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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

April 11, 2016

FOR INFORMATION:
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It's Just Like Riding a Bike: Gearing Up for Your First Ride in Tacoma

Tacoma, Wash. – Fifty two percent of American adults have access to a bike and only 29 percent have ridden it in the last year with only 1 percent of them biking to work. Downtown On the Go wants to help Tacomans get on that bike more often. On <u>Friday April 22, 12:30 – 1:30 p.m.</u>, <u>local</u> experts will help answer any and all questions about getting around Tacoma by bike.

At this bike open house at UW Tacoma you will hear stories from people who have successfully made bicycling part of their lives. Mechanics, helmet fittings, and other resources will help you get on a bike just in time for Bike Month in May! Don't worry about bringing a bike - just bring your questions, concerns, and desire to ride!

If you feel inspired by the forum or ready to get out and explore, join us on Monday, April 25 at 5 p.m. as we ride from Wright Park on a short loop showcasing important bicycle landmarks. Check out downtown bike shops, bicycle-friendly businesses, and bike along some of Tacoma's new bike infrastructure on this new riders' route.

Meet by the Lions at Wright Park with a bicycle and a helmet. If you need a helmet contact info@downtownonthego.org to get a fitting. If you are already a bike commuter, bring a friend who could use some more convincing.

Both events are free and registration is not required but a RSVP is appreciated, respond to hallyb@downtownonthego.org. Thanks to our sponsor Cascade Bicycle Club for making these bike events happen.

Tacoma Room GWP 320 is accessible by <u>Pierce Transit</u> routes 1, 41, 42, 53, 63,102, and others. You can also access the campus using the <u>Sound Transit Tacoma Link</u>. If you are arriving by car, a map with parking options is located on the <u>UW Tacoma website</u> or you are invited to park in the <u>Park Plaza North</u> at 923 Commerce St. or at the <u>Tacoma Dome Station</u> and take the Link.

Wright Park is accessible by <u>Pierce Transit</u> routes 1, 11, 14, 16, and 102. Ample street parking is available.

Our forum is part of Downtown On the Go's <u>Friday Forum Series</u>. Downtown On the Go's <u>Friday Forums</u>, sponsored by <u>HNTB</u>, <u>GeoEngineers</u>, <u>AHBL</u>, <u>KPG</u>, and <u>VIA</u>, are a chance to learn about transportation issues and opportunities in Tacoma, discuss real challenges facing downtown commuters and residents, and hear about new ideas in the transportation world.

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Find Downtown On the Go at <u>downtownonthego.org</u>, or on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u> (<u>#DOTGForum</u>, <u>#bike253</u>) and Instagram. Forums will be posted on YouTube after the event.