



BIKE TO WHEREVER MAY 20

Plus
Community Building through Bike Education
Celebrating Five Decades of Better Biking
Up and Over: Bridge Updates

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Cover: Amalia Murray and Cristina Edwards bump fists while riding together at Richmond's Unity Park.

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LETTER FROM THE SADDLE

This spring, Bike East Bay celebrates our 50th Anniversary as bicycle advocates for Alameda and Contra Costa counties. The first meeting of what was then known as the East Bay Bicycle Coalition took place at Westlake Junior High School, near Lake Merritt in Oakland on March 20, 1972. The issues of street safety and access to transit galvanized Bike East Bay's early founders and remain core pieces of Bike East Bay's advocacy agenda today.

Growing from this narrow focus of representing the interests of bicyclists, Bike East Bay today is part of a larger movement to improve mobility and build a more sustainable and equitable future. Bicycling works best as part of a larger transportation ecosystem. This is why we fight for better walking and transit as much as we do better bicycling.

We know that people will choose to ride if it feels safe and convenient. Yet, safety means different things across various identities and communities. For Black and Brown people, police-based traffic enforcement may seem like more of a threat than a way to reduce traffic violence. While bicycle advocates have historically focused heavily on building bike infrastructure, we now recognize the importance of building human infrastructure—the networks of social support that help encourage people to ride.

Bike East Bay works to remove racial, social and economic barriers to bicycling through education and engagement strategies. For example, we've focused on training women and people of color to be bicycle education instructors (see page 3) so that people from diverse backgrounds feel safe and seen when they show up to a class. We partner with affordable housing advocates and developers to prevent more people from being displaced. We've won funding for community bike shops and Black-led ride groups.

Bike East Bay also has a lot of fun doing this work. Fifty years later to the day of the first meeting of the East Bay's bike advocates, Education Director Robert Prinz rode 50 miles around Lake Merritt in commemoration (see photos on page 5). Many members joined the ride as well and together you raised funds for better biking.

At the heart of Bike East Bay, we are all passionate about sharing the joy of biking. You too can share the joy during Bike Month this May. Shake off the pandemic isolation blues with fun events where you can ride together with new friends and fellow members. Be sure to join tens of thousands of people from around the Bay Area for Bike to Wherever Day on Friday, May 20, 2022. Plan your Bike Month starting on page 7.

Ride on,

Ginger Jui
Executive Director



Photo: Joyce Xi Photography

COMMUNITY BUILDING THROUGH BIKE EDUCATION

Meet your new instructors

From March 4-6, 2022, 15 people from across the Bay Area gathered for a three-day League Cycling Instructor (LCI) training seminar hosted by Bike East Bay, The San Francisco Bicycle Coalition and the League of American Bicyclists. This marked our third time offering this opportunity at the Bike East Bay office, and it was the first LCI certification we've offered since 2019. From group rides, to parking lot drills, to a night riding "fashion runway", the three-day training at Bike East Bay's office centered different aspects of bike education and community building and brought together individuals with varied experiences and interests in the biking community.

One of the main objectives of the training was to get more people of color, multi-lingual, and gender expansive individuals certified to lead bicycle education in the Bay Area. LCI candidates joined us from partner organizations such as Rich City Rides, Waterside Workshops, and Cycles of Change.

We had the chance to catch up with three of the newly-certified instructors to learn more about what led them to the training. For instructor Nancy Buenaventura, her involvement as a volunteer with the community organization Bicis del Pueblo in San Francisco brought her to apply for and participate in the training. She mentioned, "I view biking as related to social, economic, environmental, and wellness factors. The more people we can share the joy of bicycling with, the better!" Alex Contreras agreed when they reflected upon why biking is important to them: "For me, biking allows for freedom of expression of gender. It's about being a brown person, biking how they want, when they want - showing that black & brown and queer

people belong in these spaces."

We were also curious to learn more about their experiences with the training. Cristy Ortega, an instructor working in San Francisco, hopes to bring back what she learned at the certification to the Latina-serving nonprofit that she co-founded. Cristy shared, "Now that I've taken the LCI training, I feel more confident and safe to be teaching my community. I feel confident in my rights, I do the signals, and even my kids are starting to learn the signals from me!" Cristy is excited to bring Spanish bicycle education to the Latinx community and to increase bicycle ridership in the Bay Area.

With the diverse backgrounds and experiences of the new LCIs, we are excited for the future of the bike community in the East Bay and beyond. If you are interested in becoming a certified instructor, make sure to stay tuned on our email listserv for updates and information about upcoming trainings: [BikeEastBay.org/eNews](https://bikeeastbay.org/eNews).



Alex rides their bike during a practice drill during a LCI training session.



Photo 1: Nancy Buenaventura practices a drill in the Laney College parking lot.

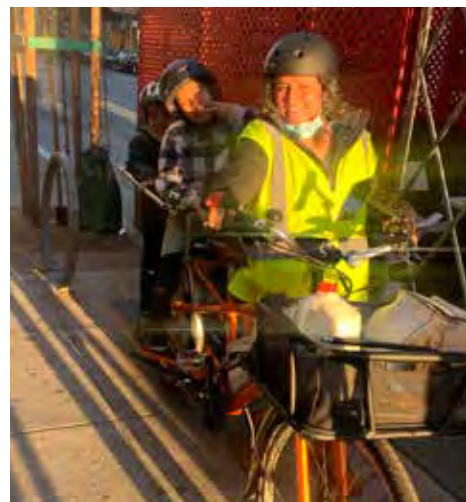


Photo 2: Cristy Ortega smiles with her children on her cargo bike.

"[Biking] is about being a brown person, biking how they want, when they want - showing that black & brown and queer people belong in these spaces."

March 20, first meeting of Bike East Bay (then known as the East Bay Bicycle Coalition) at Westlake Junior High School near Lake Merritt in Oakland.



1972 — 1975



Bike East Bay wins bike access on BART, but with significant restrictions. Bikes were only allowed on the last BART car, during non-commute hours and you had to purchase a permit... which was only available at Lake Merritt BART station between 10am and 12pm on alternate Thursdays!

Bike East Bay becomes one of six organizations on the Bay Trail Project Steering Committee. Today, you can enjoy biking, walking, birding and more along 350 miles of the planned 500-mile bicycle and pedestrian trail around San Francisco Bay.



Bike East Bay celebrates the first Bike to Work Day in the East Bay with a group ride and pancake breakfast in downtown Oakland.

1987 — 1994 — 2013

Named for a co-founder of Bike East Bay, the Alex Zuckermann Bicycle and Pedestrian Path opens on the East Span of the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge. Even though the path ended before touching down on Yerba Buena Island—leading some to call it the “world’s longest bike pier”—an estimated 10,000 people joined Bike East Bay’s celebration ride on opening day. The path was finally completed to Yerba Buena in 2017.

Celebrating Five Decades of Better Biking

Bike East Bay articulates our values for Equity and Social Justice and commits to centering racial equity in our work. This comes after several years of learning and acknowledging the role that bicycle advocates have played in perpetuating systemic racism in urban and transportation planning.

Bicycle counts take off on Bay Area bridges—including the newly opened Richmond-San Rafael Bicycle and Pedestrian Path—as people try out bicycling as a safe and healthy way to ride out the COVID-19 pandemic.



2013

2016

2020

2021

2022



After decades of advocacy by Bike East Bay, BART votes to allow bike access on trains at all hours.



Bike East Bay works on Oakland's Reimagining Public Safety Task Force results in the city adopting a recommendation to remove police from traffic enforcement. This is a significant step towards recognizing that police violence is a significant threat and barrier to mobility for Black and Brown people.



On March 20, Bike East Bay celebrates five decades of better biking in the East Bay with a 50-mile ride around Lake Merritt!

This year, we're looking back on 50 years of wins for better biking in the East Bay. From Berkeley's first bike rack to Oakland's first bike lane, and from bike spaces on BART to a bike path on the East Span of the Bay Bridge, there have been several milestones along the way. We are seeing many miles of new bikeways everywhere.

Most recently, we have been involved at the intersection of policing and street life, reimagining traffic enforcement, as well as deepening connections in Black and Brown communities to advocate for change in more East Bay cities. Check out the timeline above to reflect on some major moments from the past 50 years with us.

UP AND OVER: BRIDGE UPDATES

Bike access on major and local bridges

By Dave Campbell

Major bridges

You can soon enjoy a bike-ferry commute to San Francisco across the Bay Bridge, a more complete commute across the Richmond San Rafael Bridge, and if you'd like, take a triangular bike journey across both those bridges and the Golden Gate Bridge enjoying the best of views your home has to offer.

As of press time, the bike connection on Yerba Buena Island at the end of the East Span of the Bridge is fully open to Macalla Road and new ferry service is operating between Treasure Island and downtown San Francisco. All that stands in your way is a steep climb up and over Macalla Road along the north side of YBI. What isn't complete yet are new separated bikeways on Macalla Road. When the west side ramps are complete (2024), you will be able to use Hillside Drive between the East Span and Treasure Island, and avoid Macalla's steep hill.

Out on the Richmond San Rafael Bridge, the rains this year have eliminated Marin County's plan for an emergency exemption for an immediate water pipeline on the bridge. Rather, they are planning the same pipeline, but via a more normal, extended planning process. This is good news because it gives them more time to study our ask: bury the water pipeline on the south approach to the bridge on the Richmond side, not on the north approach where the current bike path is. We have the support of Richmond City Council for this ask.

To get to and from the bridge, Marin County has recently completed several new bikeway projects from downtown San Rafael to the bridge, but a couple gaps still remain. On the Richmond side, the city of Richmond has started construction on a two-way protected



cycle track on Harbor Way, and will soon start work extending this cycle track along Hoffman Blvd and Cutting Blvd, connecting to Gerrard Blvd in Point Richmond. And as part of Marin's water pipeline project, we have also asked that the cycle track be completed within Point Richmond, where a gap exists for a few blocks on Tewksbury Avenue and Railroad Avenue.

If you bike all three bridges this Spring, take a selfie with hashtag #GoldenTriangle.

Local bridges

In addition to more bike access over the San Francisco Bay, numerous local bike-ped bridges are in the works, following on the heels of celebrations for Emeryville's new bike-ped bridge at Bay Street and Fremont's new bike-ped bridge at Warm Springs BART.

Construction has started on the Gilman Interchange bike-ped bridge in Albany/Berkeley and the Brentwood-Antioch bike-ped bridge over SR 4 Bypass. These two new signature bridges will take a couple more years to complete. Final design work continues on San Ramon's bike-ped bridge over Bollinger Canyon and Dublin's bike-ped bridge over Dublin Blvd, both part of the Iron Horse Trail. Caltrans is also proposing a new replacement bike-ped bridge as part of their 2022-2026 SHOPP program (Caltrans capital maintenance program), at Santa Clara Avenue over 580 near Grand Avenue. We will be discussing with Caltrans using this opportunity to improve bike-ped access along Grand Avenue under 580 as well.

For questions regarding advocacy updates, email Dave@BikeEastBay.org.

CALENDAR of EVENTS

MAY - JUNE

Bike To Wherever Day

Friday, May 20, all day

Find your Energizer Station, Bike to School events, and Routes to Ride at BikeEastBay.org/BTWD

Bike to the Moon

May 9-13

The Alameda County Safe Routes to Schools team is organizing a challenge to Bike to the Moon. Ride bikes together with your family and friends, and add your miles to the 238,855 mile trip to the moon.

Bike Hubs & Group Rides

Friday, May 20

Morning & Afternoon/Evening
(exact locations & times TBD)

Join us for Bike Hub Celebrations and Group Rides happening on Bike to Wherever Day, Friday, May 20.

- Berkeley Milvia St elected official council ride (morning)
- Richmond-San Rafael Bridge ride (morning)
- Oakland celebration & council ride (afternoon/evening)
- Concord celebration (evening)
- Hayward council ride & happy hour (evening)

Bike to Wherever Day at the Lake

Friday, May 20, 3:00pm-7:00pm

Celebrate Bike to Wherever Day with Walk Oakland Bike Oakland, Bike East Bay, and the City of Oakland at Lake Merritt. Ride to the lake and enjoy an afternoon of distanced outdoor activities.

wobo.org/bike-to-whenever-day-2022

BIKE EAST BAY EDUCATION CLASSES

Free workshops in the East Bay taught in multiple languages, providing everyone with an engaging way to learn skills for smart cycling. BikeEastBay.org/Education

Adult/Teen Learn-to-Ride

For adults or teens who have either not yet learned how to ride a bike, or did a long time ago but want a refresher on the basics of balancing, pedaling, and steering. 3-hour workshop for adults and teens, bike and helmet required.

Family Cycling Workshops

This class is for kids who are able to ride a bike and are ready to take to the roads and pathways with their parents. Parents and kids attend together. Outdoor workshop

We Bike Book Club

First Thursdays, 6:00pm-7:30pm

Everyone is invited to discuss biking, feminism, and the intersection of the two. Co-hosted online with the Oakland Public Library.

BikeEastBay.org/WomenBike

for adults and youth in grades 2-6 (approx.)

1-Hour Workshops

These sessions go in-depth with one of our certified instructors on a specific topic such as bike mechanics, avoiding bike theft, riding after dark, and more. 1-hour, indoor or online webinar workshop for adults and teens, no bike required.

Urban Cycling 101 (Adults & Teens)

This 2-part series starts with a 2-hour "Day 1" classroom session (online webinar or in-person, no bike required), then continues with an optional 5.5-hour "Day 2" on-the-road class (outdoor, bike and helmet required).

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

- Attend one of our free family classes this spring and be entered to win a \$200 gift card from Alameda Bicycle! Additional attendance means additional entries. Valid for Family Cycling Workshops and Family Cycling Rodeos through May 31, 2022.
- Pledge to Celebrate! Pledge to ride on May 20 for Bike to Wherever Day! You'll get a map of energizer stations, a digital goody bag, and routes to ride to celebrate the big day. Learn more at BikeEastBay.org/pledge
- Tri-Valley residents who Pledge to Ride will be entered into a raffle for the chance to win a number of exciting prizes! Sign up at BikeEastBay.org/pledge-trivalley

Note from the editor: The previous magazine issue contained outdated information regarding Board Member Pam Mei Harrison, PhD. The following is a correction to the Winter 2021 RideOn interview. Pam Mei Harrison's research at UC Berkeley focused on equitable use and access to *city-owned* parks in Richmond, Berkeley, and Oakland (not regional parks). She enjoys family bike adventures, but family bike camping is still an aspiration. She has not been an active hālau member for a few years, but hopes to return soon.

BIKE MONTH ADVENTURES



Routes to ride for Bike to Wherever Day

Bike Month is almost here! Whether your style is safe and slow, or scenic and challenging, we've got a ride for you. Celebrate Bike to Wherever Day with a visit to Albany Beach. Ride with Bike East Bay's climate ride team as they take on the epic journey from Pleasant Hill to Davis. Grab your bikes and stop by Fremont and check out some of the work being done to make the city safer for biking. Check out the rides below and tag Bike East Bay in your adventures @BikeEastBay! Have a favorite route you'd like to share? Reach out to us at Media@BikeEastBay.org.

Albany Beach

For a nearly car-free trail ride from Richmond, hop on the Bay Trail at the Richmond Marina and continue south. Check out the many shorebird species that live in the mudflats and wetlands year round. Enjoy the only intersection crossing on the whole ride at Rydin Road and Central Avenue. The very first protected intersection along the Bay Trail, it opened in 2018 thanks to the support of Bike East Bay members and partners. At Buchanan Street, take a right turn toward the water and follow the path to the beach.

From Berkeley, use the bicycle and pedestrian bridge at Aquatic Park to cross over to the Bay Trail. Pick up sandwiches and snacks at Seabreeze—locals recommend the seafood options. Continue north, taking a left at Gilman Street. Enjoy the brand new segment of the Bay Trail running along the water behind Golden Gate Fields. Instead of a climb through the race track parking lot, you can now pedal up an easy grade with spectacular views of the Bay. Follow the path right to the beach, where you'll find lots of bike racks and brand new restrooms.

Whatever way you reach the beach, the many Bay Trail improvements advocated for by Bike East Bay over the years make for a safe and enjoyable ride for people of all ages.



View details, zoomable maps, and tag us in your adventures!

BikeEastBay.org/Routes



Tour de Fremont

Over the past several years, the City of Fremont has been setting the standard for bikeway design and construction in the East Bay, with a whopping five fully protected intersections connecting with protected bikeways, and more on the way. Grab your bike and take a tour of some of the new facilities and bike paths, and get excited for the future of bike lanes in the East Bay. Take a deeper dive and discover points of interest along the route!



Pleasant Hill BART to Davis

This is one of Bike East Bay's training rides with our Climate Ride team. The ride is 76 miles with 1,900 feet of climbing. You'll spend the day biking up the Carquinez Strait and across the valley, then take the Amtrak Capitol Corridor train back from Davis.

ENERGIZER STATIONS RETURN

Celebrate in-person with us

Among the many Bike to Wherever Day activities, the Energizer Stations hosted by Bike East Bay's organizational partners are one of the biggest highlights. We spoke with three of this year's hosts to dive deeper into their involvement with Bike to Wherever Day and learn about their respective stations. Make sure to stay tuned at BikeEastBay.org/BTWD for updates on this year's stations so you can drop by to pick up a free bag, dance to some music, or enjoy a snack and drink!



"We're excited about Bike to Wherever Day because of the simple act of resilience that is bicycling. Bike to Wherever Day is a significant cultural experience, and bicycling is a powerful tool to navigate your own agency - it's a celebration of seeing so many different types of people."

-Chris Hwang, WOBO

"Bike to Wherever Day is important to us because it's an opportunity to promote bicycling as a form of transportation, recreation, and exercise. It's a win for the environment, physical, and mental health - for our communities and for ourselves."

-Thomas Naab, Sports Basement



"With Bike to Wherever Day, we're able to engage with the community and let them know about bicycle lane and pedestrian projects. It's beneficial because there's less traffic and pollution, and people have a lot of fun riding!"

-Gina Guido, Caltrans



BIKE TO THE MOON WEEK

Supporting Alameda County's Safe Routes to School program

From May 9-13, 2022, Alameda County's Safe Routes to Schools program is hosting its second annual Bike to the Moon Week. The idea is for students, families and school staff around the county to track their miles/minutes of physical activity– including but not limited to riding a bike– in an effort to collectively “ride” all the way to the moon, which is 238,855 miles away.

Nearly 2,500 people participated in 2021, each receiving a set number of “moon miles” for every mile they biked or every 10 minutes they spent doing any other physical activity. All told, everyone in the contest covered 1,037,258 “moon miles”– enough to make it to the moon and back almost twice.

During last year's event, one Alameda County teacher had this to say: “Safe Routes to School is a fun, informative, and engaging program. My students

really enjoyed Bike to the Moon Week, and I look forward to working with Safe Routes again next year!”

Bike to the Moon Week was initially created as a solution to schools being remote and Bike to Work Day being canceled last year, but the SR2S program is bringing it back because the first go-round was such a hit. If you're an Alameda County schools student, parent, or staff member, it sounds like joining in would be a lot of fun!

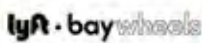


Point your camera at the code above for the Bike to the Moon School Registration form!



Photo features a student on a bike in an astronaut suit ready to bike to school.

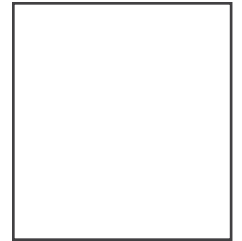
Thanks to our Bike to Wherever Day sponsors



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Donate or Renew Today!

We're teaming up with Rad Power Bikes to offer an exclusive raffle for a new e-bike to those who donate or renew their membership in the month of May!

Your support fuels Bike East Bay's work to build bike-friendly communities through advocacy, education, and fun events. Thanks to members like you, we are fighting for more safe, accessible streets.

Donate today at BikeEastBay.org/Donate

