Bikes, Bikes: A program of the City & Borough of Juneau/Parks & Recreation-Zach Gordon Youth Center.

HG Wells once told us that when I see an adult on a bicycle, "I do not despair for the future of the human race. Cycle tracks will abound in Utopia". This year's recipient of the Alaska Municipal League's 2008 Alaska Community Award of Excellence honoring the best in local government innovation is the Zach Gordon Youth Center's Bikes, Bikes, Bikes Community Program spearheaded by the Zach Gordon Youth Center.

The Bikes program provides free bikes for the public to use around town. Bikes, Bikes, Bikes is a partnership of the Youth Center, SEARHC, Steps to a Healthier SE Alaska (grant), JPD and the Skyler Kim Foundation. The Youth Center provides a maintenance room including bike stands, tools (youth are trained in bicycle maintenance), and a bicycle maintenance instructor six hours a week for students to learn basic bike maintenance skills.

Youth ranging from ten to twenty years of age have experienced the joy of riding and repairing bikes. Thirty bikes acquired through JPD's recycle program and community donations are available for use. Weekly organized bike rides occur throughout the summer months on local bike trails.

The program is Parks & Recreation's ultimate contribution to sustainability and healthy transportation choices.

*This information was submitted by Marc Matsil, Director Parks & Recreation City & Borough of Juneau Alaska's Capital City 155 S. Seward Street Juneau, AK 99801 (907) 586-0932