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**STILL PIONEERING**

## City introduces new Stillwater Cycles app

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**(STILLWATER, OKLA. / Aug. 8, 2013)** — Cyclists can now let the City know where they are biking with the new Stillwater Cycles app. The free app was developed to help give the Transportation Department a better understanding of how Stillwater's roads are being used by cyclists.

Transportation Department Manager Jason Peek, Ph.D., said the app was designed to help his department better plan where bike facilities such as bike lanes and "sharrows" should be in the community.

"We have a bike plan for Stillwater, but we don't have a good planning document that says we are putting facilities where they need to be and our traditional methods of counting vehicles aren't as suitable for counting bicycles," Peek said. "With the app, we can start layering the routes mapped by cyclists and figure out if we need to shift our resources into improving bike facilities on other streets."

The app allows its users to enter demographic information and then tracks a cyclist's route using GPS technology. Peek said Stillwater Cycles is different from other cycling apps because users can use satellite view along with a standard street view when looking at the app's mapping features.

"Some people are not map oriented, and it's easier for them to see a map that has buildings and references to help them navigate as opposed to just streets," Peek said.

Stillwater Cycles includes a feature where cyclists can note assets such as bike parking, bike shops, public restrooms and water fountains for other app users to see on the map. Cyclists can also note problems such as pavement or traffic signal issues, which are directed to the Stillwater Needs Assistance Program (SNAP) automatically.

Mary Cash, owner of Cooper's Bicycle Center and member of the Stillwater Red Dirt Pedalers cycling club, said this was the first time she has used an app like Stillwater Cycles and is glad that it will help the City plan future bike facilities.

"The app works amazingly well," Cash said. "I thought originally it would just be a map but it is more of a data collection tool, which is great, too, now that we know what it is going to be used for."

Peek also explained that data collected by the app could help Stillwater be more competitive for federal funds for future cycling projects.

"With the reauthorization of federal funds there is a specific focus on data, so communities that could articulate the impact of these funds quantitatively would have a better likelihood of obtaining them," Peek said. "To me, that meant if we had data about cycling we would be better situated than cities like Oklahoma City, Tulsa or Norman to compete for those funds."

Stillwater Cycles is based on the Cycle Atlanta bicycle app designed by the City of Atlanta and the Georgia Institute of Technology and the CycleTracks app developed by the San Francisco County Transportation



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Authority.

The app is available for free download through the iTunes app store. For more information, visit [cyclestillwater.org](http://cyclestillwater.org).

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**Story by Meagan Kascsak**

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