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## City Partners Up for Bike Month

Harrisonburg, VA – The City of Harrisonburg is partnering up with several organizations to celebrate and promote May as National Bike Month.

Various events will be hosted by the City of Harrisonburg, Shenandoah Valley Bicycle Coalition (SVBC), and Northend Greenway.

With more bicyclists on the roadways and throughout the month of May, bicyclists and motorists are reminded to share the roads in a safe manner.

“We always encourage safety but National Bike Month is an opportunity for us to reiterate this information and celebrate bicycling,” said Thanh Dang, Public Works Planner.

In addition to the events being held in May, the City of Harrisonburg recently added more “sharrows” on Liberty Street in Harrisonburg.

“Sharrows,” also known as shared lane markings, are intended to guide bicyclists to the best place to ride on the road and remind drivers to share the roads with bicyclists. In 2009, the Federal Highway Administration approved the use of shared roadway markings in their Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices. Many cities, including Harrisonburg, began using sharrows on streets that are both popular with bicyclists but may be too narrow for conventional bike lanes.

The overall goals of sharrows are: to improve the position of bicyclists on roads without bike lanes, reduce bicycling on sidewalks, assist bicyclists with lateral positioning in a shared lane with on-street parallel parking to avoid car doors, and reduce the number of bicyclists riding in the wrong direction.

A calendar of bicycle-related events is available and posted online through the Shenandoah Valley Bicycle Coalition (SVBC). This weekend a Confident City Cycling Class will be hosted by Harrisonburg Parks and Recreation and SVBC. This class is a great opportunity for bicyclists of all experience levels to learn more about biking laws, maintenance, and safety.

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The City of Harrisonburg is committed to enhancing and continuing its efforts in being a League of American Bicyclists' Bronze Level Bicycle Friendly Community.

**Additional Resources:**

Find the latest plans on biking and walking in the City of Harrisonburg at [www.HarrisonburgVA.gov/biking-and-walking](http://www.HarrisonburgVA.gov/biking-and-walking).

Safety information for bicyclist and motorists is available through The League of American Bicyclists at <http://www.bikeleague.org/action/sharetheroad.php>.

*The City of Harrisonburg is centrally located in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. It is home to approximately 50,000 people. More information about the City of Harrisonburg is online at [www.HarrisonburgVA.gov](http://www.HarrisonburgVA.gov).*

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