The UCI to support bike-friendly cities and regions

The Union Cycliste Internationale (UCI) has today announced the relaunch of the UCI Bike City label to support and reward those cities and regions who invest in developing community cycling and related infrastructure. The first UCI Bike City label, to be awarded at next year’s UCI Road World Championships in Doha, will be for a period of four years and will be based on a city’s strategy combining– showcasing elite cycling with UCI events and investing in cycling for all.

A dedicated UCI team has been established to support cities and regions to help them develop and benchmark their plans and share best practice. Cities and regions will be assessed according to a broad range of criteria which demonstrate how elite cycling events can work best hand in hand to achieve long lasting goals in bringing cycling to all:

- Ambition of strategy;
- Dedicated funding;
- Protected bike lanes;
- Safety for cyclists;
- Cycle training;
- Participation;
- Sustainability;
- Measuring progress.

Each of these criteria will carry a weighting with strategy, ambition and bike lanes carrying the maximum weighting of 15 points each.

Brian Cookson, President of the UCI said: “Governments and regions across the globe are now grasping the huge public health benefits from integrating cycling into their transport plans and part of the job of the UCI is to provide strategic guidance in this process. The UCI Bike City label will highlight those cities and towns who are making the most of the opportunity that hosting major UCI events brings and leading the way in developing community cycling. Bike transport is increasingly becoming mainstream across the world and it is important that the UCI helps to drive forward and quicken this trend and ensure cities and regions can learn from each other. We want to work with our major event
host partners to ensure that, together, we create a long term legacy of improved community cycling opportunities and infrastructure. This ambition is what lies at the heart of the UCI Bike City label.”

**UCI Vice-president and Chair of the UCI Advocacy Commission Tracey Gaudry** added: “Cycling is not just a competitive sport, it is also an enjoyable, healthy pastime and environmentally friendly way to get about. More than 700 cities in 50 countries now have bike-share schemes, a figure that has grown by about half in the last three years. The UCI Bike City label should be seen against this exciting context.”

**For more information**

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