Electric bikes on Campus

Bicycles are joyful, efficient transportation machines—especially the new electric-assist cargo trike that arrived on campus in December. With an electric motor, 400wh battery, and a spacious locking cargo box, this is no ordinary trike. Now that winter quarter is underway, student employees of the Associated Students Publicity Center will deliver newspapers throughout campus with the trike.

The trike has come to campus as part of a Sustainable Action Fund grant to supply campus with a small fleet of electric bikes to advance goals related to health and environmental impact. As part of the grant, the Viking ebike team also purchased electric commuter bikes to transport faculty, staff, and student commuters to and from campus. Commuters will be able to check out the ebikes for short or long periods of time in exchange for tracking their usage, blogging about their experience, and responding to several surveys.

The modern electric-assist technology in these bikes will allow Western’s community to adopt bikes for applications that were previously prohibited by hills, fitness levels, and cargo needs.

A main goal of the grant is to demonstrate that ebikes can displace vehicles for many trips made by Western community members. This will reduce costs, parking demand, and environmental impact, and have positive health benefits for riders.

Although the Publicity Center will be the primary user of the trike, the Viking ebike team will be conducting demos of the trike and other ebikes at various locations around campus during winter and spring quarter. At these demos, staff, students, and departments will get the chance to test ride the bikes so they can see how a purpose-built bike could meet their needs. Check out the team’s Facebook page, blog, and other campus media channels for more information as the details of these demos are finalized.

Former SAF student employee rides the e-trike at a demo at Facilities Management in December.

Spring Quarter bus pass Renewal

How to renew your bus pass for spring quarter:
A) If you indicated that you wanted a spring quarter bus pass at any time previously this academic year, you will receive an email before Finals Week with instructions for renewal. Please respond if you would like your bus pass sent to you before Spring Break.
B) If you do not receive a renewal email, but want a Spring quarter bus pass, please fill out an esign form if paying via payroll deduction, or stop by Viking Commons 25 to get a bus pass starting March 14th.

Please contact Sustainable Transportation at x7960 or transportation@wwu.edu with any questions.
Ride the Baker Bus to Ski, Snowshoe, Snowboard

In Bellingham, we are lucky enough to have a mountain right in our backyard. Mt. Baker offers a variety of activities during the winter months. Did you know that you can get to Mt. Baker without using your car? The Baker Bus can help you reach this destination. You can catch the Baker Bus at three locations in Bellingham on weekends and holidays: Lincoln Creek Park & Ride, the Sheraton Four Points Hotel, and the Safeway in Sunset Square. View their schedule here to see when the bus departs from each location. You must reserve a seat to ride the bus. The round trip cost to ride the Baker Bus is only $14. Visit their website for more details.

Smart Trips Featured in Local Publication

Western’s very own Jennifer Sires was featured in the Lynden Tribune and Ferndale Record’s Healthy Living publication in January. Jennifer works in the Department of Business and Economics. She was featured as a member of Smart Trips and frequent bus commuter. Read the article to learn about all the benefits to joining Smart Trips.

Smart Trips Discount Map

As a member of Smart Trips, you’re eligible for discounts at many local businesses after you’ve logged ten trips in a year. All you need to do is show your current Smart Trips card to get these discounts. You can find the 2016 list here. Now, you can also use Smart Trip’s interactive map to see where the participating businesses are located. Access the map from Smart Trip’s website here.

Fall Quarter Smart Commuters

Winners receive a $25 gift card to the Bookstore. Enter to win by logging your non-drive alone commute trips at www.whatcomsmarttrips.org

September Winner— Jon Bash, Music
October Winner— Michael Valente, Psychology
November Winner— Kim Ayre, Humanities and Social Sciences
December Winner— Geoff Landis, Scientific Technical Services