a bike is easy!

To access the system, sign up for an account at gridbikes.com or with the Social Bicycles mobile app and choose a plan. You'll need to be 16 or older to ride and must sign up with a valid credit card. The Pay as You Go plan charges \$7 hourly as you reserve, ride or put a bike on hold. More frequent riders will want a Monthly Basic plan which includes 60 minutes of usage every day for only \$15 per month or a Monthly Plus plan for an additional \$5 per month which includes 90 minutes of daily usage. Special student and corporate pricing is also available.

Once you sign up for an account, you'll have an account number and PIN that you'll enter on the keypad of the bike to unlock it. You can rent up to four bikes at a time by entering the same info on each bike. Monthly and Student members who supply an address will be sent a membership card for faster bike check out. Simply tap the card on keypad and enter your PIN. Put the vonboard u-lock in the holster and you're ready to ride!

When you're ready to end the rental, simply lock the bike to a station rack. You'll see the THANK YOU on the screen and a flashing green light, indicating that the rental has ended and is available for another user. You can also lock to any public bike rack for a \$2 convenience charge, and if you return a bike locked outside a hub to a station rack, you'll get a \$1 credit. If you'd like to make a quick stop along the way but don't want to give up the bike you're riding, simply put the bike on hold for up to an hour using the keypad before locking the bike to a rack. This will keep the bike in your name (with the clock still ticking) and the bike ready for you to hop on again. Need to hold it for more than an hour? You can return to the bike before the hour is up and follow the instructions to extend your hold. So easy!

For more information and to see a map of the stations, visit www.gridbikes.com or download the Social Bicycles mobile app. Ride happy. Ride the Grid! 🚲



Photos: Slaven Gujic



The 3-speed bikes come equipped with an on-board lock, big front basket, automatic lights, a bell and puncture-resistant tires.

FREE M:MOVIE



Ride-in-Movies at The Park

**You bring blankets and we will supply the popcorn!
We encourage families to ride their bicycles or walk
to the park. Remember your helmets and bike lights!**

**Please visit our website for up-to-date information
on each movie,
<http://mesaaz.gov/bikeped>**

DATE	LOCATION	TIME	MOVIE
Feb. 11, 2017	Red Mountain Park	6:30pm	<i>Minions</i>
March 11, 2017	Guerrero Park	7:00pm	<i>The Secret Life of Pets</i>
April 22, 2017	Harmony Park	7:30pm	<i>Moana</i>
May 6, 2017	Mountain View Park	7:45pm	<i>Finding Dory</i>

**movies subject to change or cancellation without notice*

CycloMesa Unchained

Pump up your tires, dust off your helmet & mark your calendars for Saturday April 1st

Each spring, for the past six years, the City of Mesa Transportation Department Bicycle & Pedestrian Program have brought a celebration of everything bikes to downtown. This year join bike lovers from all over the Valley for the seventh annual CycloMesa Unchained Bicycle Festival hosted by the City of Mesa, Downtown Mesa Association, Perimeter Cycling, APBP Arizona, Full Sail Brewery, Old Sol Lumber, Grid Bike and City of Mesa Water Resources. This is the Valley's biggest bicycle festival of the season!

At CycloMesa, attendees can watch cyclists race through the streets of downtown Mesa and beyond. Acting as the beginning and ending point for Perimeter Cycling's Holualoa Companies El Tour de Mesa, CycloMesa is a celebration for everybody that loves to bicycle. Open to cyclists of all ages and abilities, riders can compete to earn gifts, prizes and awards in different mileage options ranging from a metric century ride down to one-mile, with options in the middle at 35-miles and six-miles.

After getting your ride on, you can return to the finish line where you will enjoy entertainment for all, including a zip line, bungee trampolines, rock wall, BMX Freestyle show, bicycle education seminar, beer garden, custom bicycle competition, vendors, food truck alley and more. Bring the family – there will be a huge kid's zone and extreme sport's zone – plus a kids bike rodeo.

CycloMesa is an opportunity to see, hear, feel and experience bicycling. Enjoy the festivities on streets closed to motorized traffic and watch the finishers of El Tour de Mesa! 🚲





The Mesa Adventure Challenge: Bike Edition

Don't miss Mesa's own Amazing Race-type event – The Mesa Adventure Challenge: *Bike Edition*.

This is a fun and exciting event where teams are required to solve clues, complete challenges and most of all, ride their bikes from destination to destination enjoying the beautiful Mesa bicycle facilities and landscapes. Head's up – advanced registration is required for this part of the festivities! 🚲



FREE EVENT

DOWNTOWN MESA APRIL 1, 2017 9AM-1PM

SAVE THE DATE!

Live Music • Food Truck Alley
El Tour de Mesa • Beer Garden • Bicycle Shows •
Extreme Sports Demos
Zip Line, Rock Wall • Kids Bicycle Rodeo

WWW.CYCLOMESA.COM

PRESENTED BY  **mesa·az**
TRANSPORTATION

FACEBOOK.COM/MESABIKEPEDPROGRAM

Saturday, April 1, 2017

10 am start

Rendezvous Park, Convention Center

\$30/person

use discount code MESA50

Fun. Adventure. Scavenger hunt.

A wildly fun urban adventure that is as much adventure race as it is scavenger hunt!

Teams of 2-6 people solve clues and complete challenges.

BIKES REQUIRED, costumes optional!

For more info and to register:
<http://www.mesaaz.gov/things-to-do/mesa-adventure-challenge>

Helen's Hope Chest

By: Jim Hash

The Shop

When a child is removed from a dangerous home environment, they are often unable to bring with them any personal items such as clothing, shoes, undergarments, and hygiene products. As such, the receiving family is faced with the burden of supplying all of these necessities all at once – often with very little notice. Helen's Hope Chest helps these families by providing a warm and welcoming place for them to “shop” for these items.



To coordinate a volunteer event or receive more information, feel free to call or drop by for a tour.

Address
126 E. University Dr.
Mesa, AZ 85201

Hours
Monday-Thursday &
Saturday 8am-4pm

Phone
480-969-5411

E-mail
hhc@mesaunitedway.org

During their first visit, each child receives a handmade quilt, a stuffed animal, and a cloth shopping bag in which to carry their new items home with style and dignity. Each visit after that - up to four times a year - each child can also pick out five outfits, two pairs of socks and underwear, a pair of shoes, pajamas, and a couple of books. When available, HHC also provides hygiene items, diapers and baby formula at no cost. Not only does the shop supplement the scant clothing resources available to these families, but the experience of shopping provides a feeling of normalcy and freedom of choice for the children themselves.

JaKelle's Legacy

Throughout the year, Helen's Hope Chest hosts donation drives to help supply additional items to children in need. In July, backpacks filled with school supplies and lunch boxes are distributed to ensure kids have everything they need to start the school year off right. They hope to distribute at least 2,500 backpacks in 2017. During the holiday season, they also host “JaKelle's Christmas Box,” a toy drive dedicated to preserving the giving spirit of the late JaKelle Westergard which helps foster families enjoy the holiday season just like anyone else. This year, they plan to distribute 3,500 presents.

In April, Helen's Hope Chest celebrated the one-year anniversary of their new 8,000 square-foot facility where they currently serve between 650-750 children each month. Even with a team of 50 regular volunteers, the increased capacity means there are still many group and individual volunteer opportunities available. 🐾

The City of Mesa Bicycle and Pedestrian Program, was fortunate to get introduced to Helen's Hope Chest in April 2016. Mesa has several charitable

and volunteer organizations that provide amazing and needed support to the local and surrounding communities. However, Helen's Hope Chest really grabbed our attention during last year's annual Bike2Work Day. Dedicated in memory of Helen Paula Simmons, an inspirational woman who struggled through the challenges of being raised in New York City orphanages during the Great Depression, we strive to remind kids that there is hope for a better tomorrow and that the community is full of loving people who are there to provide support.

Every year during Bike2Work day, the Transportation Department's Bike & Pedestrian Program selects a Mesa charity to receive funds raised by the Bike2Work pancake breakfast. Last year, we raised nearly \$500, and when staff went to deliver the donation check, we were lucky enough to receive a tour of their facility. We were so impressed, we want to share with our readers the remarkable and heartwarming work that is being done by one outstanding staff person and many exceptional and selfless volunteers.

Be Seen,

Be Safe



Cyclists must:

- Have a light on the front of their bike and a reflector on the back.
- Ride WITH traffic, not against.

Remember:

- Always wear a helmet.
- Wear bright & reflective clothing to make yourself more visible.
- Follow traffic laws & ride in a predictable manner.
- Use hand signals so people know where you are going.

It's the law!



BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN

PROGRAM

www.mesaaz.gov/bikeped



Sunshine Acres

CHILDREN'S HOME

If you are in need of HELP with your children ages four and up, we have opportunities. PLEASE CALL! We are a Christian home that helps children and no child is turned away for financial reasons. If you need transportation to visit our home please call.

For placement information call (480) 832-2540

Sunshine Acres is a non-profit home for children who are separated from their parents for many reasons. We are a full-time, year around Christian home in Mesa for children who might otherwise be homeless. We are not funded by the government.

Sunshine Acres has to date, given over 1,800 children the chance for a better life.

Report From Your Ride

Smartphone App Enables Riders to Submit Issues Seen on Bike Trails

Biking through the City allows riders to see Mesa through a unique perspective drivers don't get. You're up-close and get the option to interact with your surrounding area as you wheel through a neighborhood, bike path or road.

The City of Mesa recently launched CityLink, a smartphone app that helps keep our city clean and safe, including striving to make the City graffiti-free, by collecting reports of vandalism from citizens.

How does this impact our biking community? When rolling through the city on two-wheels, especially across the 78-miles of bike paths, we are asking you to report any graffiti you see.

It's easy to report; The app guides users step-by-step to take a photo of the graffiti and submit it. Using the smartphone's built-in GPS, the app automatically collects the location of the request to enable Mesa's graffiti abatement team to be dispatched to the exact location. Once reported, graffiti will be removed within 24 hours on City business days; a standby dispatch crew is on-call during weekends and holidays for offensive graffiti to be removed as quickly as possible.

Going too fast on your ride to slow down and take a picture? You may also call the graffiti hotline at 480-644-3083 to make a report. To download the app, search Mesa CityLink on your mobile device and download from the App Store or Google Play.



CONRAD by Zubi





Report Graffiti Through the City's App

The City of Mesa is dedicated to keeping our community clean and safe, including striving to make the City graffiti-free. **Mesa CityLink**, a free app, helps residents easily report graffiti by uploading an image of the location that goes directly to the graffiti abatement crew for clean-up within 24 hours on business days.

To download the free app, search "**Mesa CityLink**" on the App Store or Google Play.

Don't have a smart phone? Call the graffiti hotline at **480.644.3083**.



**Friday, March 31st 9am-4pm
MESA CONVENTION CENTER**

SPEAKERS & PANEL MEMBERS

Federal Highway Administration
Maricopa Association of Governments
Waymo Self-Driving Car Project
Pima County
And More

SUMMIT PROGRAMS

AZ Bicyclist-Involved Crash Causes and Related
Data Collection Issues
Serving Under-Served Bicycling Populations
Law Enforcement Bicycling Safety Training
Urban/Commuter Concerns
Project Funding Sources
Bicycling as a part of Public Health
MCDOT Active Transportation Plan Preview

**Registration is open at
www.cazbike.org**

SPONSORED BY:

City of Mesa
Perimeter Bicycling
Coalition of Arizona Bicyclists
Association of Pedestrian and Bicycling Professionals

MARCH 31, 2017 9AM-4PM

› EVENTS

March 31

Peoria's Ticket to Ride Kickoff:
Bike to the Ballpark 6pm

Arizona Bicycling Summit
cazbike.org

April 1

El Tour de Mesa/El Tour Criterium
6:15am-noon
permeterbicycling.com/el-tour-de-mesa

Chandler Family Bike Ride 7-11am
chandleraz.gov

Cycle the Creek 9am

CycloMesa 9am-1pm
cyclomesa.com

Mesa Adventure Challenge:
Bike Edition
mesaaz.gov/bikeped

April 2

Tour de Tempe 7:30-11am

Glendale Family Bike Ride 7-11:30am

Bicycle Nomad Café:
PhotoRide 3pm

April 7

Phoenix Spokes: Ride & Grind
Meet-up 7am

April 8

Bike El Mirage 9am-1pm

Phoenix Spokes: People & Bicycle
Nomad Café Pedal Public Art 9am

City of Tempe Bike to Art 9-11am

April 9

Scottsdale Cycle the Arts 8:30am

April 10

PHX Downtempo Ride Bike-In Movie 7pm

April 14

Phoenix Spokes:
Ride & Grind Meet-up 7am

April 15

Phoenix Spokes:
People Bike Prom 7-11pm

April 19

Bike2Work Day & Earth Expo 6-8am
mesaaz.gov/bikeped

Mesa Bike to Work Day 6-8am

Tempe Bike to Work Day 6:30-8am

Phoenix/Maricopa County
Downtown Bike to Work Ride 7-8:30am

Bicycling FUN-damentals Adult Class
mesalibrary.org

Scottsdale Bike to Work Day

April 20

Bikes & Beer:
Tempe Bicycle Advocacy Group, Tempe in
Motion & Pedal Haus Brewery 7pm

April 21

Phoenix Spokes:
Ride & Grind Meet-up 7am

April 22

Bike Buckeye 9am

Peoria's Ticket to Ride Finale:
River & Trail Clean-up 7am

Phoenix Rising Art & Mural Bike Tour 10am

Ride-In Movies in the Park
mesaaz.gov/bikeped

April 28

Phoenix Spokes: Ride & Grind
Meet-up 7am

April 28-30

Whiskey Off-Road Race
epicrides.com

April 29

Arizona Bicycle Club Desert Classic 6:30am

May 6

Ride-In Movies in the Park
mesaaz.gov/bikeped

Chino Grinder
azgravelrides.com

May 10

Bicycling FUN-damentals Adult Class
mesalibrary.org

June 5

Kids Bike Safety Class
mesalibrary.org

June 7

Kids Bike Safety Class
mesalibrary.org

June 14

Bicycling FUN-damentals Adult Class
mesalibrary.org

› BIKE SHOPS

ABC Bicycle & Jetski Rentals

3655 E. Main Street
480-641-2453
abcjetski.com

Adventure Bicycle Company

1110 W. Southern Avenue
480-649-3374
2336 E. Baseline Road
480-649-3394
adventurebicycle.com

Archer's Bikes

1530 N. Country Club Drive
480-275-5818
archersbikes.com

Bikes Direct Mesa

1545 S. Power Road
480-891-8901
bikesdirectaz.com

Bike Masters Gilbert

San Tan Village Mall
2244 E. Williams Field Road
480-857-7000
bikemastersaz.com

DNA Cycles

2031 N. Power Road
480-924-2453
dnacycles.com

Electra Bike Shop

1545 S. Power Road
480-428-2349

Mike's Bike Chalet

5050 E. University
480-807-2944
mikesbikechalet.com

Paragon Cycling

1106 N. Gilbert Road
480-830-1620
paragoncycling.com

Performance Bicycle

1155 S. Power Road
480-832-0034
performancebike.com

Two Wheel Jones

2837 N. Power Road #110
480-380-8222
twowheeljones.com

› BIKE CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS

Blazing Saddles Ride Club

Group road and mountain bike rides for all levels. Skills and maintenance clinics, too.
meetup.com/bike-masters-bikes-direct-blazing-saddles-rides-club

Gravity Riders Organization of Arizona

Advocacy, rider education and trail work. The Gravity Rider community includes downhillers, freeriders, all-mountain riders, dirt jumpers and BMX riders of all ages.
gravityridersaz.com

San Tan Shredders

Group rides for mountain bikers of all levels.
meetup.com/santan-shredders

Tempe Bicycle Action Group

Working to make bicycling a prominent, safe and convenient form of transportation and recreation in the region. Also hosts group rides and events.
biketempe.org

We-Cycle-USA

Help kids and adults in need to recycle and refurbish bikes.
wecycleusa.org

Recycle Right. It Matters.

“Whoa! Not in the Blue Barrel!”



Food Waste



Foam Products



Plastic Bags



Bagged Recyclables



Textiles/Rugs

Visit mesarecycles.org to learn more about Mesa's recycling programs.



I just got this brand new bike! I'm going to pedal on down to the AzMNH to see Dinosaurs that roar and so much more!

Arizona Museum of Natural History
53 N. Macdonald Mesa, AZ 85201
480-644-2230



www.AzMNH.org

Follow us on social media!





BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN
PROGRAM
www.mesaaz.gov/bikeped

Recent trends continue to highlight a strong desire for communities to be bike-friendly, and the City of Mesa's Transportation Department Bike & Pedestrian Program is continuously working on creating enhanced pedestrian pathways to provide safe connections for residents to travel through the city on two-wheels.

Stay up to date with current projects and announcements!

Sign up for e-notifications on Mesa's Bike & Pedestrian Program at mesaaz.gov/bikeped or follow us:

 [MesaBikePedProgram](https://www.facebook.com/MesaBikePedProgram)

 [@cityofmesa](https://www.instagram.com/cityofmesa)

 [@mesaazgov](https://twitter.com/mesaazgov)