



Ride On



“I BIKE BECAUSE...”

When Dan Robertson, 51, a firefighter in Oakland, was asked why he rides a bike to work, he laughed loudly. “Oh, there are so many reasons. I get to arrive to work feeling refreshed. It’s great for the environment. It keeps me in good cardio shape, which is important for my job. I save money on car expenses. Oh yeah, and I get to experience beautiful scenery.”

Dan’s morning commute frequently begins at 5:15 a.m. and includes an extra hour of riding several times around Lake Merritt or riding in the hills above his home.

In his 25 years as an Oakland firefighter, he has convinced five of the nine firefighters at his station to commute by bicycle. They all know it helps free them from the traumas they are surrounded by in their jobs. “When I ride home after a 24-hour shift of people being shot and experiencing other medical emergencies, it’s great; I get to clear my head and focus on nice things,” Dan said.

Dan fell in love with bicycling at age 10, when he began riding and later racing BMX bicycles. Clearly the passion and joy he had as a child for riding carries on.

BIKE EAST BAY STAFF

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Renee Rivera
renee@BikeEastBay.org

ADVOCACY DIRECTOR

Dave Campbell
dave@BikeEastBay.org

DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

Deb Janes
deb@BikeEastBay.org

EDUCATION DIRECTOR

Robert Prinz
robert@BikeEastBay.org

LEAD INSTRUCTOR

Bonnie Wehmann
bonnie@BikeEastBay.org

HAZARD ELIMINATION

Ian McDonald
ian@BikeEastBay.org

PROJECT MANAGER

Cynthia Armour
cynthia@BikeEastBay.org

MEMBERSHIP & VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

Elena Diaz
elena@BikeEastBay.org

EAST OAKLAND CAMPAIGN FELLOW

Reggie Burnett "RB"

EVENTS INTERN

Sanjay Gupta

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Laura McCamy

GRAPHIC DESIGNER

Amanda McCoy

OFFICE

495 Embarcadero West
Jack London Square
Oakland, CA 94607

MAILING ADDRESS

P.O. Box 1736
Oakland, CA 94604

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Morgan Kanninen (Chair), Rick Rickard (Treasurer), Tom Willging (Secretary), Glenda Barnhart, Sandra Hamlat, Jenny Oh Hatfield, Raymond Pajek, Bill Pinkham, Kristin Tennesen, Maggie Smith, Bob Bodnar, Doria Robinson, Kristi Marleau, Rolland Jurgens and Jim Van Dyke



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LETTER FROM THE SADDLE

Why do you bike? Is it because it gets you to work feeling energized and ready for the day? Do you bike to connect to your neighborhood as you run your errands? Or maybe to spend quality time with your kids on the way to drop them off at school?

Ask a dozen members of our bicycle community in the East Bay and you will get as many answers, all of them motivating and inspiring. In this issue, we have asked some of our members to share their reasons for getting on their bicycles every day, as we all gear up for this year's Bike to Work Day.

Why do I ride my bike every day? Simply because I love it. Getting on my bike every day brings me joy. I love the way I feel connected to my city, my neighbors, other cyclists, and complete strangers as I pedal to work. So often, I strike up a conversation with someone in the bike lane and ride away feeling like I have made a new friend. I ride around town with my dog in my front basket and I love all the smiles and waves we get, especially from kids, as I pedal by.

For me, a bicycle is not just a great way to get around but a tool and a movement to build community around bicycling. I'm lucky to have been involved in bicycle advocacy and this movement for almost two decades. In that time everyday bicycling has grown from a small and hardcore group of advocates to a mainstream movement that has become downright cool.

Bike to Work Day has also grown, from a few hundred to tens of thousands of participants. We are proud in the East Bay to have kicked things off with our first Bike to Work Day event at Oakland's City Hall 21 years ago. Inspired by our success, San Francisco and cities around the Bay Area came together and celebrated the first regional event in 1995. Now all nine counties participate and we have expanded to a full month of festivities.

Bike to Work Day and Bike Month are a great time to bring new people to the joy of bicycling. Think of the person who inspired you to ride for the first time or encouraged you to get back on a bike as an adult. You could be this inspiration to someone else.

This Bike to Work Day, I challenge you to be a part of growing our movement by getting a few of your friends involved. Here are some ways to help them engage:

- Start a Team Bike Challenge team and invite four friends or co-workers to join you. Learn more and sign up your team at TeamBikeChallenge.com.
- Help a friend plan their first Bike to Work Day trip, with stops at one or more of our Energizer Stations along the way. The full map will be in the *East Bay Express* on May 2nd or go to BikeEastBay.org/energizer.
- Bring a friend or two to our free Bike Happy Hour Party in Old Oakland on Bike to Work Day from 5:00 to 8:30 pm. Go to BikeEastBay.org/HappyHour for more details.
- Ask three friends to join Bike East Bay and have the chance to win a stylish PUBLIC V1 or C1 bike between now and Bike to Work Day. See details on the back page or go to BikeEastBay.org/join.



photo: Lisa Beth Anderson

Renee Rivera, Executive Director

"I BIKE BECAUSE..."



"It's more convenient than taking a bus that may or may not be there."



"It clears my head before I begin work."



"I like getting my blood pumping. I feel better because of my ride."



"It's fun and I love getting a breath of fresh air – it's nice to be outside."



"For the exercise and because it's faster than walking to BART"



"It's the only time during the day I get to be in the sunshine."



"It's the only way I can show up to work completely stress-free."

- 1. Lariann Hand** (age 32) Pastry Chef at Sweet Adeline Bakeshop

Commute: Lake Merritt neighborhood of Oakland to North Oakland (3 miles)

- 2. Joaquin Arcellana** (21) Temescal Pool Lifeguard

Commute: from Lake Merritt neighborhood in Oakland to Temescal neighborhood in Oakland (2 miles)

- 3. Monica Hamlett** (28) Supply Chain Manager for Produce and Floral at Fair Trade USA

- 4. Eric Schmidt** (47) Dentist

Commute: Up and down Central Avenue in Alameda (2 miles).

- 5. Greg Hebert** (50) Paralegal for the State of California

Commute: West Berkeley to Ashby BART station (1 mile)

- 6. Laura McLellan** (23) Scientific Aide at San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board

Commute: North Berkeley to downtown Oakland (5 miles)

- 7. Max Buckley** (27) Lighting Artist at Pixar

Commute: North Oakland to Emeryville (2 miles)

CLASS 4 PROTECTED BIKEWAY REPORTING FOR DUTY

At our Cities for Cycling reception on April 10, we boldly declared an end to the era of white stripes and sharrows as bikeways, and a beginning to a modern bikeway era. What does this look like? The bikeway is designed to be separated and has physical protection from moving cars. Furthermore, the designs are based on safety and comfort, not engineering or political convenience. At the reception, Malcolm Dougherty, Director of Caltrans, gave this effort a huge boost by officially endorsing the NACTO Urban Bikeway Design Guide, the new bible of protected bikeway design.

"It's horrible to bike on Telegraph and I have almost been killed many times, so protected bikeways would be amazing," was a recent response to the city of Oakland's Telegraph Ave. survey. "This is important," says Terrance McGrath, of McGrath Properties, who partnered with Bridge Housing and the City of Oakland to secure property entitlements and future development of MacArthur BART Transit Village. "We need to add a protected bike lane to Telegraph Ave. to accommodate all the people bicycling in the neighborhood." These comments demonstrate a growing appreciation of the safety benefits of separating bikes from moving cars.

Oakland is unveiling design concepts for protected bikeways on Telegraph Ave. at three upcoming open houses, and we need you there in support. We are featuring local food trucks on-site 30 minutes prior to each open house to fuel your support as we get you prepared.

At our recent Winning Campaigns Training in March, volunteers developed extensive plans to win new protected bikeways in Walnut Creek, Oakland, Dublin, and El Cerrito.

"I'm super excited because these new separated bikeways in Dublin will lead to bigger and better things like getting protected bike lanes on Dublin Blvd," says Dublin resident and Bike East Bay board member Kristi Marleau.



PREVIEW OAKLAND'S FIRST PROTECTED BIKEWAY DESIGNS

Preview Oakland's first Protected Bikeway Designs at a Telegraph Ave.'s Complete Streets Public Open Houses

April 24, 6pm - 8pm, Beebe Memorial Cathedral, 3900 Telegraph [Pre-Meet Up 5:00pm out front of the Church to prepare]

April 26, 10am - 12pm, Faith Presbyterian Church, 430 49th Street [Pre-Meet Up 9:30am out front to prepare]

May 1, 6pm - 8pm, Humanist Hall, 390 27th Street (accessible entrance at 411 28th Street) [Pre-Meet Up 5:30pm out front to prepare]

"On Telegraph Ave, we're excited about the possibility of having a protected bikeway... that is safer for drivers, pedestrians and bicyclists," says Temescal neighborhood and Oakland resident David Jaeger.

"Protected bikeways on San Pablo Ave. will allow people to bicycle to many commercial businesses on a daily basis," says Jared Bunde, El Cerrito resident and one of our new volunteers.

In fact, El Cerrito and Albany are jointly applying for an Active Transportation Program grant to develop final plans for protected bikeways on San Pablo Ave. However, state law may need to change first. "Caltrans does not allow protected bikeways on state highways and other innovations that are necessary to transform people's commute," says Dave Snyder, Executive Director of California Bicycle Coalition. "Our bill AB 1193 solves that problem by letting local agencies bypass Caltrans and use modern guides like the NACTO Urban Bikeway Design Guide."

Protected bikeways are not only much safer for you, they are downright good for business—really good! Studies from New York City, Portland, Toronto, and San Francisco all document how people who walk and bicycle visit local businesses more often and spend more money overall than people who drive... often a lot more. It's counterintuitive, but true.

We need your help carrying this message to businesses on Telegraph Ave., San Pablo Ave., downtown Walnut Creek, downtown Dublin, and beyond. Our new campaign leaders are ready to put you to work. Find out how to get involved BikeEastBay.org/wct ●

BIKE FRIENDLY BUSINESS AWARDS

Bike East Bay is proud to announce this year's Bike Friendly Businesses: Jamba Juice, KTGy Group, and Hot Italian.

JAMBA JUICE

Blend in the Good

When you walk into Jamba Juice's headquarters in Emeryville, a set of bright orange PUBLIC Bikes greet you. These are loaner bikes, put at the disposal of employees for lunch rides and external meetings. "We've had them since 2012," says Rachael Kirk, Jamba Juice's Manager of Corporate Social Responsibility. "But we only moved them to the front lobby six months ago. That's when people started really using them."



One of their regular bike commuters is Brian Lee, a seven-year Jamba Juice veteran who rides every day from Lafayette. "It's a hilly 19 miles," says Lee, "but the shower room makes it possible." Brian also came up with the idea of creating branded jerseys to "fly their own colors," with a logo by Jamba Juice's design team.

Jamba Juice has developed an extensive wellness program that includes health insurance premium discounts in exchange for participation in challenges. In preparation for Bike to Work Day, Jamba Juice employees hold bike tune-up classes and go on practice rides. Howie Miller, Jamba Juice's in-house lawyer, is a new addition to the team but has been biking to work for more than six years. "The majority of major employers in the area don't get it yet," Howie says, "but at Jamba Juice, biking is part of the culture; it's entrenched, it's intrinsic, and I like that."

KTGY GROUP, INC

Architecture + Planning

KTGY opened their Jack London Square office in Oakland in 2005. When they recently expanded their workspace, the topic of better bike parking was brought up. "In the expansion, much thought was put into the creation of a bicycle storage space that could meet employee needs," said Cindy Ma, a project planner with KTGy and a regular bicycle commuter. The final result is a one-of-a-kind bike room that is central, secure, easily accessible, and incorporates a unique bike rack created by Zac Miles, another KTGy employee. "I use this space everyday and love that I was able to be a part of the process of creating it," says Ma.



But it doesn't end there: for more than ten years, the company has been offering a \$5 per day green commute incentive to all employees who walk, bike, carpool, or ride public transportation as part of their commute. "It makes for great lunch (or beer!) money," says Ma, but "most of the time it goes to my baking fund to bring baked goods to the office." KTGy is not only building good living environments in Bay Area cities, but also promoting a better working environment where it counts, in their own office.

HOT ITALIAN

Tutto e possibile

Hot Italian founders Andrea Lepore and Fabrizio Cercatore's Emeryville restaurant is more than just a pizzeria, and their bike-friendliness runs deeper than just indoor and outdoor bike parking. Their brand was literally built around bikes. On the walls, on their caps, on their stickers and in their ads - bikes are everywhere at Hot Italian.



Together, they have built a hub where pizza brings people together to celebrate art, community, bicycles, soccer and more. This year, Bike East Bay chose to recognize Hot Italian for their bike-friendly mission and their role in crafting and encouraging bike-centered events and organizations: from hosting Climate Ride fundraisers and sponsoring Oakland Composite, a local high school bike team, to their regular collaborations with *Bike Magazine* and their ongoing pizza-delivery partnership with local bike messengers extraordinaires, Pedal Express, we can always count on Hot Italian to be a supportive and involved business in Emeryville.

Andrea Lepore believes that "if you're in an urban environment, you need to make it easy for people to arrive by bike" and we agree. ●

CALENDAR of EVENTS

TELEGRAPH AVE COMPLETE STREET OPEN HOUSES

April 24 6:00–8:00pm,
April 26 10:00am–12noon, and
May 1 6:00–8:00pm

Our moment in history to build a great bikeway on Telegraph

CIDER SUMMIT – BERKELEY

Saturday, April 26 - 12:00-6:00pm
Celebrate the growing cider brewing culture. Bike valet provided by Bike East Bay.

4TH ANNUAL COFFEE RIDE

Sunday, April 27–10:00am-3:00pm
Oakland: 20+ miles ride exploring East Bay Coffee Shops and Cafes

GET READY TO GEAR UP! BIKE FESTIVAL

Sunday, April 27–12:30pm-4:30pm
Haight Elementary School: Celebrate bicycles all day in Alameda

CELEBRATORY BIKE RIDE THROUGH MAXWELL PARK OAKLAND

Sunday, April 27, 10:30am–1:00pm
Maxwell Park & Mills College celebrating new bike lanes on MacArthur Blvd

“CULL CANYON” RIDE CASTRO VALLEY

Every Thursday in May–6:15pm
A fun weekly community ride for all skill levels organized by Endless Cycles

RIDE WITH YOUR REP – DUBLIN

Saturday, May 3–10:00am–2:00pm
Ride with your Congressman Eric Swalwell, in partnership with Greenbelt Alliance

BICYCLE SALE AND FESTIVAL EL CERRITO

Saturday, May 3–10:00am–1:00pm
Harding Elementary School: Recycled bikes for sale and fun activities for all

BIKE CAMP – MOUNT DIABLO

May 3 and 4–All Day
Ride out to Mount Diablo and camp overnight with Bike Walnut Creek

BIKE SWAP – ALAMEDA

Sunday, May 4–All Day
Alameda: swap, buy, and build parts and full bikes! Hosted by Changing Gears

GET READY TO GEAR UP! BIKE FESTIVAL

Monday, May 5–12:00pm–4:00pm
Berkeley Arts Magnet: Celebrate bicycles all day in Berkeley

BIKE TO WORK DAY EVERYWHERE!

Thursday, May 8, 7 am–9:00am
See map at BikeEastBay.org/energizer for locations of Energizer Stations

BIKE HAPPY HOUR PARTY OLD OAKLAND

Thursday, May 8–5:00pm–8:30pm
Bike East Bay's free street party celebrating Bike to Work Day. All proceeds benefit Bike East Bay.

BIKE HOME FROM WORK HAPPY HOUR – ALAMEDA

Thursday, May 8–4:00pm–7:00pm
Speisekammer Restaurant: Finish Bike to Work Day with fellow bicyclists

East Bay Bike Party

Friday, May 9–7:30pm
Get out and ride! A huge movable party that explores the East Bay every month.

BOOK TO ACTION WITH ELLY BLUE – OAKLAND

Saturday, May 10–10:15am–2:00pm
A talk on “Everyday Bicycling” and book signing followed by a bike ride

SECOND SATURDAY BIKE FIX-IN RICHMOND

Saturday, May 10–10:00am–12:00pm
Free bike safety check by Rich City Rides on the Richmond Greenway

FREMONT BIKE RIDE

Saturday, May 10–10:00am–12:00pm
Bike Tour With Fremont's New Rockstar Public Works Director

CYCLOFEMME RIDE – OAKLAND

Sunday, May 11–1:00pm
Mosswood Park: Family Friendly ride celebrating womanhood on bikes

SESSIONFEST – OAKLAND

Saturday, May 17–12:00pm–4:00pm
Jack London Square: Tasting beers that don't get you blitzed, with all proceeds benefiting Bike East Bay.

RIDE FOR A REASON

Saturday, May 17–All day
Ride to Sacramento for education advocacy and to raise funds for Oakland schools.

BIKEEASTBAY.ORG/CALENDAR

CALIFORNIA CLIMATE RIDE 2014

May 17-20

Ride to raise awareness and funds to support active transportation - including bicycling, and solutions to the climate crisis.

4TH ANNUAL RIDE OF SILENCE RICHMOND

Wednesday, May 21-5:00-7:00

A slow, quiet ride to honor those who have been hurt or killed while bicycling

RIDE TO THE THEATER - OAKLAND

Friday, May 23-6:00pm

Ride with us to the theater from MacArthur BART and get discounted tickets to Berkeley Rep's *Not a Genuine Black Man*

MAJOR TAYLOR BIKE FIESTA RICHMOND

Saturday, May 24-11:00am-3:00pm

A homegrown event promoting unity, empowerment, and biking in Richmond.

SCRAPERIZE YOUR BIKE OAKLAND

Saturday, May 31-11:00am

Personalize your bike, Scraper style. Hosted by Oakland Public Library.

HELLA BIG EAST BAY BIKE PARTY III

Saturday, May 31-3:30pm-12:00pm

Richmond BART: Join hundreds of other Bay Area bicyclists at this themed party on wheels

OHLONE GREENWAY FUNDAY EL CERRITO

Saturday, May 31-9:00am-1:00pm

A mini-festival with plenty of bike activities on the East Bay's recently renovated Ohlone Greenway

For more events and details, visit BikeEastBay.org/Calendar



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SOLAR COMPANY INFUSES TEAM WITH ENERGY

Here at Bike East Bay we believe a bit of friendly competition is healthy. This year, we challenge you to help us beat our 2013 Team Bike Challenge numbers. Last year, 3,454 bicyclists formed more than a thousand teams, with 356 companies competing. Region-wide, we biked a total of 1,122,869 miles. Get inspired today and invite your friends, family, and colleagues to partake in this year's Team Bike Challenge.

Ian Bennett, an engineer for Sunpower Richmond, will be a returning competitor this year. Last year his team, Tires Half Full, came in first in the Alameda County Team Challenge and his company, Sunpower Corporation, came in sixth regionwide in the Company Challenge.

He credits a bike-friendly work environment and inspiring co-workers for the miles he has been able to clock on his bike commute. "I only really got

heavily into cycling when I started working at Sunpower," Bennett said, noting that co-workers committed to their bike commutes, rain or shine, helped convince him he too could ride to work. Now, he helps organize bike picnics to introduce more people to cycling. "We'll go around the marina and have a picnic twice a month when it's nice out," he said.

Bennett thinks the Team Bike Challenge is a good reminder for people to dust off their bikes and get

started riding again. "In years past we've had 10 or 15 people regularly cycle. But when Bike to Work Month comes around the number bumps up to 40 or 50," Bennett said, noting that Sunpower has "a lot of very competitive people." He is one of them, and when asked what he predicts for 2014 competition, he replied "greatness! We are shooting for first in Alameda county again and a better overall showing. Competition is tough in the Bay so we will be watching other teams closely." You've been warned! ●



Thank you to our generous sponsors of Bike to Work Day 2014



A WIN-WIN: BIKE EAST BAY VOLUNTEERS ADVANCE CAREERS

Recently Oakland got a new bike lane on part of Shattuck Ave. and new bike lockers popped up at the Walnut Creek BART station. We can thank Bike East Bay volunteers for carrying out a variety of tasks that led to these meaningful victories and countless similar wins. And in turn, those volunteers gained new skills, expanded their social and professional network, and felt gratified they had helped make their cities and towns more bike-friendly.

Take Bike East Bay's current volunteer interns: Sanjay Gupta is representing Bike East Bay at various local events and Amanda McCoy is giving a facelift to many of Bike East Bay's outreach materials.

For Sanjay, volunteering with Bike East Bay allows him to explore different career options. "This internship is giving me tangible ways to practice different skills to see which ones I'm

good at and which ones I'm not, which is helping me choose a career path I want to pursue."

Amanda, who had a career in production at advertising agencies, has a practical motivation for serving as a volunteer intern: she is building her portfolio of materials for her new graphic design freelancing business.

As a life-long bicyclist, the internship also fulfills her quest to make the East Bay better for commuting by bike. "I'm contributing to something I believe in. It makes me happy to support the work."

Volunteers are at the center of nearly every Bike East Bay project. Until three years ago, the organization was completely run by volunteers and most current staff members began as volunteers. Current staff served on the board of directors, created a comprehensive skills and safety education program,

helped organize and run events, and helped build the fundraising program.

Skilled and eager volunteers fuel Bike East Bay's successful work while gaining or honing skills, making professional connections, and meeting new friends. It is a classic win-win. ●



Sanjay Gupta, Events Intern

BIKE EDUCATION: MOVING BEYOND SAFETY

The Bike East Bay safety program has experienced continued growth since its modest beginnings in 2002. Since then, we have offered hundreds of free trainings to thousands of adults, youth, and families in multiple languages. The variety of classes teach students safe cycling, crash avoidance, and bicyclist rights and responsibilities. Attendees have overwhelmingly reported increased confidence on their bikes after taking a class and said they are more likely to ride a bike for everyday transportation.

Beyond behavior, however, the largest factor which improves our safety is how many other people are also riding bikes on the street with us. Data

collected from around the country demonstrate that as the number of bicyclists increases, the number of crashes stays steady or even decreases. This is a result of drivers expecting and looking for bicyclists more, as well as cities being more willing to invest in better bike infrastructure to serve the growing demand.

With this in mind, we are adding free classes to provide information on whatever topic is needed to help someone get on a bike for more trips, whether that means family biking, theft avoidance, adult learn-to-ride classes, bicycle mechanics, Bike Buddy ride matching, and even professional driver training. At the same time, we

are using some of these opportunities to outfit class attendees with free bike lights, reflective vests, bike tools, or helmets for youth participants, while also providing information about local planning opportunities people can get involved with to create a more comfortable and convenient bike network.

Do you know someone who is struggling with a barrier that keeps them from making more trips by bike? Send them to our website at www.BikeEastBay.org/education to find a free class, or contact us to set one up for your office, school, church, or other community organization. ●

FREE BICYCLE EDUCATION CLASS CALENDAR

For complete details on each class and pre-registration visit BikeEastBay.org/education

URBAN CYCLING 101: CLASSROOM WORKSHOP

Learn new skills to help you bike with confidence, ride safely in all conditions, and have more fun on all of your bike trips. For adults and teens, no bike required. Receive a free reflective vest for participating.

Saturday, April 26 - 10am-noon
Dublin Library, 200 Civic Plaza, Dublin

Tuesday, April 29 - 6-8pm
Kaiser Permanente, 3701 Broadway, Room G101A, Oakland

Saturday May 3 - 10am-noon
South Shore Center (classroom location TBD), Alameda

Sunday, May 4 - 9:30-11:30am
Boy Scouts of America office, 1001 Davis Street, San Leandro

Saturday, May 10 - 10am-noon
Tassafaronga Recreation Center, 975 85th Ave, Oakland

Saturday, May 17 - 10am-noon
RPAL Conference Room, 2200 Macdonald Ave, Richmond

Sunday, May 18 - 2-4pm
Main Library, Fukaya room, 2400 Stevenson Blvd, Fremont

Monday, June 2 - 3-5pm
UC Berkeley, University Hall Room 150, Berkeley

Tuesday, June 3 - 6-8pm
Kaiser Permanente, 3701 Broadway, Room G101A, Oakland

粵語類別 (Cantonese language class)

Saturday, June 14 - 1:30-3:30pm
Library Conference Room B, 300 Estudillo Ave, San Leandro

Clase en español (Spanish-language class)

Sábado, junio 28 - 10am-noon
Day Labor Center, 680 W. Tennyson Rd, Hayward

URBAN CYCLING 101: ROAD CLASS

Join our certified instructors as we get on our bikes for a day of instruction on bike handling skills and crash avoidance maneuvers. For adults and teens, bikes and helmets required. Attendance at an Urban Cycling 101 Classroom Workshop is a prerequisite for participation.

Saturday, May 3 - 10am-3:30pm
Fallon Middle School, 3601 Kohnen Way, Dublin

Saturday, June 7 - noon-5:30pm
Centerville Community Center, 3355 Country Dr., Fremont

FAMILY CYCLING WORKSHOP

Parents and kids in grades 2-6 join our certified instructors to learn about biking together as a family. Bikes and helmets required, no unsupervised children may participate.

Instruction in English and Spanish

Saturday, April 26 - 11am-1:30pm
Monument Community Partnership, 1760 Clayton Rd, Concord

Sunday, April 27 - 10am-12:30pm
Haight Elementary, 2025 Santa Clara Ave, Alameda

Saturday, May 10 - 10am-12:30pm
Harvest Park MS, 4900 Valley Ave, Pleasanton

Saturday, May 31 - 10am-12:30pm
Kolb Elementary, 3150 Palermo Way, Dublin

KIDS BIKE RODEO

Our instructors will lead children in grades 2-6 through a mock city course, teaching valuable bike handling and traffic safety skills. Bikes and helmets provided, course takes about half an hour for a child to complete.

Earth Day Festival

Saturday, April 26 - 11am-3pm
Washington Hospital, 2500 Mowry Ave, Fremont

ONE-HOUR WORKSHOPS

These special sessions go in depth on an individual topic. For adults and teens, no bike required.

Bike Mechanics

Wednesday, April 30 - 6:30-7:30pm
West Branch Library, 1125 University Ave, Berkeley

Bicycle Theft Avoidance

Thursday, May 1 - 5:30-6:30pm
Michael Chavez Center, 2699 Monument Boulevard, Concord

Bicycle Commuting Basics

Friday, May 2 - noon-1pm
4305 Hacienda Drive, 1st Floor Conference Room, Pleasanton

Bike Mechanics

Saturday, May 17 - 11am-noon
81st Avenue Branch Library, 1021 81st Ave, Oakland



ACTION REPORTS

RAPID FLASHING OR HAWK

Berkeley Experiments with Two Creative Boulevard Crossing Signals

At Virginia St. and Shattuck Ave. in Berkeley the lights flash super brightly and quickly, warning drivers people are walking and bicycling across Shattuck. If pedestrians are crossing, drivers have to yield. If bicyclists are crossing, drivers are encouraged to yield.

Further south at Hillegass St. and Ashby Ave., in Berkeley officials will soon install a HAWK Signal, which is a form of on-demand stop sign. It is a traffic light for drivers on Ashby Ave. that sits 'dead' with no lights activated until a pedestrian or bicyclist on Hillegass St. triggers the signal. At that point the light goes red for Ashby Ave. while Hillegass St. gets a green bike traffic signal head and a white pedestrian crossing signal. Cars on Hillegass St. can legally cross with bicyclists and pedestrians, but Hillegass St. is always a stop sign for drivers, regardless of the signal operation.

As Berkeley updates its Bike Plan this summer and fall, these two creative traffic signal options will play a key role in finishing the bicycle boulevard crossings at major arterials. Which type of signal gets installed in each location

will be developed in the Berkeley Bike Plan update, which Mayor Tom Bates has promised will be the best bike plan in America when approved in 2015. BikeEastBay.org/Berkeley

BIKE FUNDING: IS YOUR CITY APPLYING?

Every couple of years significant funding is released for bicycle and pedestrian projects that can markedly improve your bicycle commute; the next rounds are upon us. Nearly \$120 million is available statewide from the Active Transportation Program. Also, the Federal TIGER 6 grants have also been announced. Your city needs to apply for these funds to help create and sustain great bikeways on the streets you ride every day.

What you can do:

Send a quick email to your local bicycle planner and ask "what projects are we applying for here in [your city]?" Deadlines for city applications are April 28 for TIGER grants and May 24 and July 24 for Active Transportation Program grants. Find your city planner here and reach out:

BikeEastBay.org/funding ●

BIKE SHARE EXPANDS TO THE EAST BAY



Bay Area Bike Share, which launched in August in San Francisco and on the Peninsula, will roll into the East Bay in 2015. Since day one we've been working to make sure local elected officials are

aware of the importance of an East Bay expansion, and this April they made good on their promises. The Metropolitan Transportation's Commission's Programming and Allocations Commission approved \$8.7 million in funding for the continuation and expansion of the program.

Although exact locations and amounts have yet to be determined, we can expect more than 750 bikes to be distributed around Oakland, Berkeley and Emeryville. The placement of the stations will be decided through joint planning work between the MTC and local jurisdictions, as well as stakeholders such as transit authorities, colleges and more. We are thrilled with the allocation and will be pushing MTC to move forward swiftly with the planning so that we can announce a launch date by the end of the year. Our goal is to have bikes on the ground by Bike to Work Day 2015.

Visit BikeEastBay.org/bikeshare for more updates. ●

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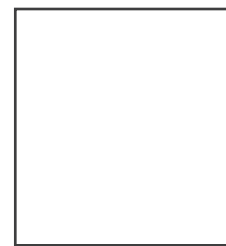
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www.danroselaw.com



PO Box 1736
Oakland, CA 94604
BikeEastBay.org
510 845 RIDE (7433)
info@BikeEastBay.org



THREE REASONS TO JOIN OR RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP IN BIKE EAST BAY TODAY:



1. Membership pays for itself. With discounts at more than 70 local businesses, from bike shops to chiropractors, your Bike East Bay membership is the best deal in town.

2. Make an impact. We get results: Bikes on BART at all hours. The bike path on the Bay Bridge. More green bike lanes. More bike parking at transit stations. More people riding with skills learned at a free safety class. Want to help transform your city?

3. Strength in numbers. Our victories are only as big as our membership. As political battles get tougher, our voice needs to get bigger. Your support strengthens our calls for better bikeways in every neighborhood. Join us.

BikeEastBay.org/join

