Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe and the League of American Bicyclists’ Bike Friendly Community Designation

Long time advocate of the Olympic Discovery Trail and partner on trail construction – four sections of the ODT are on Tribal land

First Tribe in the nation to apply for and be granted the designation of Bike Friendly Community by the League of American Bicyclists

Bronze designation awarded in 2015
What is the League of American Bicyclists?

“For generations past and to come, THE LEAGUE represents bicyclists in the movement to create safer roads, stronger communities, and a bicycle friendly America. Through information, advocacy and promotion, we work to celebrate and preserve the freedom cycling brings to our members everywhere.”
“The League was founded as the League of American Wheelmen in 1880. Bicyclists, known as “wheelmen”, were challenged by rutted roads of gravel and dirt and faced antagonism from horsemen, wagon drivers, and pedestrians.

In an effort to improve riding conditions so they might better enjoy their newly discovered sport, more than 100,000 cyclists from across the United States joined the League to advocate for paved roads. The success of the League in its first advocacy efforts ultimately lead to our national highway system.”
What is the Bike Friendly Community Program?

It is a component of the League’s Bicycle Friendly America program which provides a roadmap, hands-on assistance and recognition for states, communities, universities and businesses.

The League recognizes...

- Communities
- Businesses
- Universities

...that welcome bicyclists by providing safe accommodations for bicycling and encourage people to bike for transportation and recreation. A bicycle-friendly place makes bicycling safe, comfortable, and convenient for people of all ages and abilities.
What are the BFC designations?
Diamond – Platinum – Gold – Silver – Bronze

The Bicycle Friendly Community (BFC) program provides a roadmap to improve conditions for bicycling and the guidance to make your distinct vision for a better, bikeable community a reality.

A BFC welcomes bicyclists by providing safe accommodations for bicycling and encouraging people to bike for transportation and recreation. Making bicycling safe and convenient are keys to improving public health, reducing traffic congestion, improving air quality and improving quality of life.
Why did JST apply for the designation?

• To foster a collaborative partnership with Clallam County and the City of Port Angeles.

• To gain recognition within the cycling community for the Olympic Discovery Trail and existing Tribal tourism opportunities.

• To receive feedback from the League about ways to improve the amenities offered to cyclists traveling through the Jamestown area.

• To encourage Tribal Citizens and Tribal staff to consider cycling as an alternative way to travel, exercise and recreate.

• Serve as a model for other Tribes who may be interested in the BFC program.
How does a Tribe apply for the BFC Designation?

Request application from LAB

Complete application

- Basic introductory information
- Community Profile
- Engineering
- Education
- Encouragement
- Enforcement
- Encouragement/Planning
- Final Overview

Submit application

Wait for designation and comments!
Our Bicycle Friendly Community review panel was very pleased to see the current efforts and dedication to make the Jamestown S’Klallam Indian Reservation a safe, comfortable and convenient place to bicycle.

Below, reviewers provided recommendations to help you further promote bicycling in the Jamestown S’Klallam Indian Reservation. Key recommendations are highlighted in bold.

We strongly encourage you to use this feedback to build on your momentum and improve your community for bicyclists.

There may also be initiatives, programs, and facilities that are not mentioned here that would benefit your bicycling culture, so please continue to try new things to increase your ridership, safety, and awareness.

The cost of bicycle facilities and possible funding options are discussed on the last page of this report.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Engineering

Continue to increase the amount of high quality bicycle parking throughout tribal lands. Ensure that people arriving by bicycle have a secure and legal place to lock their bikes at popular destinations.

Continue to work with the state DOT on making the sections of Highway 101 that pass through tribal lands safer for all road user, especially at crossings.

Consider bicyclists more when traffic calming measures are expanded on public and private roads around the 7 Cedars Casino and Long House Service Center.

Continue to work with the County and neighboring jurisdictions on install a bicycle wayfinding system with distance and destination information at strategic locations, integrating preferred on street routes with the Olympic trail.

Build a bicycle path from the Highway 101 tunnel crossing to the Long House Convenience Store and Cafe.

Continue to work on finding a way to repair the damaged former railroad bridge to ensure that residents and visitors can safely reach the trail system.

Education

Work with the Sequim School System to institute more bicycle education and training opportunities for children of all ages but particularly for children up to sixth grade.

Offer regular bicycling skills training opportunities for children and adult tribal members. There are options from rodeos, short videos and 1-2 hour courses to
What did JST get out of the designation process?

• Recognition from a national organization for our trail/cycling efforts

• An opportunity to share Jamestown’s welcome for visitors to come and enjoy what the Tribe has to offer (culture, recreation, shopping, scenic vistas)

• Access to the Olympic Discovery Trail

• Stronger partnership with Clallam County, the towns of Sequim, Port Townsend and Port Angeles

• Helpful feedback on next steps to working toward improving our trail system and cycling amenities
FIRST TRIBE TO RECEIVE BFC DESIGNATION: JAMESTOWN S’KLALLAM

BICYCLE FRIENDLY COMMUNITY

by Liz Murphy

Last week, we announced the latest round of Bicycle Friendly Communities. Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe in Washington state is one of the 42 new and renewing communities this round, and the new Bronze-level community is also the first tribal community to become a Bicycle Friendly Community. We caught up with Annette Nese, Chief Operations Officer for the Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe, to talk more about this groundbreaking award.

WHAT DOES THIS AWARD MEAN TO YOU AND TO THE JAMESTOWN S’KLALLAM TRIBE?

Why choose to go after this designation? Being awarded the League’s Bronze award is very exciting. The trail facilities on Tribal land are limited but very high quality, meant to appeal to cyclists and all other trail users as well. Being recognized by a national organization for our efforts is a way to get the word out that Jamestown welcomes
View of Tribal Dance Plaza and Welcome Totems from the Olympic Discovery Trail with Sequim Bay in the background
Vault toilet restroom facility accessible from the Olympic Discovery Trail at the Blyn Tribal governmental campus
100 year old railroad bridge converted to non-motorized trail providing Olympic Discovery Trail crossing of the Dungeness River near the town of Sequim, WA
Section of Olympic Discovery Trail that crosses through Tribal lands and provides direct access to Clallam Transit System bus stop
Summer youth bike camp, one of the programs offered by the Tribe at Railroad Bridge Park
Next Steps...LAB Recommendations include:

**Engineering**
- increase amount of high quality bike parking
- work with WSDOT to make highway crossing safer

**Education**
- offer regular bicycling skills training for Tribal Citizens
- continue to expand public education campaign re: Share the Road

**Encouragement**
- expand encouragement efforts during Bike Month targeting Tribal Citizens
- promote cycling throughout the year
- seek recognition through the Bike Friendly Business Program

**Enforcement**
- encourage Clallam County to ensure police officers are educated on traffic law as it applies to bicyclist and motorists

**Evaluation & Planning**
- produce schedule of Bicycle Advisory Committee meetings
- conduct research on bicycle usage among Tribal Citizens
- adopt a target level of bicycle use over time
For more information about:

The League of American Bicyclists
www.bikeleague.org
202-971-4560

Thank you!

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