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Denver Streets Partnership, local community to reclaim Marion Street, host memorial ride for Alexis Bounds

Neighborhood members, local advocates reclaiming street where mother of two was killed while biking

DENVER — Family and friends, community members, and safety advocates plan to walk, ride, and roll on S. Marion Parkway this Friday in remembrance of Alexis Bounds on the one-year anniversary of her death after a truck driver struck and killed her while she was riding her bike. Participants in the memorial ride will trace her route, beginning and ending at the ghost bike placed in her honor. The city has also recently installed new memorial signage and dedicated a memorial bench in her honor near the site of the fatal crash. Bounds, a wife and mother of two, was struck and dragged at the intersection of Marion Parkway and Bayaud Avenue while on her way home after a ride through Washington Park.

"We want to honor Alexis' memory and recognize that her death has been a turning point for the cycling community and for Denver. We want her legacy to be changes to our city, so that everyone can ride to and from their neighborhood park without fear," said David Chen, local safety advocate and member of the Denver Bike Lobby.

Marion Parkway is currently designated a Shared Street, meaning motor vehicle through traffic is prohibited. Ride organizers plan to install street art along the parkway, reclaiming the street for people in honor of Alexis. The art elements will be in place through the weekend.

"Alexis is one of 70 people who were killed in traffic crashes in Denver last year. That's 70 family members, friends, and neighbors who should be here today. We hope that this memorial honors Alexis and her family and serves as a reminder to our City leadership that we desperately need them to invest in infrastructure and support policies that put the safety of people walking, biking, and rolling first," said Molly McKinley, Grassroots Advocacy Manager at Bicycle Colorado and Vice-Chair of the Denver Streets Partnership.

To observe safe distancing practices, all participants in the memorial ride will be encouraged to wear masks and maintain at least six feet of space from others. Community members are encouraged to ride the memorial route any time between July 24 and 26.

For more information, visit the Facebook event page

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The Denver Streets Partnership is a coalition of community organizations advocating for people-friendly streets. We believe in an equitable and vibrant Denver that guarantees our public spaces are designed for people. Learn more at denverstreetspartnership.org. Follow us on Facebook (@People4Streets), Twitter (@BikeWalkBus), and Instagram (@bikewalkbus).