

Jay Jordan
President and CEO

June 19, 2006

Jim Sayer
Executive Director
Adventure Cycling Association
150 E Pine Street
Missoula, MT 59802

Re: Endorsement for the Underground Railroad Bicycle Route/Project

Dear Mr. Sayer:

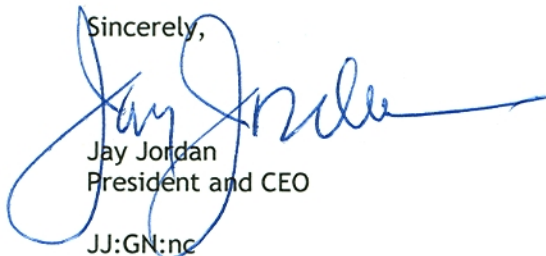
On behalf of OCLC Online Computer Library Center, Inc., it is my pleasure to offer this letter of endorsement for the Underground Railroad Bicycle Route. Adventure Cycling Association, in their partnership with the University of Pittsburgh's Center for Minority Health, has created a special project that OCLC and its Web Junction community are happy to support. WebJunction's participation in the project will create an opportunity for libraries to engage in this unique shared history which exemplifies the triumphs and bravery of Americans – both black and white – who risked their own safety for the freedom of others.

Cyclists on the route will explore the sites and experience the Underground Railroad in a manner that promotes lifelong health through a form of physical activity available to people of all ages and socioeconomic backgrounds. While health disparities and preventable disease impact our nation's communities, this bicycle route becomes part of the solution for individuals and families.

WebJunction will help connect libraries, the public, and travelers together to share, learn and experience the incredible stories of this unique period in American history. This project will inspire fresh ideas about programming, creating new community connections, and reaching out to new audiences. While Adventure Cycling Association provides maps which highlight historic sites to visit, public libraries provide access to local history and special collections related to the Underground Railroad, slavery, African American culture and civil rights.

I fully understand the symbolic power of this route and the importance of keeping the Underground Railroad in the public eye. I also recognize that bicycle travelers bring economic gain to towns and historic sites along the route. I support the goal of this project and encourage others to join in recognizing the significance of this project.

Sincerely,



Jay Jordan
President and CEO
JJ:GN:nc