
Los Angeles Wheelmen VP Report

1 message

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Hello All:

Sunday: Based on reports I got, we only had two riders on Sunday (**Rafi Karpinski & David Nakai**) and they each rode alone. No doubt the pandemic had a lot to do with the low turn-out, but there was also rain predicted and that probably kept a few away also. Ironically, this was a re-do of some routes which were rained out a couple of months ago. As it turned out, both riders reported getting caught in the rain for a while, although by the end of the day it had cleared off. Well, I'm not going to reschedule it for a third time. I had a brief report from Rafi and I think I'll just put the whole thing in here:

Well, reschedule due to rain was in my humble opinion a failure. The ride started gloomy. El Dorado Park was closed and a park ranger car blocked the way. The ranger was on a coffee break so I squeezed by and rode toward San Gabriel River Trail. A few rain drops didn't bother me but two hours into the ride I found myself hiding from a downpour at a bus stop. At that moment I was considering throwing in the towel but I was two hours from the start and completing 2/3 of a ride is not much of an accomplishment. The rain let up so I decided to make a right turn in Brea Canyon pondering riding the route or use Google Maps to find my way back to start. Wishing for full finger gloves I decided to persevere. The rain stopped. I tried to ride a little faster to warm up. It seems the rainy weather concentrated around climbing part of the route. Air dried and feeling warmer, I was glad I didn't quit. Last surprise of the ride was very strong head wind on San Gabriel River Trail just when I was hoping for an easy ride back.

He also included this photo:



I don't recall seeing these signs along the San Gabriel Trail. They must be new.

David also sent me a photo showing that the parking lot at El Dorado was closed.



He said there was plenty of street parking, but this is just one more impediment to our continued riding during this period.

Next Sunday: This Sunday the scheduled ride is the "Whale of a Century" (full and metric). I had originally scheduled this as a Saturday Grand Tour trainer but when the trainers were canceled, I moved it to Sunday because I thought there might still be a few riders who want to get their monthly century in. The full century travels from Camarillo up to Santa Barbara and back. It's a fairly flat and easy route. The metric starts in Ventura an hour later and rides the center portion of the full century route. The routes ride the coastal bike trail along the 101 going up and coming back and I'm a little concerned it could be closed. I looked on the web and couldn't find anything about it being closed. Ventura has closes its parks, but apparently not the bike trails. There are never very many riders on that path anyway, so there wouldn't be much point in closing it. Lunch is in Santa Barbara so it should be possible to find some place that's open.

Thomas Knoll's Solo Ride: As he has for the past couple of weeks, Thomas did his own Sunday ride in the Santa Monica Mountains and he sent me a photo:



This is taken from near the top of Stunt Road looking toward the Valley. Clearly with all the rain, I am missing one of the greenest springs we have had in a while.

Thursday Triple Dipper Ride Report: A few riders are still showing up for the Thursday Triple Dipper ride even though the beach bike path is closed. **Gary Murphy** sent me this photo from last Thursday:



Not only is the beach path closed, but Redondo Beach has closed the parking along Esplanade above the beach. I believe the riders would like me to note that they are maintaining appropriate spacing as they ride.

I don't have much else to add tonight. I made a foray to the food store today. Things are getting better, but there are still some major gaps on the shelves. The frozen vegetable section is still decimated. A couple of weeks ago I was looking at the empty shelves and someone commented "Who knew -- Southern Californians like vegetables."

Keep thinking good thoughts

Rod Doty, VP