



Washington Area Bicyclist Association

GETTING THERE BY BIKE

(date)

(Principal's Name)

Principal

(School Name) Elementary School

(School Address)

Dear (Principal's Name):

Maryland averaged over 4,200 pedestrian and bicycle accidents each year between 1996 and 2000, with children accounting for far more than their share of these. In response to this phenomenon, the MD. State Highway Administration has sponsored a Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Education program for elementary school students in grades K-5.

This program is administered by The Washington Area Bicyclist Association. We are expanding it throughout the state by training teachers, providing a curriculum, buying, maintaining, and delivering equipment to the schools, maintaining a program website full of additional resources, and providing personal assistance and mentoring to the teachers.

The program will involve students in grades K-5. The three younger grades will receive pedestrian safety training, while grades 3-5 will be trained in safe bike riding, using equipment supplied by us. While the program is supplied to the schools free of charge, it will require your enthusiastic support and your Physical Education teacher's time and energy.

Although the program is easily adapted to other scenarios, the usual procedure is for the school's Phys. Ed. staff to attend one 4-hour training during the winter months. Then, when weather and the schedule permit, these teachers apply to us for use of the program trailer for a week, during which the lessons are taught in Phys. Ed.

Please give this some thought. If you'd like to have someone from the Washington Area Bicyclist Association meet with you and the Phys. Ed. teacher, I encourage you to call any time at 202-213-1459, 202-628-2500, or email safetyed@waba.org. I very much hope we can work together and help the students of (School Name) become safer walkers and bike riders.

Sincerely yours,

Dorcas Adkins

Safety Education Program Manager

cc: (Phys. Ed. Teacher's name)
(PTA President's name)

Physical Education Teacher
President, Parent Teachers Association