

**CITY OF ROCHESTER HILLS
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**

BRYAN K. BARNETT, MAYOR

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Challenge Showcases Trails and Pathways in Rochester Hills
“Ride Around the World”

Rochester Hills, MI- In collaboration with the City of Rochester Hills, the International Velodrome at Bloomer Park (IVBP) will kick-off a 30-day community challenge to “Ride Around the World in Rochester Hills,” on Thursday, July 1, 2010.

“Funded in part by a grant received by the DALMAC Foundation, this community-wide event aims to increase fitness activity of all ages and to showcase the remarkable cycling assets located within the city,” states Tara Beatty, Chief Assistant and Grant Coordinator.

Rochester Hills currently features more 85 miles of paved pathway, 25 miles of Rails-to-Trails within the Clinton River and Paint Creek Trails, acres of off-road track at Bloomer Park and the city’s most unique cycling facility, the 1/8 mile oval that is the International Velodrome at Bloomer Park.

“With this challenge residents will be able to experience first-hand the best pathways and trails in Oakland County, states Mayor Bryan K. Barnett. “As a community, this will take our green initiatives another step further by promoting an active, healthy lifestyle, while making a positive impact on our environment and reducing our carbon footprint.”

Residents are able to participate in this free event by joining one of the scheduled bike rides happening in Rochester Hills, or by organizing a neighborhood ride of their own. Participants are asked to track their mileage beginning on July 1st thru July 30th and then log their distance by visiting www.ridearoundtheworld.info.

“What we really want to do is make bicycling an easy choice for physical activity and a way of living, it is easy, accessible and fun,” states Dale Hughes, IVBP Director. “The idea of riding around the world brings a little fun into the challenge.”

The IVBP is the official headquarters of “Ride Around the World.” The Velodrome is open 7 days a week and offers FREE lessons and equipment for first time users and FREE riding and equipment rental for riders 18 and under all season long.

For more information and details of the program’s ongoing resources, please visit www.ridearoundtheworld.info or check out the International Velodrome at Bloomer Park on Facebook.

Established in 1984, the City of Rochester Hills was recently voted one of the top 100 best places to live (2009) and is committed to being the preeminent place to live, work and raise a family.

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