12.000 MEMBERS STRONG PROMOTING THE BICYCLE FOR EVERYDAY TRANSPORTATION

SAN FRANCISCO BICYCLE COALITION

**WINTER 2013** ISSUE 142





**BEYOND CROSSTOWN ROUTES AND INTO YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD** 

# FILLING THE GAPS



recently rode with Supervisor John Avalos in the district he represents at the southernmost part of the city. We biked on Ocean Avenue to City College from Mission Street.

It was awful.

Though quite flat and not far, what should have been an easy bike ride was anything but. Instead, we faced fast-moving car traffic that squeezed us out; no dedicated bike lanes and no choice but to vie with cars speeding across freeway on-ramps.

Thankfully, Supervisor Avalos is experienced and confident on his bicycle, having ridden in the city for many years. But that's likely not the case for the thousands of students and staff who need to travel to and from City College.

How daunting must this ride seem to a college freshman pedaling to class on her first day of school? I think the answer is clear in the fact that only a small minority of City College students and staff ride bicycles to the campus. It's the same situation at San Francisco State University.

This is particularly troubling when we consider the tremendous benefits of making major destinations such as college campuses more inviting for bikes. Young college students are particularly likely to be open to bike commuting. And by encouraging them to use healthy, sustainable transportation when younger, then they — and society can enjoy the benefits for a lifetime.

The less-than-welcoming streets around City College in the Excelsior are, unfortunately, no different than hundreds of spots around the city that intimidate and prevent people from enjoying the benefits of bicycling.

We need to fill these gaps. And we need your help.

As you'll read in our cover story (page 5), your San Francisco Bicycle Coalition is mobilizing in 2013 to take our Connecting the City campaign to the streets of your neighborhood and everywhere you ride...or want to ride.

Hopefully you are already benefiting from the significant progress we are making on key Connecting the City routes, thanks to energized campaigns on Fell and Oak Streets, JFK Drive, as well as on Cesar Chavez, 17th Street and Cargo Way. And we're gearing up campaigns for even bigger improvements on 2nd Street, Polk Street, the Embarcadero and Market Street.

But there are still hundreds of spots around the city - some big, some small that need attention. And we need your help identifying those.

Please join the Love Your Lanes rides in your neighborhood, or wherever you ride, to help point out the areas you want to see improved. Maybe it's bumpy pavement, or a corridor that would benefit from a new bikeway, better signage, or a street that could use an on-street bike parking corral.

The possibilities are endless. But we can't do it without you. Whether you've been bicycling for decades or are new to the fun, I urge you to join us for some grassroots advocacy that could change the way you ride.

Are you in?

Lead Shel

LEAH SHAHUM Executive Director Editor Kristin Smith

Distribution

Fric Tuvel

The Tube Times is a quarterly publication of the San Francisco Bicycle Coalition, a 12,000-member nonprofit advocacy organization working to transform San Francisco's streets and neighborhoods into more livable and safe places by promoting the bicycle for everyday transportation. tubetimes@sfbike.org

Communications Director

Kristin Smith, x308, kristin@sfbike.org

Community Organizer

Chema Hernández Gil, x321, chema@sfbike.org

**Deputy Director** 

Kit Hodge, x313, kit@sfbike.org

Development Associate

Tracy Chinn, x316, tracy@sfbike.org

Development Director

Jodie Medeiros, x305, jodie@sfbike.org

**Event Planner** 

Bonnie Puckett, x318, bonnie@sfbike.org

**Executive Director** 

Leah Shahum, x306, leah@sfbike.org

Operations Assistant

Abbey Levantini, x311, abbey@sfbike.org

Operations Director

Frank Chan, x304, frank@sfbike.org

Member Coordinator (Acting) Juli Uota, x303, juli@sfbike.org

Planning Director

Neal Patel, x312, neal@sfbike.org

Program Manager

Marc Caswell, x302, marc@sfbike.org

Safe Routes to School Manager Jason Serafino-Agar, x314, jason@sfbike.org

Senior Graphic Designer

Eric Tuvel, x320, eric@sfbike.org

Valet Bicycle Parking Coordinator Tyler Vaughn, x315, tyler@sfbike.org

Volunteer Coordinator

Margaret McCarthy, x301, margaret@sfbike.org

**Board of Directors** 

John Calaway, Maureen Devlin, Brooke DuBose, Jenn Fox, Jean Fraser (Treasurer), Amandeep Jawa (Secretary), Nik Kaestner, Lenore McDonald, Carla McKay, Holly Minch, Lainie Motamedi (President), Karren Shorofsky, Daniel Silverman, Zack Stender

Mackenzie Bunch, Jim Frank, Alec Graham, Erica Hann, Emy Joyeaux, Sandra Lacayo, Chloe Mayer, Josh Ollinger, Dat Phan, Nina Reodica, Candace Sanchez, Noah Wolf-Prusan, Tani Wong, Amy Zehring

833 Market Street, 10th Floor San Francisco, CA 94103 tel: 415-431-2453 (BIKE) fax: 415-431-2468

Have you been missing out on our weekly Biker Bulletin email? Did you update your mailing address when you moved? Update your contact info at sfbike.org/services.









PHOTOS:

# **BIKING VICTORIES OF 2012**

2012 was an exciting year for San Francisco biking. Campaigns that our members and staff have been working on for years were finally approved, and many are now on the ground. Bike lanes, corrals and parklets were added throughout the city. And every day, new people join the huge and growing community of people biking. From green separated bikeways on Cesar Chavez to smoother pavement on Market Street, our city streets are safer today than they were a year

Here are some of the biggest biking improvements in 2012. We hope these changes are already making your bike ride safer, smoother and more fun! Huge thanks to you — our amazing members — for making these happen!

- 1. Building out the heart of the Bay to Beach bikeway Fell and Oak bikeways underway, JFK Drive on the ground, improvements to the Wiggle – and more coming soon!
- 2. Corral program expanding to more and more businesses throughout the city, making it easier for you to shop and play by bike.
- 3. Cesar Chavez tamed! The notorious traffic sewer now has safe, separated green bikeways on the eastern section and improvements coming to the western half.
- 4. 23 new miles of new bikeways throughout the city, including Bayshore Boulevard.
- 5. More Sunday Streets than ever, with a trial of more events in the Mission this past Summer.
- **6.** Streets bond measure passed and is being used to pave more bike streets than ever, and re-think huge important bike routes, like Polk and 2nd Streets.
- 7. Smoother pavement on Market Street. Thirty-five sections were repaved, making the main biking corridor smoother for you and thousands who bike it every day.
- 8. Plan to tame Masonic Avenue by adding separated bikeways and other safety and greening features, approved by the City and poised to secure funding for construction.
- 9. New legislation passed to make it easier for you to bring your bike in to your office.
- 10. Trial lifting of the blackout for bikes on BART, opening up the possibility of allday access in the future.













This year we're preparing for even more and bigger campaigns: Polk Street, Market Street, 2nd Street, Embarcadero and more. These campaigns call for improvements beyond simple bikeways, and include more pedestrian safety improvements, traffic calming and greenery. Better, safer, more inviting streets to come!

Follow these campaigns and get involved at sfbike.org/connectingthecity

### **QUICK**RELEASES



Volunteer installing a bike light at Light Up the Night, Market & Octavia station.

# Our Bike Light Giveaway Got "Glowing" Reviews!

This past November and December, the SF Bicycle Coalition and SFMTA partnered once again for the annual Light up the Night campaign. Together with our dedicated volunteers, we staged pop-up light distribution stations across town, flagging down people riding in the dark without lights and giving them a front and rear light — for free! From the Mission District to Market Street to Lake Merced and more, we ensured bike riders on some of the city's most-traveled routes brightened up their ride.

Lights not only help people on bike be visible; they're required by law. People biking at night must have a white headlight and a rear red light or reflector, as well as yellow or white reflectors on sides and/or pedals (reflective whitewalls count). Missed our light giveaway? Pedal over to any of the bike shops listed at sfbike.org/discounts and flash your SF Bicycle Coalition membership card to receive a discount. Don't get caught in the dark!



# Great Job Biking the Vote This Year!

Thanks to everyone who helped Bike the Vote in 2012! Nearly all of our endorsed candidates and ballot measures won in November, and we're looking forward to continuing our work in City Hall to improve bicycling and walking with our new leaders! Congrats to BART Director Tom Radulovich and SF Supervisors Eric Mar, David Chiu, David Campos, and John Avalos on their re-election! And a hearty welcome to the newest

Supervisors, London Breed and Norman Yee!

#### Huge Thanks to the Dolan Law Firm for Sponsoring Tube Times

For the second year in a row, we are grateful to The Dolan Law Firm for sponsoring the Tube Times. This exclusive sponsorship frees up pages of the Tube Times for valuable news and information that you care about. Check out their ad on page 14.

# **Building Best Practices** for Biking in SF

The SF Bicycle Coalition continues to look well beyond our borders for best practices in creating fantastic bicycling environments through our Speaker Series. Most recently, we were thrilled to bring Andreas Røhl, Copenhagen's Bicycle Manager, to share insight into how that model bicycling city has reached nearly 40% of all trips by bikes. Inspiring! (Special thanks to the Seed Fund and Bikes Belong's Green Lane Project for generously supporting this event).

Andreas spoke to nearly 100 people at a public event the SF Bicycle Coalition co-sponsored with the SF Port, as well as riding and sharing ideas with dozens of City staff on key projects to improve biking. We hope and expect that some of Copenhagen's bicycling success has sown some seeds here in SF....perhaps, starting with the Copenhagen-inspired automatic bike counter (pictured above), which we are trying to build support for along Market Street. Imagine it!

And, in an effort to create our own best practices in an increasingly important area, the SF Bicycle Coalition was proud to host another visiting expert, this time to help build stronger partnerships between our city's bicycle, pedestrian and disability advocacy communities. With the help of Dr. Lisa lezzoni, from Harvard University, we convened more than 60 diverse advocates for a series of workshops aimed at building trust and opportunities for collaboration. Special thanks to the SF Mayor's Office on Disability, Independent Living Resource Center and Walk San Francisco for their wonderful collaboration in what we hope will be a continuing effort.

#### Bike Billboards Up Around Town

Up in the sky, it's a bird, it's a plane, it's a San Francisco Bicycle Coalition billboard! Four billboards featuring real San Francisco bike riders (and SF Bicycle Coalition



Imagine a Copenhagen-style bike counter on Market Street.

members) went up all around the city this fall. The awesome ad space was donated to us by Total Outdoor and we chose to use it to highlight everyday riders and encourage more people to "Get Rolling." If you're a new rider or know someone interested in starting biking, check out our online Get Rolling campaign with tips for new commuters — like best routes, locking your bike and rules of the road. Huge thanks to Chuey (pictured below), Jean, Jessica and Dave for being our amazing models! See the campaign at sfbike.org/getrolling.

# We Valet Parked 25,000 Bikes This Year!

Was your bike one of 25,000 bikes parked by our talented Valet Bike Parking staff? We were at over 60 events — from marathons, to America's Cup to Tour de Fat and at 93 Giants home games in 2012.

Thanks to Specialized/Globe for being our exclusive Valet Bike Parking sponsor the past three years. As we are getting ready to kick off our 2013 season we are seeking new sponsors who would like to be front and center at all the events we are invited to park throughout the year! If interested in sponsoring valet, contact jodie@sfbike.org.

# BART and Bikes: A Better Ticket

BART is getting serious about bikes. The agency has published a new BART Bicycle Plan, which calls for doubling the number of people who bike to BART from approximately 4% to 8% by 2022. The strategies within the plan are organized into five areas: bicycling circulation, plentiful parking, beyond BART boundaries, bikes on BART and persuasive programs. BART is working on next steps in its investigation of lifting the blackout period for bikes on BART. Your SF Bicycle Coalition wants your ideas on what to prioritize beyond the blackout lift. What would make your BART experience better? E-mail your feedback to kit@sfbike.org. More info at sfbike.org/BART.

# A Big Year for Bike Education

It was another banner year for Street Safety Education in 2012. Our instructors taught over 1,300 adults the rules of the road while bicycling. And our youth program educated over 2,400 children! This year also saw the launch of a Taxi Driver training, where our instructors educated over 600 new taxi drivers how to safely share the road with people on bikes. And that's not all! We just wrapped up a video for MUNI



A Get Rolling campaign billboard at South Van Ness and Mission Streets.

Just one of the 60+ events where we valet parked bikes

Operators on how to safely share the streets with bikes. We'll be expanding our education work more in Spanish and Chinese, reaching even more San Franciscans. But we know that there's still much more to do to educate both frequent drivers and people biking about safe street practices. We look forward to taking even bigger steps forward with our education program in 2013. Sign up for a class at sfbike.org.edu

#### Better Bike Parking Across Town

2012 saw the installation of over 500 bike racks on the sidewalk and the approval of 10 new On-Street Bike Corrals, increasing the options for you to safely and easily lock your bike while

shopping, dining, and visiting friends! The SF Bicycle Coalition worked closely with building owners and landlords to help install secure bike parking for employees and residents across the city and we continue to look for ways to improve bicycle storage thanks to the Employee Bicycle Access bill passed in early 2012. This legislation — the first of its kind in the nation — allows employers to decide if employees can bring their bikes inside the office if the building doesn't provide secure bike parking. We continue to work with government departments and building managers to help create a smooth system for everyone to have peace of mind all day at work! To learn more about the legislation, or request a bike rack or corral, visit sfbike.org/ parking.

#### Winterfest: Just Keeps Getting Better

On December 2nd, we celebrated the 17th Annual Winterfest member party and fundraiser at the City View on the Metreon rooftop. Over 1,200 bike-friendly attendees raised a glass with us this year to toast so many bike improvements. Attendees bid on 50 pieces of art from local artists. 15 new bikes included one signed by the award winning local comic Robin Williams, our members played games, reflectorized clothes and bags in the DIY area and enjoyed tunes from DJs Shooey and Aaron Pope.

Our annual winter fundraiser kicks off the new year with a healthy financial start which will directly benefit all of us who want to pedal on safer streets. Thanks to all of our members and supporters who came, bid, bought and celebrated a festive evening with us. We look forward to seeing all of you again in 2013!

Winterfest is a massive undertaking for our organization. Without the generosity of our volunteers donating over 1,700 hours, this event would not be possible. Thanks to our incredible Winterfest team: Erica Hann, Leeza Pachepsky, Amy Zehring, Jenny Calhoun, Jen Petke and our Art Curatorial Committee: Hunter Oatman-Stanford, Lisa Congdon, Noah Wolf-Prusa and Noah Lang.

We are thankful for our generous sponsors both local and national:

Platinum: New Belgium Brewery and Panoramic Interests

Gold: Nick Andrade, Climate Ride, Law Office of Daniel H. Rose, Levi Strauss Foundation, Planet Bike

Silver: Bike Friday, Civia, Fresh Ginger Ginger Ale, Huckleberry Bicycles, Jesse Costello-Good, Masi Bicycles, Mike's Bikes, Mission Bicycle Company, The New Wheel, OnGuard, Perkins + Will, PUBLIC, Rackspace, Rock the Bike, San Francisco Waterfront Partners, Soma Fabrications, Valenica Cyclery, Yellow Jacket River Guides

Bronze: American Cyclery, ARUP, Dropbox, Ed Reiskin, SFMTA Director, Farm: Table, Girl Friday Events, Ground Floor Public Affairs, Jamis, Law Offices of Linda Ross, Mojo Bicycle Cafe, Performance Bicycle, Rickshaw Bagworks, Riyad Ghannam, Specialized, Sports Basement, Supervisor David Campos, Terabit Systems, Timbuk2, Tokay Artwear, Treat Street Bicycle Works, Velo Vino, Wendy Walsh

#### Winterfest 2012 Photos







See more at: flickr.com/sfbike

# Expanding our Spanish-Language Outreach/ Extendiendo nuestro alcance en español

San Francisco is a city of many communities, and Spanish-speaking San Franciscans are well represented everywhere, including bicycling. The SF Bicycle Coalition wants to ensure our work is accessible and relevant to this important community. We are listening to Spanish-speaking San Franciscans who already bike and working to expand bicycling and bicycling infrastructure in the Mission District, Excelsior, the Tenderloin and other neighborhoods with large Latino populations. From our streetside campaigns to community groups to City Hall, we are insuring that Spanish is now a language option alongside English.

San Francisco es una ciudad de muchas comunidades y la comunidad hispanohablante está bien representada, hasta en ciclismo. La Coalición de Bicicletas de San Francisco quiere asegurarse que nuestro trabajo siga siendo accesible y pertinente para esta comunidad importante. Estamos escuchando a todos los san franciscanos que hablan español y que andan en bici y continuamos expandiendo las oportunidades y la infraestructura para bicicletas en el distrito de la Misión, el Excelsior, el Tenderloin y otros barrios con fuertes poblaciones latinas. Desde nuestra campañas en las calles pasando por grupos comunitarios hasta City Hall, queremos asegurarnos que el español sea una otra opción junto con el ingles.



n 1999, your San Francisco Bicycle Coalition marched with members of Walk San Francisco and Senior Action Network to demand a safer Fell Street in the Lower Haight area. It took years of advocacy just to convince the City to designate Fell Street as the official bicycle route.

Our then much smaller organization — led by impassioned members who lived and biked through this area — would not take "no" for an answer. We organized for years and eventually won a basic painted bike lane on Fell Street. At that time, Oak Street was not even on the table, because it seemed like such a stretch politically. Frankly, it would make your head spin to think about the massive time and energy it took to win the most basic of improvements.

After moving at this snail's pace – not to mention a four-year hold on all bike improvements between 2006-2010 because of the Bike Plan injunction – today's progress of a new separated bikeway on Fell Street (and soon on Oak Street too!) and elsewhere around the city must seem like lightening-fast speed. But these improvements are a long time coming.

Aiming to jump-start progress and fill in the gaps, we launched Connecting the City: a vision for 100 miles of safe, crosstown bikeways. For many members, this vision of separated bikeways throughout the city seemed huge and ambitious. After all, we had all labored so hard for so many years just to win the most basic of improvements: painted bike lanes on Townsend Street and sharrows on McAllister Street.

> But we knew that it was time to finally put the dreams that you had shared with us over the years at Treehouse Talks, Winterfests, Bike to Work Days, volunteer nights, rec rides, Love on Wheels and countless streetside outreach stations into a compelling vision for fundamentally changing our city.



Volunteer Ambassadors build support for bikeways and smooth pavement and celebrate the improvements

So you began to hear about and get involved with Connecting the City: sending over 300 letters of support for Fell and Oak Street, filling out hundreds of surveys for potential Polk Street changes, attending dozens of community meetings for projects on JFK Drive, Cesar Chavez, Holloway and more.

But as you have gotten a taste — really, just a tiny taste of what a San Francisco that truly welcomes biking feels like, you've let us know through emails, calls, conversations on rides, and signing petitions at our iconic orange tent that Connecting the City for you means thinking even bigger.

We've heard from you that you want even more major crosstown bikeways as well as better pavement on neighborhood streets, closing gaps, making better links to Caltrain and BART and keeping the bikeways clear of obstructions.

At Winterfest this year, we hung up a huge map of San Francisco (pictured on page 5) and asked our members to share what improvements they'd like to see to make their commute safe and comfortable. The comments ranged from repaving blocks in SoMa to added separated bikeways in Bayview to re-timing lights in the Castro, and everything in between. It was great to solicit so much feedback from the experts — those who bike in our city — and to use this feedback to bring you better biking conditions.

#### YOUR STREETS, YOUR VISION

We are committing in 2013 to take Connecting the City to the next step, by using your direct feedback to push for Connecting your City. In 2013 we're continuing our Love Your

Lanes neighborhood bike rides and mingles in every District in the city. We want to bike your neighborhood with you and your neighbors. You can help us evaluate how effective recent improvements have been and identify what work we still need to do. Which streets in the Richmond and Sunset are ripe for traffic-calmed neighborhood greenways to provide easier access to local stores and Golden Gate Park? Which intersections in the Excelsior and the Tenderloin need safer bike access to get you safely across? Where should we focus the City's repaving dollars in the Mission and SoMa to ensure smooth riding for the skyrocketing number of you biking on streets here?

## WE ARE COMMITTING IN 2013 TO TAKE CONNECTING THE CITY TO THE NEXT STEP, BY USING YOUR DIRECT FEEDBACK TO PUSH FOR CONNECTING YOUR CITY.

As the people who ride these streets everyday, you know them best. We know you have ideas about what would make your commute better, so let's hit the streets together and talk about these areas. And we'll raise a glass at the end to working together to make our city a terrific place to live, work and bike.

We've organized three rides in the first three months of 2013 to survey our existing bikeways and find out problem areas to tackle next. To join an existing Love Your Lanes ride or start your own, visit sfbike.org/ConnectingTheCity.

#### THE FIGHT IS GETTING HARDER

We are also asking for your commitment to step up your involvement in helping us win major new bikeways throughout the city. We can't emphasize enough that the fight ahead will be harder than ever. This is now the time to push for bikeways on the major streets that have been intimidating for years: Polk Street, 2nd Street, the Embarcadero, Market Street, San Jose Avenue and many more.

The bikeways of tomorrow won't just be simple paint on the ground; they'll transform our streets into more beautiful and safe spaces for people biking and walking. Imagine more greenery, separated bikeways, sidewalk and crosswalk improvements, parklets and quieter, calmer streets. What a city!

But transforming our streets won't come easy. The 300+ letters of support and thousands of fliers dropped at local businesses and people's front doors for the three blocks of Fell and Oak Streets won't be enough to win us bikeways on these new streets. If you want to see these projects in the ground, we need you to sign up to get involved in a campaign at *sfbike.org/connectingthecity* — particularly if you live, work or play near these streets.

If you can't volunteer, then please ask at least one friend in the next week to join the SF Bicycle Coalition. We *are* our



Building business support for Fell and Oak safety improvements.

membership. And the more members, the more we are able to win support for the projects you care about. Give them this newsletter, invite them over for a meal and ask them to sign up.

Green waves, green sharrows, and green separated bikeways start with you. Whether it is at community meetings for 2nd Street, Polk Street or Market Street or on a Love Your Lanes ride in your neighborhood, we're excited to see you in 2013 and work together to Connect *Our* City.



We have a long history of rallying our members and advocating for change in City Hall.

# WHAT SF BICYCLE COALITION STAFF



**Kit**Deputy Director

Working to dramatically increase the funding for biking in the city for everything from new, amazing bikeways to smoother pavement and effective programs that help more people start and continue biking.



**Eric** Senior Graphic Designer

Launching our new SF Bicycle Coalition website, so it's easier and more engaging for you to get all of your bicycle news that matters.



Kristin
Communications Director

Showcasing the stories of more of San Francisco's amazing and diverse bicycling community. And welcoming more women to biking through expanding outreach and bike education classes.



**Frank**Operations Director

Taking photos of the Polk Street pilot improvements on my bike commute to and from work.



**Leah**Executive Director

Quantifying the economic benefits of bicycling in San Francisco by showing how more people bicycling boosts our local economy. And forging new community partnerships to bring about greater improvements to our streets.



**Abbey**Operations Assistant

Volunteering at more outreach stations, because it's so much fun to meet new people and spread the word about the SF Bicycle Coalition's amazing work!



**Zack**Board Member

Improving the quality of the bike network to make it even easier and safer for my family to get around SF by bike!



**Marc**Program Manager

Continuing our monthly Taxi Trainings where we teach 100+ new taxi drivers how to safely share the road with people on bike each month. That's over 1,000 new drivers each year!

What would make 2013 a great year for biking for you? Biking to and from the beach on a new Fell and Oak bikeway? Welcoming your best friend to biking? Being able to bring your bike into the office thanks to the new Employee Bicycle Access Legislation?

Share your excitement with us in social media on our Twitter feed @sfbike #bikesf2013 or on Facebook.com/sfbike Here's what some SF Bike Social Media followers had to say. **Join the conversation!** 



@sfbike #bikesf2013

Great bike boulevards

Zero potholes in bike lanes



Less cars parked in bike lanes

Separated bike lanes all the way down both sides of Market

New bike lanes on Fell and Oak

2nd Street bikeway

# & BOARD ARE MOST EXCITED ABOUT IN 2013



**Jason**Safe Routes to School Manager

Visiting more San Francisco schools to help launch weekly walk and bike to school days. And gearing up for a great Bike to School Week on April 22-26!



**Karren**Board Member

Getting more women of all ages comfortable biking around the city, and working with recreational riders to advocate for safer streets for all.



Jodie
Development Director

Starting a Business Membership program to help companies become more bike-friendly, so it's easier for you and other San Franciscans to bike to work.



**Tracy**Development Associate

Expanding our discount partner list even more, so that as a SF Bicycle Coalition member you can get more sweet deals all around town on everything from bikes to food to entertainment.



**Neal**Planning Director

Going on Love Your Lanes rides with our members in every District in San Francisco and hearing your ideas for bikeway improvements in your neighborhood.



Bonnie
Event Planner

Celebrating more with members at events across the city! Love on Wheels, Golden Wheel, Bike to Work Day — it's going to be a really fun 2013!



**Tyler**Valet Bicycle Parking
Coordinator

Parking your bike and thousands of others at even more events around the city, especially at Giants games. Here's hoping for another World Series victory!



**You** SF Bicycle Coalition Member

Join the conversation and tell us what you're excited about for 2013.

Facebook.com/sfbike

Twitter @sfbike #bikesf2013

#### WELCOMING NEW STAFF AND EXPANDING OUR ADVOCACY WORK

In an effort to meet San Francisco's ever-growing community of people who bike, we hired two new staffers this year: Chema Hernández Gil, Community Planner and Margaret McCarthy, Volunteer Coordinator.



Chema has over 12 years of experience engaging communities abroad and in SF's Mission District. He will be working to expand our Spanish-language outreach, as highlighted in our five-year Strategic Plan commitment to represent the broad cross-section of San Franciscans.

Want to get involved in our Spanish-language outreach? Send Chema a note at chema@sfbike.org.



Margaret is spearheading our booming volunteer program. She heads up all our awesome streetside outreaches and super fun volunteer nights.

Margaret comes to us with a strong background in volunteer coordination, and previously managed the volunteer program at 826 Valencia.

Swing by any volunteer night (dates page 13) and get to know Margaret. Or email her at margaret@sfbike.org.

# **TUBE TIMES 142**

# **VOLUNTEER LIKE** MADELEIN

Make 2013 your year for volunteering with the SF Bicycle Coalition! From in-office help during the day, to our twice-monthly volunteer nights, to ongoing streetside service stations, to great events like Winterfest and Bike to Work Day, our volunteers are the heart and soul of our work! There is no minimum volunteering commitment necessary for most projects.

Peruse our upcoming opportunities and sign up for a project that matches your schedule.

sfbike.org/volunteer

We look forward to seeing you!

# **VOLUNTEER PROFILE:** MADELEINE SAVIT

Meet Madeleine Savit, one of our terrific daytime, in-office volunteers. Madeleine is part of a team of amazing weekday volunteers who keep the San Francisco Bicycle Coalition's advocacy wheels spinning. We caught up with her to learn more about what inspires her to donate several hours a week to bicycle advocacy, and how despite all of her friends' warnings, she still decided to hop on a bike and ride.



#### How did you get involved with the San Francisco Bicycle Coalition?

Before I started biking here, my peers were full of warnings about city cycling. I was terrified, but committed to do it anyway. When I was shopping for a bike, I was told about the SF Bicycle Coalition education programs, and I learned about how crucial their advocacy has been in creating a more livable city. Now, I've completely conquered my fear (and all but the worst of the hills) and decided to give back to the organization that has worked so hard on behalf of San Francisco's future.

#### What motivated you to start volunteering, and what do you enjoy most about volunteering?

My background includes both architecture and health and I'd worked on a literature review of how even simple urban planning decisions have crucial impacts on our health. One of the most pivotal interventions all over the world was excellent cycling infrastructure. What I love best about working here, besides the feeling that I'm contributing to San Francisco as a city, is that the people here are just such a pleasure to work with and they have been extraordinarily welcoming.

#### What's your favorite aspect of biking in San Francisco?

On a macro level, cycling is my individual part in minimizing pollution. On a dayto-day level, it means I totally avoid the frustration of parking, traffic and delayed public transport. Once I was getting around town on my bike, I was amazed at how much more free and connected I felt — both to others and to the environment. It's an experience that we should all have access to and the Coalition has been making that happen in San Francisco.



PUBLIC WORKS | 161 ERIE ST. | SAN FRANCISCO, CA

\$5 FOR SF BICYCLE COALITION MEMBERS WITH CARD \$10 FOR NON-MEMBERS, OR JOIN AT THE DOOR & GET IN FREE!

WATCH THE SHOW, WIN RAFFLE PRIZES, OR BE A CONTESTANT MORE INFO AT: SFBIKE.ORG/LOVE



Meet Michael Kohn, a longtime San Francisco Bicycle Coalition member. He commutes daily from Cole Valley to downtown, along the Wiggle and Market. After spending years abroad, Michael came back to San Francisco and saw that the streets looked really different than before he left. We talked with him about the improvements he's enjoying, what he'd most like to see in the years to come and why bike commuting changed his life.

#### How did you become a member of the San Francisco Bicycle Coalition?

In 2001 I decided to quit my job and move to San Francisco. It didn't take long to find and join the SF Bicycle Coalition. But after about a year in San Francisco, I moved to Southeast Asia. I maintained my membership for many years while I was away, knowing that some day I would be back. And nine years later I did move back and am enjoying all the hard work that went on while I was away!

#### What are some big changes you've seen over the past decade?

The number of people I see cycling for transportation on a daily basis and the infrastructure that allows them to do so. When I first lived in San Francisco back in 2001, I remember seeing quite a few bike messengers downtown, but not many people commuting by bike. Now on my daily commute I share the lanes with dozens of other cyclists and have a ton of bike parking at garages near my office.

#### Which issue that we work on is most important to you?

Market Street. This one street probably supports more daily bicycle traffic than any other street in a major city center in the United States. It's also a key artery for other modes of transportation and tourists alike. Imagine a stress-free trip down Market Street on a completely separated bikeway, cycling in harmony with all other modes of transportation.

#### How has this organization impacted your life?

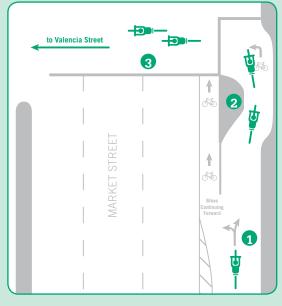
It was a significant factor in my decision to move back to the U.S. last year and has been a source of countless new friendships since. It also inspired me to change jobs so that I could bike to work on a daily basis and ultimately sell my car.

# ONE NEW IMPROVEMENT ON MICHAEL'S COMMUTE — AND LIKELY YOURS:

In December, the SFMTA completed work on a long-awaited improvement to the intersection of Market and Valencia Streets.

A new left-turn waiting area and bike light were installed so that you no longer have to cross two lanes of high-speed traffic and Muni tracks.

This is the first of its kind in San Francisco, so here's a handy diagram to understand how to use the new design:





Step 1: Move right.

Step 2: Queue up and wait for bike signal.

Step 3: Proceed to Valencia Street on bike signal.

Thanks to the Dolan Law Firm for supporting the Tube Times

# CHAIN OF EVENTS



The San Francisco Bicycle Coalition's cultural history tours and recreational rides are free for members unless otherwise noted. (A \$5 donation from non-members is appreciated).

Unless otherwise noted, call 415-431-2453 (BIKE) or email calendar@sfbike.org for more information. Rain cancels rides.

#### **Events**

#### **SERVICE STATIONS**

TUE., JAN. 15 | 5-7PM | Polk St. TUE., JAN. 29 I 7-9AM I Panhandle THU., FEB. 7 I 5-7PM I Wiggle THU., FEB. 21 I 5-7PM I San Jose Ave. THU., MAR. 7 I 7-9AM I Market St. THU., MAR. 21 I 5-7PM I C. Chavez St. Want to share some bike love with fellow San Franciscans? Swing by one of our streetside outreach stations and learn about all the great new changes and campaigns. Looking to volunteer? If you're a trained Bicycle Ambassador and want to volunteer, email volunteer@sfbike.org.



Your fancy hosts of Love on Wheels.

#### LOVE ON WHEELS DATING GAME WED., FEB. 6 I 6-9PM I Public

Works, 161 Erie St. (at Mission) The San Francisco Bicycle Coalition's Dating Game is a modern day version of the 1970s game show. Bicyclefriendly contestants quiz a panel to select a mate and pedal off to a first date. Come watch the show, win raffle prizes, or be a contestant. 21+/\$5 for members, \$10 for non-members, or join at the door and get in free. Complimentary bike valet. All proceeds benefit the SF Bicycle Coalition's work to make San Francisco better for bicycling. Info at: sfbike.org/love.

#### **SUNDAY STREETS**

#### DATES TBD I

See sundaystreetssf.com for dates and locations.

Come play in the first Sunday Streets of 2013! Sunday Streets opens streets and creates recreational space for everyone. Come join the SF Bicycle Coalition and tens of thousands of people who will be out in the streets celebrating by biking, roller skating, dancing and more.

#### SAVE THE DATE: **BIKE TO SCHOOL WEEK**

MON., APR. 22 THROUGH FRI., APR. 26 I Citywide

The 5th annual San Francisco Bike to School Day is more than just a single day! In 2013, Bike to School Day is now Bike to School Week! You can get a head-start on the 2013 event by watching for our annual citywide Bike to School poster contest in January, as well as trainings and events leading up to the big week. See sfbike.org/family for updates on how to get you and your kiddos ready to bike to school and beyond.

#### SAN FRANCISCO BICYCLE **COALITION BOARD MEETINGS**

2013 DATES TBD I SF Bicycle Coalition HQ, 833 Market St, 10th Floor

SF Bicycle coalition board meetings are open to all. Contact Leah Shahum at 431-2453 x306 or leah@sfbike.org for agenda and details.

See sfbike.org/chain for updated dates.

#### Volunteer

#### **VOLUNTEER NIGHTS**

WED., JAN. 9, JAN. 23, FEB. 13, FEB. 27, MAR. 13, MAR. 27 I 5-8PM I SF Bicycle Coalition HQ, 833 Market St, 10th Floor

This twice-monthly SF Bicycle Coalition tradition has been happening for as long as we can remember and newcomers are always welcome. So stop by, snack on tasty treats, chat with fellow members and help us keep our organization rolling. Dinner is provided. Bring a friend; the more the merrier! Don't forget to bring up your bike to the office. No RSVP necessary. Special thanks to Bainbow Grocery for generously providing snacks for our volunteers.

#### **PHONE BANK**

TUE., JAN. 15, MAR. 5, MAR. 19 THU., FEB. 7, FEB. 21 I 5-8PM I SF Bicycle Coalition HQ, 833 Market St, 10th Floor

Accept the challenge to chat up your fellow SF Bicycle Coalition members! Join the volunteers who keep the SF Bicycle Coalition membership strong. No cold-calling, just calls to friendly lapsed members offering an easy way to renew. Plan to stay for the thank-you



Looking forward to another great Sunday Streets season.

dinner afterward and get to know your fellow volunteers. You must be a current or former member to volunteer. Contact juli@sfbike.org.

#### **BICYCLE AMBASSADOR TRAINING**

TUE., MAR. 12 | 7-8:30PM | SF Bicycle Coalition HQ, 833 Market St., 10th Floor Interested in volunteering at Service Stations or other events? Then this training is a must! Learn ways to engage people, how to sign up new members and more. Contact margaret@sfbike.org.

We're always adding new events! Visit to see the latest event details.

#### Classes

The San Francisco Bicycle Coalition is proud to be the leading resource for bicycle safety and education. All courses are free. We often add new courses throughout the year, so please visit sfbike.org/edu for more information and updated course calendar.

#### SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL **WALKING SCHOOL BUS** LEADER TRAINING

WED., JAN. 16 | 8:45-10AM | George Washington Carver Elementary School, 1360 Oakdale Ave. WED., JAN. 16 I 3-4PM I Fairmount Elementary School, 65 Chenery St. WED., JAN. 23 I 9-10AM I Alamo Elementary School, 250 - 23rd Ave. WED., JAN. 23 I 10AM-12:30PM I Chinatown Library, 1135 Powell St. This parent training will cover individual and group pedestrian safety practices,

Ride from the Redwoods to San Francisco May 19-23, 2013



4th Annual Climate Ride Ride with the SF Bicycle Coalition. Join our team today! Space is Limited. ClimateRide.org



#### FAMILY BIKING CLASSES

**ONGOING** I See sfbike.org/family for class dates and times

The San Francisco Bicycle Coalition is actively working to make San Francisco a safer city for family bicycling. Whether you biked a lot before becoming a parent, are just getting back to biking after years away or want to teach your kids to bike, these classes will help get your family pedaling together. We are proud to offer classes in biking during pregnancy, biking with your baby or toddler and biking your child to school.

Follow us on Facebook (facebook.com/sfbike) or Twitter (@sfbike) for upto-the-minute additions.

#### STREET SAFETY EDUCATION

**ONGOING** I See sfbike.org/edu for class dates and times

The SF Bicycle Coalition is proud to continue our popular bike safety workshops for all levels in 2013. Thanks to support from the SF Transportation Authority, we offer free classes – from learning how to ride a bike to the rules of the road for safe, easy bicycling. For a list of our upcoming classes in 2013, visit sfbike.org/edu.



Have an idea for a fun rec ride? Submit your idea to Margaret at: margaret@sfbike.org

#### Rides

### SAN FRANCISCO TO POINT REYES HOSTEL OVERNIGHT BIKE RIDE

SAT., FEB. 23 & SUN. FEB. 24 19AM I Leaving from the Fell Street Statue in the Panhandle Join fellow SF Bicycle Coalition members Michael Kohn and Rocky Beach for an overnight 50-mile each way scenic bike trip to Point Reves, staying at the Point Reves Hostel Saturday night. This will be about a 5hour ride with some decent climbing. After a night enjoying the serenity, we'll be back on our bikes to make the 50-mile journey back to San Francisco on a slightly different route to keep it interesting. The bike tour is free for SF Bicycle Coalition members, but you are responsible for the \$25 hostel fee and money needed for shared meals. Co-ed dorm sleeping and hostel provides the bedding. This bike tour is for those who are capable of pedaling 50+

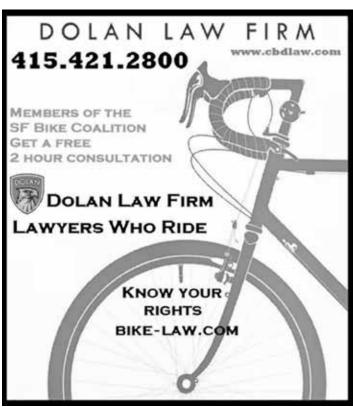
#### **LOVE YOUR LANES RIDES**

sfbike.org/rsvp.

JAN. I Glen Park/Castro I FEB. I Sunset I MAR. I Excelsior/Ingleside
We want to hear your bikeway priorities for your neighborhood. We've organized three Love Your Lanes bike rides and mingles in the first three months of 2013. We hope you'll join us as we see how recent bikeway improvements are doing and identify priorities for the years to come. For details or to suggest a ride visit: sfbike.org/ConnectingTheCity.

miles including hills and carrying gear.

Space is very limited. Must RSVP at







Thanks to the Dolan Law Firm for supporting the Tube Times

WINTER 2013



SAN FRANCISCO BICYCLE COALITION

833 Market St., Floor 10 San Francisco, CA 94103

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

sfbike.org

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION US POSTAGE PAID SAN FRANCISCO, CA PERMIT # 3819

SEE YOUR NAME HERE!
Get the TUBE TIMES delivered to your door
by becoming an SF Bicycle Coalition member.
(MEMBERSHIP FORM BELOW)

## Become a San Francisco Bicycle Coalition member and get discounts all over town!

American Cyclery, Arizmendi Bakery\*, Avenue Cyclery, Bay City Bike Rentals, Bespoke Cyclery, Big Swingin' Cycles, Bike Friday, Bike Nook, Blazing Saddles Bike Rental, BoomBotix, Box Dog Bikes, Burley, Canyon Market, Chrome Bags, Citizen Chain, City Carshare, City Cycle, Crumpler, DD Cycles, Department Seventeen, Dolores Park Cafe, Duboce Park Cafe, Freewheel, Farm: Table, Golden State Health, Good Hotel, Good Vibrations, Green Apple Books, Greens to Go, Heavy Metal Bike Shop, High Trails Cyclery, Huckleberry Bicycles, Kasa Indian, Lombardi Sports, Mike's Bikes, Mission Bicycles, Mission Workshop, Mojo Bicycle Cafe, The New Wheel, Noe Valley Cyclery, Nomad Cyclery, Ocean Cyclery, Other Avenues Co-op\*, Pacific Bikes, Pedal Revolution, PUBLIC Bikes, Pushbike, Refried Cycles, Rickshaw Bagworks, Roaring Mouse Cycles, Rock & Roll Massage, Roll San Francisco, Sacred Grounds, See Jane Run, Sports Basement, Streets of SF Bike Tours, Timbuk2, Treat Street Bicycle Works, Valencia Cyclery, Velo Rouge Cafe, Warm Planet Bikes, Zipcar, Zoic

\*Must arrive by bike to receive discount. See sfbike.org/discounts for details.

# AMOUNT LONDON'S MAYOR HAS CALLED FOR BIKE FUNDING 1.5 BILLION BILLION PERCENT OF TRANSPORTATION FUNDING SPENT ON BIKING IN SAN FRANCISCO

AVERAGE DAILY BIKE COUNTS AT INTERSECTION OF FELL & 1,500 DIVISADERO

25,000

NUMBER OF BIKES WE VALET PARKED THIS IN 2012 LETTERS SF BICYCLE COALITION MEMBERS SENT TO THE CITY

NO. OF BIKE SAFETY CLASSES
WE TAUGHT IN 2012

see sthike ora/tubetimes for sources



# JOINTHE SAN FRANCISCO BICYCLE COALITION!

Become a member of the San Francisco Bicycle Coalition and help us connect the city and make it a better place to bicycle, plus get a *Tube Times* subscription, discounts, free bike trailer and air travel bike box rentals and more. See *sfbike.org/membership* for all the benefits.

NAME	
ADDRESS	
CITY, STATE, ZIP	
HOME PHONE	
WORK PHONE	
EMAIL	
I HEARD ABOUT THE SF BICYCLE COALITION $\_$	
■ \$35 ONE YEAR MEMBERSHIP	■ \$250 SUPPORTING MEMBER*
(add \$15 each additional household member)	□ \$500 PATRON*
□ \$52 A BUCK A WEEK	■ \$1,000 DONOR*
□ \$120 SUSTAINERS*	

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: SFBC, 833 Market St., Floor 10, San Francisco, CA 94103. Barter memberships are available in exchange for volunteer time. Donations made to the SF Bicycle Coalition are not tax-deductible. If you're interested in a tax-deductible deduction for your contribution, contact Tracy at 415-431-2453 x316

Check with your employer about matching your donation.

NAME\_\_\_\_\_CREDIT CARD #

- □ VISA □ MASTERCARD EXPIRATION DATE
- ☐ Do not share my name, even with cool organizations the SF Bicycle Coalition likes. I WANT TO VOLUNTEER!
- □ Volunteer Night (every other Weds.)
- staffing an information table
- daytime office assistance
- phonebanking
- valet bike parking at events
- attending public meetings
  newsletter writing
  newsletter mailing/distribution
  other: