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Media Release

One Metre Safe Passing Distance

On Bike to Work Day

Bike to the Future is pinning bright green “1 metre please” signs on the backs of hundreds of commuting cyclists on Bike to Work Day to remind drivers to pass bicycles at a safe distance.

“We hope that lots of these signs on cyclists’ backs will encourage Winnipeg drivers to think about how they pass bicycles,” explains Charles Feaver, of Bike to the Future, “I’ve had drivers pass me a few inches from my handlebars, which is very dangerous”.

The Highway Traffic Act requires drivers to pass other vehicles and bicycles “at a safe distance”. Currently, many people who are otherwise willing to ride their bikes do not feel safe on Winnipeg streets, because some drivers don’t leave them enough room on the road.

For Bike to the Future, passing at a safe distance is one of the most important safety issues. On Bike to Work day, many people who are otherwise willing to leave their cars at home and ride to work are giving it a test run. Winnipeg will seem a lot more bike friendly if everyone allows a safe passing distance of one metre when overtaking cyclists.

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