



## missoula in motion

Press Release

For Immediate Release

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### Missoula In Motion Announces 2008 Transportation Best Practices Winners

Missoula In Motion (MIM) is proud to announce Big Sky Brewing and Free Cycles Missoula as the 2008 Transportation Best Practices Award (TBPA) Winners. MIM, with the help of County Commissioners Jean Curtiss and Bill Carey, will present the awards in a ceremony today at the University Center South Ballroom at 11:30 a.m.. The ceremony is accompanied by a series of morning workshops beginning at 8:30 a.m. with local and national guest speakers. Best Practices winners have chosen to “See Commuting Differently” and are leading the charge on reducing transportation-related congestion, air pollution and energy demand with workplace programs and policies.

**Big Sky Brewing** received the Award and \$500 for their comprehensive transportation program that makes commuting by biking and busing accessible, convenient and practical for their workforce. Elements of Big Sky’s program include: Free bus passes for all employees, flexible work schedules, secure bike parking, onsite bike maintenance tools and equipment, and a shared company vehicle for onsite use. Further, Big Sky tracks employee commutes and provides cash incentives for choosing sustainable transportation. Each employee receives \$10 dollars per commute after logging 50 days for the year. Big Sky Brewing’s set of amenities and policies aims to make sustainable transportation choices realistic in spite of their west-of-downtown location. Big Sky employees logged over 330 days, reduced vehicle miles traveled by over 2600 miles and saved 1.6 tons of carbon in 2008.

**Free Cycles - Missoula** received the Award and \$500 for their community bike shop and “BikeWell” outreach programs. Free Cycles Community Bike Shop is a complete, free bicycling resource. Shop visitors can learn how to fix their bike, reuse bike parts, or build their very own bicycle to keep and ride. All parts, bikes, and services are donated, and are free of charge to the public. “BikeWell” is Free Cycles’ bike maintenance and safety curriculum and class. BikeWell is taught three times per week at Free Cycles as well as in schools and off-site by request. Over 10,000 visits to the community bike shop were recorded last year. This included roughly 400 people building their own bikes and 500 people completing the BikeWell class.

**ExCARgo**, was recognized with a \$250 Honorable Mention for their bicycle courier and hauling service. With the use of two bike trailers and a basic messenger bag, ExCARgo has the ability to transport general delivery needs, recycling and heavy cargo all of which would otherwise require the use of a gas-powered vehicles.

Winning programs also received a free television ad production to be aired beginning April 1st. For help replicating award winning best practices or creating a custom sustainable transportation program, call Missoula In Motion, 258-4961.