



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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Chicago Ride of Silence™ to be held May 20, 2015

One day. One time. Worldwide.

We ride...

- * **To HONOR those who have been injured or killed**
- * **To RAISE AWARENESS that we are here**
- * **To ask that we all SHARE THE ROAD**

On May 20th Chicago cyclists will join fellow cyclists around the world on an annual bicycle ride in silence to raise awareness of cyclists' right to ride on the road and to honor the fallen cyclists no longer with us. This year marks the thirteenth annual worldwide ride since the Ride of Silence's founding in Dallas, Texas, in 2003.

Beginning in Daley Plaza, Chicago's Ride of Silence™ route will ride in silent procession past several Ghost Bikes, including the two ghost bikes placed in 2013 for Robert "Bobby" Cann and Hector Avalos. The Ghost Bikes are powerful memorials to fallen cyclists created by painting a bicycle white and placing it at or near the site of the cyclist's death. The ride will end at the Ghost Bike of Bobby Cann on Clybourn Avenue near Larrabee Street. Illinois has the most number of Rides occurring in the U.S., according to Chicago Organizer Elizabeth Adamczyk, who said, "Although this event is solemn, we celebrate the lost lives of our fellow cyclists who died doing something they loved – riding their bike. We ride to honor the lives and memories of each and every cyclist who has been needlessly killed here in Chicago and throughout the world."

The ride requests that black armbands be worn and red if you have had a bike/motor vehicle accident. Helmets are required; bright clothing and lights are highly recommended for the ride home. There are no fees charged anyone to participate.

The Ride will conclude with a post-ride reception at Yojimbo's Garage bike shop, directly across from Bobby Cann's Ghost Bike.

The Rides are held in many locations in the US, Canada, Australia, Europe, South and Central America and the rest of the world. Last year there were over 300 locations throughout the world.

Details:

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

6:30 PM Departure

Start: Daley Plaza; Eternal Flame

Finish: Ghost Bike at Clybourn and Larrabee; post-ride gathering at Yojimbo's Garage (1310 N Clybourn Ave, Chicago, IL 60610 – directly across from Bobby Cann's ghost bike), with family and friends

Details on route: www.rideofsilence.org/chicago

Details on Chicago Ghost Bikes: Howard Kaplan; [ghostbikes @ bikechicago . info](mailto:ghostbikes@bikechicago.info) ; 773-710-4143

ABOUT THE RIDE OF SILENCE

Mission Statement:

The mission of the worldwide Ride of Silence™ is to honor bicyclists killed by motorists, promote sharing the road, and provide awareness of bicycling safety.

Founder and President Chris Phelan organized the first Ride Of Silence in Dallas in 2003 after endurance cyclist Larry Schwartz was killed by a passing bus's mirror on an empty road.

The Ride Of Silence is a free ride that asks its cyclists to ride no faster than 12 mph for no longer than an hour

The ride hopes to raise cycling awareness during bike safety month to motorists, police, traffic engineers, insurance companies, and city officials. The ride is also a chance to mourn, in funeral procession style, those who have already been killed.

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