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SPORTS, 1B



South Bend Tribune

MONDAY, JUNE 14, 2021 | SOUTHBENDTRIBUNE.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

City hopes to resume scooter, bike shares

Official: Mobility firms have learned lessons

Jeff Parrott
South Bend Tribune
USA TODAY NETWORK

The city of South Bend, forced by the pandemic to halt talks with a new e-bike and scooter share company just as it was about to launch in the city early last year, is ready to try again, an official confirmed Wednesday.

John Kain, the city's deputy public works director, said the administration had planned to let the new company start operating last spring, after initially targeting fall 2020, but put the project on hold because of COVID-19. Nearly a year and a half later, as infection rates continue to drop, the city would like scooters and electric-assist bikes to become available for use this summer, Kain said.

In 2020, shortly after San Mateo, Calif.-based Lime withdrew its bikes and scooters from the city because the company was dropping bikes to focus only on scooters, Kain has said the city, wanting to continue offering both shared mobility options, sent "requests for information" to three companies: the Uber-owned Jump, San Francisco-based Spin, and Charleston, S.C.-based Gokube.

Kain said the city has picked one of them as a "finalist" and he plans to meet this week with its representatives. He declined to name the firm until a contract has been signed.

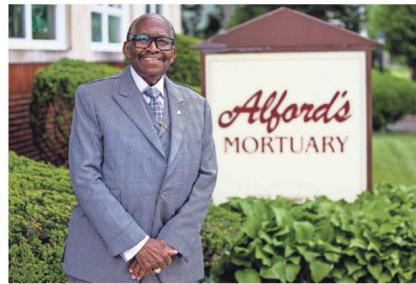
Lime officials have said their green and yellow bikes and scooters, rented at \$1 for 20 minutes, were well used in South Bend. But as one of the first shared mobility firms to operate a



A Lime bike was left on Niles Avenue in 2017 in South Bend. The city wants scooters and electric-assist bikes to become available this summer. ROBERT FRANKLIN/SOUTH BEND TRIBUNE

"The whole shared mobility or micro-mobility business has transformed quite a bit since Lime introduced their bikes and eventually scooters in South Bend."

John Kain
South Bend's deputy public works director



The Rev. Donald Alford, the owner of Alford's Mortuary in South Bend, recently was honored by the Indiana Funeral Directors Association for his 60 years as a funeral director. PHOTOS BY MICHAEL CATERINA/SOUTH BEND TRIBUNE

Funeral director reflects on 60 years of service

The Rev. Alford strives to show community empathy

Howard Dukas
Columist
South Bend Tribune
USA TODAY NETWORK

SOUTH BEND — People in the community know the Rev. Donald Alford as the pastor of Pentecostal Cathedral Church of God in Christ.

Truth is that Alford the funeral director can't be separated from Rev. Alford the pastor. Both vocations require Alford to serve, advise and comfort people during major crossroads in their lives.

And Alford, who was honored



The Rev. Donald Alford received this pin in April from the Indiana Funeral Directors Association for 60 years of service as the owner of Alford's Mortuary in South Bend.

late last month by the Indiana Funeral Directors Association for 60 years of service as the owner of Alford's Mortuary, started in his youth

on the path to become a man who would spend his life offering spiritual guidance and comfort to people in their time of need.

"I was always interested in funerals," he recalled. "Where we grew up on the west side of town, there were a couple of cemeteries, and back when I was growing up in the 1950s, I would sometimes go up to the corner of Western and Wellington just to watch the funeral processions."

"And then it was always in the back of my head as I went to high school."

Alford graduated from Washington High School in 1957 and then attended Bethel College.

By that time, he had already gone

See ALFORD, Page 2A

Indiana gets \$40M for health disparities related to COVID-19

Shari Rudavsky
Indianapolis Star
USA TODAY NETWORK

Indiana and Marion County will receive more than \$40 million in federal funds of a \$2.25 billion national purse aimed at addressing health disparities stemming from the COVID pandemic.

The money represents the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's largest investment to date focused on improving health equity.

Geared for local and state health departments, the grants focus on improving COVID testing and contact tracing for higher risk, underserved populations, including racial and ethnic minority groups.

This money can also be used to reduce COVID-19-related health disparities and improve the ability to control viral spread, the CDC said in a press release.

The Indiana State Department of Health will receive \$34.8 million, including more than \$7.89 million geared toward rural communities.

The Health and Hospital Corp. of Marion County will receive more than \$5.9 million. In all, Indiana received \$40,725,446 from the CDC.

The grants run for two years. Contact IndyStar reporter Shari Rudavsky at 317-444-6354 or shari.rudavsky@indystar.com. Follow her on Facebook and on Twitter: @rudavsky.



Hoosiers line up for COVID-19 vaccination on April 24, at The Indianapolis Motor Speedway. MICHELLE PEMBERTON/INDYSTAR

Biden sees progress in credibility
President says America is 'back in business,' working alongside others. BA

Lovina's Amish Kitchen
Mulling wedding food and prayer requests; recipe for green beans. 9A

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