



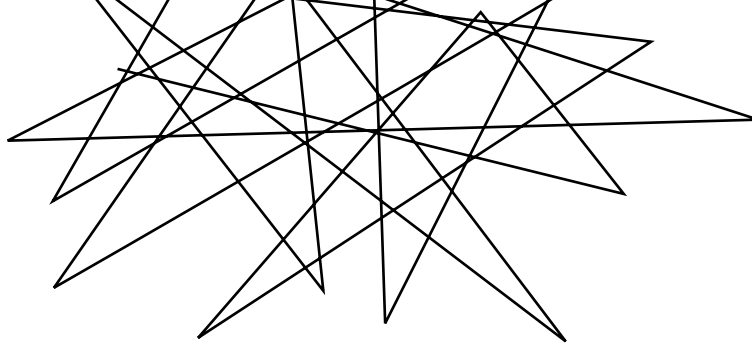
A Better Milwaukee Through Biking

P a t h t o P l a t i n u m

**“Engage the whole Milwaukee community to advocate
for better bicycling and safer streets for all”**

These are a few of the important updates and noteworthy announcements that the Path to Platinum core team would like to share with you. Please feel free to circulate this newsletter to others who might have an interest in the effort to unite Milwaukee one bicycle at a time.

Fall 2016



“We want *more* of this”

Since we began the Path to Platinum movement in Milwaukee, we have been eager to hear from more and more of you around the city, in every neighborhood and district, to share your stories and insights on how we can strive to make our city stronger, safer, healthier, more connected and better through bicycling. We have met with many of you through our outreach events over these last several months, including Ciclovía and Doors Open Milwaukee. Through these events as well as social media and email outreach, we have received interest and engagement from over 180 of you since the beginning of the year. Thank you for supporting this important effort and we hope that you'll be inspired by what we have to bring you in this newsletter.

At our September meeting, Tonieh Welland recounted a group ride she had led with [Black Girls Do Bike](#), that traversed through Bay View. As the group experienced a raised bike lane along Bay Street, [a unique experience in the city](#), the enthusiasm for safer, more comfortable and better connected bicycle

infrastructure improvements like this throughout all of Milwaukee could be heard loud and clear among the group members, as one participant declared: “we want more of this!”

We couldn't agree more.

Nearly every person at our outreach events has had a positive reaction to our posters of separated bike lanes, green bike lanes, and curb extensions—they see these new features as ways to make Milwaukee's streets better for bicycling and safer for everyone.

The Path to Platinum movement pursues the League of American Bicyclists' highest standard for a bicycle friendly community, however this movement strives first and foremost to connect our neighborhoods, diverse communities, advocacy groups, institutions, professionals and citizens from all across the city to build a safer, healthier and more united Milwaukee, one bicycle at a time.

The road behind and the road ahead is long.

What have we accomplished?

In February, we met many of you at a kick-off event at the Sixteenth Street Community Health Center. Since then, we have conducted community outreach at events such as Ciclovía and Southside Bicycle Day on Cesar Chavez Drive, as well as Doors Open Milwaukee at UW-Milwaukee.

We shared our vision with media outlets following Mayor Barrett's Path to Platinum announcement on Bike to Work Day in June.

In July, we hosted a pop-up [Better Block](#) gathering and Neighborhood Walking Audit for community members at Peace Park on Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive. The event aimed to listen to community safety concerns on that block and to discuss potential improvements.



What is in the works right now?

The City of Milwaukee needs additional staff to help implement more than \$4 million in grants it has received for bicycle-related projects and programs over the last five years. Without staff resources, these projects will be delayed or lost. We are hard at work with Mayor Barrett, the

Wisconsin Bike

Federation and other stakeholders to develop a coordinator position to support the Path to Platinum effort within the city government and a Milwaukee safe streets advocate within the Wisconsin Bike Fed.. The mayor and his staff met with us to hear our

request for fiscal support for the city's Path to Platinum Coordinator position. We have also recently presented to both the BublR Board and the Milwaukee Business Improvement District Council for their respective support.

What can we look forward to?

As we grow our support and engagement from the community, we are planning several citywide Milwaukee Path to Platinum events to share bicycle project and program successes, identify bicycling needs and involve all Common Council members.

This first of these important events will take place in late October/early November. The times and location of the first event will be announced soon.

As always, you can get the most current updates from us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

 [@pathtoplatinum](#)

 [@milwaukeebikes](#)



Tell us what bicycling in Milwaukee means to you.

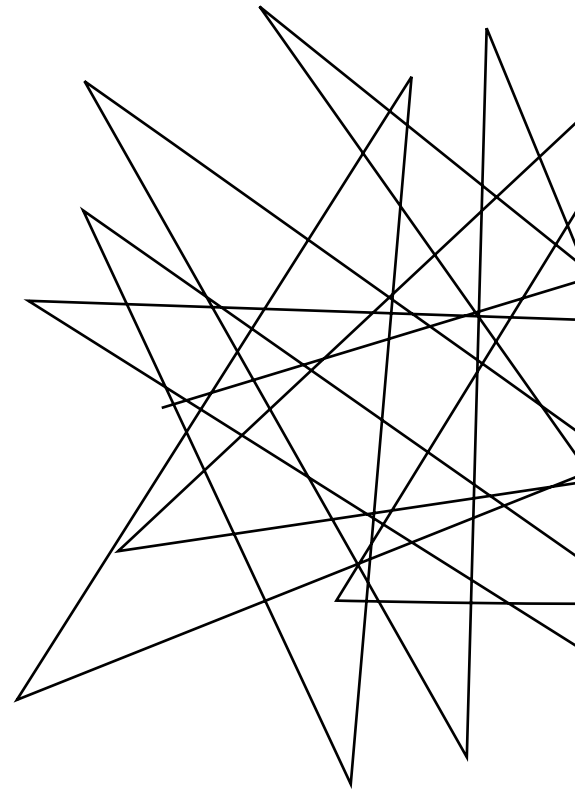
In 2014, longtime bicycling advocate and Wisconsin Bike Fed - Milwaukee regional director, Keith Holt envisioned the formation of a grass roots community-driven task force that would draw on neighborhoods all across Milwaukee for leadership and inspiration to move the city in the direction of being a place friendly toward bicycling, but where it was encouraged to flourish through the creation of accessible, connected, safe streets and pathways designed for people on bicycles as well as policies and public education that would offer greater outreach into the community to make all of Milwaukee a safer and better place through bicycling. From this vision, the Path to Platinum was born.

As we continue to keep this movement community-driven, we need it to grow from its base and hear directly from any and all in the community who share in this civic commitment to make Milwaukee's streets safer. In the spirit of this cause, we have developed an [online bicycling survey](#) that can be accessed through [this link](#). We ask that you please take the entire survey and then share this link with other bike-enthusiasts you might know in Milwaukee.

[Take our survey!](#)



Join us in making streets safer in Milwaukee.



The movement to make Milwaukee safer and better through bicycling should be for the people and by the people of this city. Your voice is critical to making positive changes for the whole community. If you haven't taken our online survey, take it now. Also, if you haven't signed up to be a part of the Path to Platinum team, connect with us and consider volunteering your time or expertise with our expanding Path to Platinum team.

[Sign up here](#)





The Path to Platinum Core Team Includes:

Community Members

Angela Allen, *University of Wisconsin-Extension Milwaukee County*

James Davies, *Bubl'r Bikes*

Tony Giron, *Wisconsin Bicycle Federation*

Keith Holt, *Bike Easy*

Nicholas La Joie, *Marquette University*

Kate Nelson, *University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Office of Sustainability*

Robert Schneider, *University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Department of Urban Planning*

John Siegert, *Rails-to-Trails Conservancy*

David Waters, *Sixteenth Street Community Health Clinics*

Tonieh Welland, *Black Girls Do Bike*

Public Agency Liaisons

Kristin Bennett, *City of Milwaukee Department of Public Works*

James Hannig, *Wisconsin Department of Transportation*

Montavius Jones, *City of Milwaukee Department of City Development*

Jeff Polenske, *City of Milwaukee Department of Public Works*

Monica Wauck, *City of Milwaukee Department of City Development*