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New Ulm Receives Bicycle Friendly Community Designation; Celebratory Ride Planned for May 13

The League of American Bicyclists announced the latest honorees of the Bicycle Friendly Community award on May 11, 2017, and New Ulm has been designated a Bicycle Friendly Community at the Bronze level.

“This is a huge accomplishment that everyone in the entire New Ulm community should be very proud of,” said Cindy Winters, manager for Hearts Beat Back: The Heart of New Ulm Project, which collaborated with The New Ulm Bike Club and the City of New Ulm to submit the application. “Over the last several years, individuals and organizations throughout our community have worked very hard to help implement changes that make it safer and more enjoyable for everyone to bike,” Winters said.

A Bicycle Friendly Community welcomes bicyclists by providing safe accommodations for bicycling and encouraging people to bike for transportation and recreation. Making bicycling safe and convenient are keys to improving public health, reducing traffic congestion, improving air quality and improving quality of life.

Dorian Grilley, executive director of the Bicycle Alliance of Minnesota (BikeMN) will present the designation to the New Ulm City Council at its May 16 meeting. Grilley said, “I am very pleased to see the work of the City, schools and The Heart of New Ulm Project be rewarded with a Bronze level Bicycle Friendly Community award. BikeMN looks forward to continuing our support of their efforts to make bicycling and walking an easy, safe and fun choice for all.”

New Ulm joins only 20 other communities in Minnesota that have achieved Bicycle Friendly Community designation. New Ulm had previously achieved “honorable mention” status in June 2015.

Community members of all ages and bicycling abilities are invited to join in a leisurely community bike ride to celebrate the designation on Saturday, May 13 at 1 p.m. at Harman Park. Riders should bring their own bicycles and helmets.

More information on the Bicycle Friendly Community program is available on the League of American Bicyclists website at <http://bikeleague.org/community>.

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