

Mayor Coleman to Announce Free Bike Share Program with Mayor Rybak

Freewheelin bike program to come to cities during Republican National Convention

WHAT: Mayors Chris Coleman and RT Rybak will announce that both cities will debut Freewheelin, a bike sharing program, during the Republican National Convention on Sept. 1-4. The announcement comes on the cusp of Twin Cities Bike Walk Week, May 12-16, promoting commuting alternatives.

Thanks to Humana, the cities will receive 1,000 bikes for people to use during the convention, of which 75 will remain after the convention. Use of a bike is free of charge at designated Freewheelin bike racks/kiosks throughout the cities. Bike racks are set up at various points, each housing a collection of bikes which are equipped with readers and odometers.

Each rack is accompanied by a kiosk through which people can “check out” a bike. Bike rack security is ensured by only releasing a bike after a program ID card or credit card is inserted into the kiosk. Once the user is finished, they simply return the bike to any Freewheelin rack in the cities.

WHO: The Honorable Mayor R.T. Rybak
The Honorable Chris Coleman
Cynthia Leshner, President, Minnesota Host Committee 2008 Republican National Convention
Lisa F. Tourville of Humana; VP-Integrated Informatics
Tim Blumenthal of Bikes Belong, a Boulder-based non profit organization with the mission of putting more people on bicycles more often

WHEN: 10:30 a.m. Friday, May 9

WHERE: Rice Park in Saint Paul, 5th Street at Landmark Center

CONTACT ABOUT PROGRAM: Wayne Catan for Humana: 973-610-5137;
wcatan@coynepr.com

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