

6.0 Safety and Education

6.1 Existing Bicycle Education Program

As of the approval of this document, the County of Sutter does not have a formal Bicycle Education program. However, the most densely populated portion of the County, Yuba City, does sponsor a bicycle education program through the local police department. The following is an excerpt from the 2011 Yuba City Bikeway Master Plan regarding the existing bicycle education program sponsored by Yuba City's police department.

The Yuba City Police Department annually conducts two bicycle rodeos per year at rotating elementary schools. The primary goals of the bicycle rodeo events are to teach children the common rules of bicycling and to improve their bicycle riding skills. The Bicycle Enforcement and Education Program (BEEP) through the Yuba City Police Department is a first time offender program designed to encourage youth under the age of 18 to comply with the law requiring helmet use. Bicycle Court is held at the Police Department and is conducted by the Sutter County Probation

Department. The Traffic Education and Enforcement Unit provide bicycle helmets free of charge, in partnership with Fremont-Ride Out Hospital and the Sutter County Health Department.

6.2 Planned Bicycle Education Program

Considering that a majority of the County population resides in Yuba City this document recommends that the proposed County Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Committee and County Sheriff coordinate opportunities with the Yuba City Police Department in an effort to get the word out to people beyond the City limits when bicycle education events are conducted in Yuba City.

Efforts should be focused to accomplish the objectives below:

- Create a coordinated and comprehensive bicycle safety education program that provides bicycle education annually to all school age children between the ages of 4-10.
- Create a coordinated and

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comprehensive bicycle education program targeted to motorists and bicyclists in multiple languages with information regarding bike rider rights and responsibilities along with proper bike riding techniques.

- Support a helmet promotion program.
- Create a public education campaign targeting motorists that provides information on the rights and responsibilities of bicyclists. Work with the Sheriff and Police Department to identify opportunities for incorporating bicycle safety curriculum into motorist education and training.
- Utilize existing education materials
 (e.g. handouts, videos) available for
 presentation to media, schools,
 neighborhood groups, businesses and
 other groups that promote bicycle
 safety.
- Promote "May is Bike Month" and Bike to Work Day annually.

By combining efforts with Yuba City the County can reduce the duplication of effort for a small population, while providing proportional compensation to Yuba City to help off-set costs of programs. For example, the County could provide a share of funding to Yuba City based on population ratios while funding County targeted advertizing toward getting the word out.



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