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For immediate release
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PAG seeks platinum status for region as bicycle friendly community

The League of American Bicyclists gave the Tucson-Eastern Pima County region a gold rating as a bicycle friendly community in 2006 and renewed that designation in 2008. Pima Association of Governments has submitted an application with the League to strive for platinum recognition.

“Since the region’s last application where we achieved the Bicycle Friendly Community status of gold, our communities made significant improvements in bicycle infrastructure, education and promotional programs,” said Mary Reynolds, Communications Coordinator for the Town of Sahuarita and Chair of the Regional Platinum Task Force. “In 2008, the League gave us excellent feedback on the application we submitted at that time. We addressed the League reviewers’ comments, going above and beyond their suggestions in many areas.”

Some of the key achievements since 2008 include an increase in ridership to 3 percent and a reduction in bicycle crashes.

“We believe that the new application details how we have made great strides in supporting bicycling in our region,” said Ann Chanecka, Senior Transportation Planner at PAG and application coordinator. “We hope, of course, that the various improvements including new bike lane additions, recent recognition of several bicycle friendly businesses in our region and an increasing number of bicycling events, such as Cyclovia Tucson, will show the judges that we are continually increasing the awareness of bicycling amenities in our region in order to help us reach platinum status.”

The League is expected to review the applications in the next few months and results are expected to be released in early May. The application may be viewed at www.PAGregion.com

“Preparing the application is a great opportunity to identify and summarize all of the great bicycling activities we have here for residents and visitors alike,” Chanecka said. “We anticipate that events, services and other amenities will continue to grow as bicycling becomes more popular in the Tucson-Eastern Pima County region among commuters and recreational riders.”

Pima Association of Governments is an association of local, state and tribal governments with a mission to build consensus among its members and the public on regional planning for transportation, energy, air quality and water quality. PAG’s staff gather and analyze data, provide accurate information, and coordinate an open and cooperative planning process to promote good decision-making for the region. Please visit www.PAGnet.org for more information or www.facebook.com/PAGregion.

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