



POLICE DEPARTMENT
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Police investigate report of bicyclist followed at local park

Salem, Ore. — A woman riding her bicycle through Minto-Brown Island Park Tuesday morning, June 29, 2021, was followed by a male suspect also on a bicycle.

As the woman was riding the trails near the river, she passed a man on a bike who was stopped. She noticed he had a pair of pruning shears in his hand. The woman continued her ride, but then noticed the suspect had started to chase her. At one point the suspect rammed her bicycle with his.

The woman yelled and scanned for people as she sped forward. She continued to ride toward the bicycle and pedestrian bridge at Riverfront Park where she could see people. It was at that point that the suspect stopped his pursuit and rode away.

The suspect is described as a tall, white male adult in his late 20s to early 30s with dark, disheveled hair and a thin build. The suspect wore cutoff jean shorts, but no shirt. The suspect rode a mountain bike with unusually large handlebar ends and no suspension. The victim was able to provide a map of the route thanks to a personal fitness device which she wore.

“We applaud the victim’s strength and determination to get away from the suspect,” said Lieutenant Treven Upkes of the Salem Police Department’s Community Response Section. Upkes supervises the team of officers who patrol the downtown area and parks. “The map provided by her device and her description of the suspect and his bicycle will greatly help officers patrolling the vicinity.”

Please remember to take precautions in public or on leisurely outings. For example, whenever possible, take a friend with you. Try to avoid wearing anything that will impede your vision or hearing, so that you remain alert and aware of your surroundings. Remember to let someone know your destination and expected return time. Always call 9-1-1 for emergencies or in-progress suspicious activity or crime.

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