

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
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## **VIRTUAL Chicago Ride of Silence™ to be held May 19, 2021**

**One day. One time. Worldwide.**

**In collaboration with Vision Zero Chicago, honoring crash victims  
across the city.**

**We gather...**

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

Please join the Virtual Chicago Ride of Silence 2021 event via online this Wednesday evening: <https://bit.ly/ros-chi-2021>

The Chicago Ride of Silence will NOT gather at Daley Plaza again in 2021. From 2006 through 2019, the annual Chicago Ride of Silence has gathered to ride in silence to various crash sites around the city. This year, due to the ongoing uncertainty of the COVID-19 pandemic, we will host a VIRTUAL event and hope individuals will consider honoring the local crash sites on their own during the rest of May, which is National Bike Month.

In this year's online setting, time and space unites all Chicagoans for this special tribute to all cyclists across the city who have lost their lives this past year and in previous years while riding their bicycle on the road. This year we especially honor the fatalities of 10 cyclists who died while out riding on our roadways.

Chicago cyclists will join fellow cyclists around the world on for this annual event to raise awareness of cyclists' right to ride on the road and to honor the fallen cyclists no longer with us. The 2021 Chicago Ride of Silence will collaborate for the fourth year with the Vision Zero Chicago initiative that aims to eliminate

traffic crashes that cause death and serious injury through an equitable distribution of resources and inclusive community engagement. The initial Ride of Silence was founded in Dallas, Texas, in 2003; the first Chicago Ride of Silence was in 2005.

This event is to honor those who have been killed or injured while riding on our public roadways and it advocates for motorists to share the roads with cyclists. It will also highlight high crash corridors.

More than 15 Ride of Silence events are scheduled in communities throughout Illinois this year. To find a Ride of Silence event near you (and how it will be conducted), please visit <http://www.rideofsilence.org/locations-domestic.php?s=IL#IL>

Follow us on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/rideofsilencechicago](http://www.facebook.com/rideofsilencechicago)), Twitter (@RideOfSilenceCh), Instagram (@rideofsilencechicago), and online at [www.rideofsilence.org/chicago](http://www.rideofsilence.org/chicago) for the latest event info.

The Ride of Silence is held throughout the world.

## **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.

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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.  
[www.rideofsilence.org](http://www.rideofsilence.org)

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