



March 5, 2021

Dear Cycling Friends,

We are sorry to inform you that the 2021 Assault on Mount Mitchell and Assault on Marion (“AOMM”) scheduled for May 17th, has been cancelled.

AOMM is a large undertaking with many moving parts. When we began planning this year’s ride back in the fall, we were optimistic that by this May, the effects of the COVID pandemic would have lessened enough to allow us to ride. While case counts are lowering, still, many states – including the State of North Carolina – continue to strictly enforce guidelines for events.

Current mandates in the State of North Carolina prohibit large in-person events, whether outdoor or indoor. Since we have no clear timeline on when these regulations will be lifted, the Freewheelers Cycling Association, the State of NC’s Department of Parks, the Blue Ridge Parkway leadership, and the administration of Mt. Mitchell State Park are not comfortable with moving forward with the event in 2021.

The Assaults is the premier cycling event of the Southeast and, in our opinion, one of the greatest amateur cycling events in the country. We will carry on, planning for AOMM 2022. Next year’s ride has already been confirmed to take place on Monday, May 16, 2022. Please save the date! We will begin rolling out more information about 2022 later this fall.

On behalf of the Freewheelers’ board of directors and event production team, we do sincerely thank you for your understanding. Though we are all disappointed, we look forward to next year with anticipation of it being the best ride yet.

Karl Johnson
President
Freewheelers Cycling Association

Jenn Chew
Ride Director
The Assault on Mt. Mitchell and Marion