BICYCLE/TRAFFIC PLAYGROUNDS: A Place to teach kids to love their bikes

WHAT: A dedicated space designed where riders of all abilities can safely learn how to ride within the context of our local roadway and multi-use trail environment. Design characteristics are reduced in size to match a child's perspective and provide realistic traffic simulation with features that may include traffic lights, round-abouts, road signs, street markings, bike paths, sharrows, and more.

WHY: In the United States there are no comprehensive and consistent bike education programs. Thankfully local police and fire departments such as those in Santa Fe host "Bicycle Rodeos" as a means to promote bicycle safety, provide helmets and other safety gear and a means for youth to engage with public safety officials in a positive environment. A Bicycle/Traffic Playground may provide a consistent location for public safety, public school, non-profits and local governments to host youth in environment where they are encourage to return again and again.

Studies clearly indicated that parents worried about their children's welfare are reluctant to allow their children to bike to school or to other neighborhood amenities; yet biking and walking to school are both proven methods to increase children's health and school performance.

In October of 2016, White Center, WA opened one of the nations premier bicycle/traffic playgrounds

http://whitecenternow.com/2016/10/01/photos-white-center-bike-playground-is-open/