



Department of Public Works

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MEDIA ADVISORY

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Alderman Tony Zielinski, City Engineer Jeff Polenske and Members of the Bicycle Federation of Wisconsin Ride Raised Bicycle Lanes

Alderman Tony Zielinski, City Engineer Jeff Polenske, members of the Bicycle Federation of Wisconsin and others, will gather at the intersection of East Bay Street and East Potter Avenue to ride the City's new raised bicycle lanes on Thursday, May 24th at 4:00 p.m. As part of the City of Milwaukee's Bicycle Master Plan, and in an effort to provide a bicycle facility between Bay View and Downtown, the City's first raised bicycle lane was recently constructed along East Bay Street. This raised bicycle lane will provide cyclists with a greater feeling of separation from automobile traffic, while at the same time, maintaining functionality of an on-street bike lane.

Raised bicycle lanes have a mountable curb separating bicyclists from the adjacent travel lanes. These lanes provide an element of physical separation from faster moving vehicle traffic. For motorists, the mountable curb provides a visual and tactile reminder of where the bicycle lane is. For bicyclists, the mountable curb makes it easy to leave the bicycle lane if necessary, i.e. when passing fellow bicyclists. These lanes are typically three inches above the roadway and a similar distance below the curb.

Raised bike lanes are a new design treatment in the United States; the Bicycle Master Plan proposes four locations for testing the lanes in Milwaukee. The new raised bicycle lanes are one third of a mile long and is a part of the first phase of a 3.5 mile bicycle facility improvement being made between Bay View and Downtown.