BEYOND THE BIKE LANE
The Faces Behind Our Outreach & Education

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IT’S RAINING RAISED BIKE LANES - p.5
2015 ENDORSEMENTS & PLATFORM - p. 9
A TALE OF TWO BOBBIES - p.12
As you’ll read in the pages of this Tube Times, we have a great toolbox. Our community organizing is building support for new, innovative bike lanes. We teach children, parents and families to ride safely through our Freedom From Training Wheels, Biking with Babies and Safe Routes to School programs. Our adult cycling classes empower people with confidence and mobility. Business members benefit from our Commute by Bike classes. We host Community Bike Builds and partner with bike shops to get even more people involved in our movement.

We’re teaching taxi drivers, AutoReturn tow truck drivers and Recology drivers how they can keep everyone on our streets safe. And our Bicycle Valet parking staff literally meet people where they’re at, when they arrive at ball games, the opera or the scores of other events where the SF Bicycle Coalition ensures that your ride will be waiting for you in one piece when you’re ready to go home.

We’ve taught tens of thousands of people and families like the Avalos family, and we’ve learned a lot from them. Now it’s time to challenge ourselves and take our broad array of programs deeper into San Francisco’s communities. How do people see themselves in our work, so it becomes their work? How do we build a lasting, positive impression; an affinity for bicycling; and a strong relationship with our SF Bicycle Coalition?

The answer starts with you, our members and supporters. The SF Bicycle Coalition dreams of a network of over 100 miles of protected bike lanes crossing across the city; of communities where, regardless of your age or background, you feel empowered pedaling; and of a city where no one dies in traffic. But that vision isn’t possible without you. We need you to bring your passion, experience and relationships to the table and help strengthen our SF Bicycle Coalition’s connection and commitment to San Francisco’s diverse neighborhoods and communities. Come get involved! This is how we will learn, build our movement and grow bicycling in San Francisco.

NOAH BUDNICK
Executive Director
OUR SAFETY EDUCATION

Last year, more than 5,000 people took one of our classes about the rules of the road and how to share the streets safely (broken down below). We offer free classes for everyone who bikes and many professional drivers, detailed on Page 7-8.

“I’d come up with different ideas for how I could reduce my carbon footprint and help others do the same, and settled on teaching people how to bike safely.” -Diane Serafini, Bike Education Instructor on Page 9.

“I learned things that I didn’t know about before, like how to safely handle right turns through bike lanes.” -Doug O’Connor on our taxi driver education programs, detailed on Page 10.

“I believe that a street that is not safe for a kid is not a safe street,” -Bobby Lu, SF Bicycle Coalition Member and Bicycle Ambassador, interviewed on Page 12.

We asked Abram & Sons Towing’s Genevieve Romero what one change she’d like to see to make driving a tow truck safely easier, and she could not have been more on point. See Page 10 for her answer.

Don’t forget about our Valet Bicycle Parking & Outreach Work!

“When you’re securing someone’s bike and handing it back to them, you naturally can’t help but create a bond with most folks. There’s an intense trust, and they’re really happy that we offer the service.” -Alexis Wallace, Valet Supervisor Extraordinaire, on the joys of providing Bicycle Valet Parking. More on Page 11.
We’ve Moved!
The San Francisco Bicycle Coalition has moved to 1720 Market St. after more than five years at 833 Market St. Our phone number, email addresses and website remain the same.

We’re excited to be on the ground floor at the nexus of two huge bike thoroughfares. We’re right at what some of us call the “Jughandle,” the so-shaped waiting area for the left-turn bicycle signal from Market onto Valencia. We’re right at what some of us call the “Jughandle,” the so-shaped waiting area for the left-turn bicycle signal from Market onto Valencia.

The San Francisco Police Department (SFPD) deserves clear direction on how best to keep our streets safe. That’s the goal of the Bike Yield Law, which we are proud to join many of our members in supporting.

Please make your voice heard and join us at sfbike.org/bikeyieldlaw.

SFPD Targeting People Biking No Longer
In early August, SFPD’s Park Station began a traffic operation specifically targeting people biking and diverting resources away from behaviors known to cause the majority of traffic deaths and severe injuries. Despite plans for a two-month crackdown, the operation was put “on hold” after SF Bicycle Coalition members spoke out in favor of smart enforcement for safer streets.

At the Park Station community meeting on Tuesday, Aug. 11, Capt. Sanford addressed concerned neighbors for five hours. The meeting drew well over 100 people, with most unable to fit into the meeting room. Speaking from the doorway to address a crowd overflowing into the parking lot, Capt. Sanford acknowledged that people biking “have a right to the roads in San Francisco.” Sanford promised to join community members for bike rides and committed to working with your SF Bicycle Coalition and our members to make education and outreach a priority before diverting enforcement resources away from the most dangerous traffic violations. Our community organizers and members in the Park Station area are continuing to work with Capt. Sanford and the SFPD to build a better partnership and ensure that we’re all working to keep our streets safe and civil.

Pushing for a Bike Yield Law
Amid an incredible show of support for smart traffic enforcement, many SF Bicycle Coalition members spoke out for change. Your San Francisco Bicycle Coalition listened to our members, and in August publicly announced the organization’s support for a Bike Yield Law.

The proposed Bike Yield Law would clarify that people biking must yield to people walking and others with the right of way, but that no one should waste time ticketing people biking safely when we divert precious enforcement resources away from the most dangerous traffic behaviors, everyone who walks, bikes and drives is exposed to increased risk of harm.

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Bike to Theater Back for 2015-16 Season
We’re happy to announce the American Conservatory Theater’s 2015-16 Bike to Theater Night series lineup. Bike to Theater Nights are catered specifically to the San Francisco bicycling community. Patrons arriving by bike receive complimentary Valet Bicycle Parking, discounted tickets (starting at just $10) and pre-show happy hours with complimentary drinks and snacks.

Come park your bike with us or, better yet, volunteer! All volunteers receive two free passes to catch the show at a later date. Join us at sfbike.org/valetvolunteer, or just come out for a show this fall:
- Geary Theater, Sept. 2: Between Riverside & Crazy
- The Strand, Sept. 16: Monstress
- Geary Theater, Oct. 14: Ah, Wilderness!
- Geary Theater, Dec. 4: A Christmas Carol, and more in 2016!

Combat Climate Change
You can help fight climate change and support our work for better biking in SF by participating in the 2016 Northern California Climate Ride. This 300-plus mile, five-day ride covers some of the most beautiful terrain in the northern half of our state. Now is the time to begin thinking about challenging yourself and inspiring others to help combat climate change.

Our new office sits right in front of the “jughandle” on Market Street, a bike lane that makes it easy to turn left onto Valencia. We’re excited to see you at one of our upcoming events!
change. Your SF Bicycle Coalition is a proud beneficiary of this ride that raises thousands of dollars every year for our work. If you are considering participating next year (and you should!), we will be hosting an information session in January. Stay tuned.

Business Memberships Entering Terrific Twos

The SF Bicycle Coalition’s Business Membership program is turning two years old, and we have a lot to celebrate. In just two years, nearly 80 local businesses have teamed up to support safer streets by becoming Business Members. From in-office bicycle education workshops and bike parking consultations to complimentary memberships and social events, we’ve reached thousands of people already, and the program continues to grow. Huge thanks to our new and renewing SF Bicycle Coalition Business Members: Adobe; Alamo Drafthouse Cinema; Appel Law Firm LLP; Bay Area Bicycle Law; Bi-Rite Market; Blue Shield of California; Casa Bonampak; craigslist; David Baker, an Architectural Corporation; Equator Coffees & Teas; Fenwick & West LLP; Grace Cathedral; Ground Floor Public Affairs; HNTB Corporation; Hotwire Inc.; if(we); Law Offices of Nelson C. Barry III; Liberty Law; LinkedIn; Metromile; Munchery; New Resource Bank; NOP 560 Mission LLC; Realtex, Inc.; Recology; Skidmore, Owings & Merrill; Slack Technologies, Inc.; Terabit Systems; The Veen Firm; Thoughtworks, Trumark Urban; Walkup, Melodia, Kelly & Schoenberger; WaterSmart Software; workshop1; and Zendesk.

Light Up the Night

Get ready to turn back your clocks and turn on your bike lights: Daylight saving time ends on Sunday, Nov. 2. For all of us biking, the ride home from work will start getting darker. That’s why your SF Bicycle Coalition will once again be partnering with the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency for Light up the Night, our annual bike light distribution program. Together with our dedicated member-volunteers, we’ll have several pop-up events in neighborhoods across San Francisco, installing hundreds of free white front lights and red rear lights for those biking without them. We picked locations based on where we can reach the most people who will benefit from these free lights. Lights not only help you be seen – they’re required by law.

SF Bicycle Coalition members: Flash your membership card at one of our bike shop discount partners to save money on the purchase of new lights. Find out exactly what the law requires and sign up to volunteer at sfbike.org/lights.

Golden Wheel Success

On July 30, SF Bicycle Coalition members, City leaders and community partners gathered to honor two great groups that make San Francisco a better place to bicycle: SF2G and the SF Yellow Bike Project. We heard from professor and author Peter Norton, who reminded us to question our assumptions about transportation’s future by reflecting on the history of our streets. Over 300 guests celebrated our progress in working toward a more bicycle-friendly and livable city while preparing for the challenges ahead.

Thanks to the volunteers who made this great event possible, as well as everyone who attended. Special thanks to our generous sponsors: American Traffic Solutions, Ann Lyons Brent, Fiol & Nolan LLP; Build Inc., Carrie Byles, Crushed Wine App, Cheryl Brinkman, Emerald Fund, Forest City Developers, Gehl Architects, Jenn Fox, Kenwood Investments/Treasure Island LLC, Motivate International Inc., Nicholas Josefowitz, Recology, SOM, The New Wheel and Tishman Speyer.

SF Safe Routes to School Expands (Again)

Your SF Bicycle Coalition is a proud partner in the San Francisco Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program. We work directly with parents, caregivers and school communities to make it safer, easier and more fun to travel to and from school by bike, on foot or by public transit. This year, 10 new public elementary schools are joining SRTS, bringing the total to 35 elementary schools, three middle schools and two high schools for the 2015-16 school year.

Many SRTS resources and programs, including Walk & Roll to School Day (more on that below), are open to all schools. Safe Routes schools host bike rodeos, bike trains and parent trainings open to the entire community. Find out more at sfsaferoutes.org, or contact Nancy Buffum, our Family and Schools Program Manager, at nancy@sfbike.org.

Oct. 7 is International Walk & Roll to School Day

International Walk and Roll to School Day is the fall kick-off event for SRTS. Any school from pre-K to high school may participate, and yes, you can bike, scooter, bus or otherwise roll if it’s too far (or too slow) to walk. The SRTS Partnership provides free giveaways to schools that host Walk & Roll to School Day. Eighty-four San Francisco schools celebrated this annual event in 2014. We hope to have even more schools participate this fall. Email nancy@sfbike.org learn how to register your children’s school.

SF Bicycle Coalition Executive Director Noah Budnick presents a Golden Wheel Award to leaders of the SF Yellow Bike Project for their work refurbishing bikes and getting more people on two wheels for free or cheap.

Mother and son celebrate Bike & Roll to School Week in April 2015 at Commodore Sloat Elementary School.
Raised bike lanes are common in great bicycling cities like Copenhagen, but relatively new in the United States. We’re excited that several raised bike lanes will soon be transforming these streets near you.

Why raised bike lanes?
Imagine biking on a whole different level than people driving and walking, where a full lane sits just a few inches higher than the road but slightly lower than the sidewalk. That lane clearly announces “this space is for people biking,” with a bikeable gradient replacing bollards or other barriers. These are raised bike lanes, and they’re one of our favorite kinds of protected bike lanes.

Raised bike lanes allow for specific vehicles, such as paratransit and emergency vehicles, to have temporary curb access. They are also shown to have a positive safety impact for people walking as well as people biking. What’s more, raised bike lanes are perfect for narrow streets; they can be implemented without dedicating scarce space to concrete medians or other physical barriers, making for safer and more efficient roads.

Raised Bike Lanes Coming to San Francisco

Two Blocks of Market Street
Toward the end of this year, you’ll see San Francisco’s first demonstration of a raised bike lane. This pilot project will lead the way for corridor-long raised bike lanes throughout the city, starting with the south side of Market Street (eastbound direction) between Gough and 12th Streets. The San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) will survey riders to see what they like and don’t like about the trial, and the results will inform the design of future projects, including those discussed below.

Valencia Gateway
This bike lane is part of the Mission Valencia Green Gateway project and will stretch southbound on Valencia Street from Cesar Chávez Street to Duncan Street. In addition to the raised bike lane, the final project design also includes wider sidewalks, environmentally-friendly permeable pavement and two new plazas – one at Mission and Valencia, and a smaller one at Duncan and Valencia. After some delays, work on the project is now scheduled to begin later this year, continuing through mid-2016.

Polk Street
Many readers know about the years of hard work that went into winning raised bike lanes on Polk Street. The project, as approved in early 2015, will include a raised bike lane running northbound up Polk Street, all the way from McAllister Street to Pine Street. There will also be a southbound, mostly-curbside bike lane. The project includes significant intersection improvements, along with key pedestrian safety enhancements.

Second Street
In a resounding victory for safer streets for SoMa’s residents and visitors, this summer the SFMTA finally approved the Second Street Improvement Project. The project includes raised bike lanes going both directions all the way from Market Street to King Street; sidewalk widening and raised crosswalks at alleyways; and streetscape improvements, including rain gardens and street furniture. This momentous complete streets project in SoMa is a sign that we can reclaim streets for people walking and biking in our downtown core.

Masonic Avenue
Five years ago, Nils Yannick Linke was biking on Masonic Avenue when he was killed by a hit-and-run drunk driver. This tragedy spurred City approvals and funding to transform Masonic Avenue. Now slated to begin construction in January 2016 after a recent half-year delay, Masonic will boast improved intersections and raised bike lanes on both sides of the street from Fell Street to Geary Boulevard. Masonic will also have a beautiful planted median, doubling the number of existing trees along the street. The message now is loud and clear: No more delays on Masonic!
Each July, local bike shops join in our annual Bike Shop Challenge to see who can bring the biggest boost to our advocacy by recruiting new and renewing members to the SF Bicycle Coalition. The prize? An opportunity to be the official wrenchers at New Belgium’s Tour de Fat in Golden Gate Park in September!

Eleven shops joined in the competition this year, and Avenue Cyclery took home the grand prize by signing up more than 30 new and renewing SF Bicycle Coalition members.

We caught up with Avenue Cyclery to find out more about their shop, which opened in 1973, making it the second oldest bike shop in San Francisco. Located at 756 Stanyan St., Avenue Cyclery is at the intersection of the Inner Sunset, the Haight and Cole Valley, serving not just those neighborhoods, but also folks rolling through on their way to Golden Gate Park and points beyond.

Avenue Cyclery prides themselves on providing a welcoming atmosphere, serving everyone from part-time commuters to bike messengers. “If you ride a bike, you are welcome here,” Brian Benson, the General Manager at Avenue Cyclery, recently told your SF Bicycle Coalition. “We focus on customer service, and our educated staff knows how to listen to customers’ needs. We work hard to point folks in exactly the right direction, whether they need a new bike, an accessory or just a repair.

“We also give free, lifetime gear and brake adjustments to anyone who buys a new bike from us,” he told us.

One of the ways that they seek to serve all types of people who bike is by hiring every type of person who bikes. “Everyone on our team is a rider,” Brian mentioned. “They love bikes and share a combined bicycle experience of cyclo-cross, mountain, BMX freestyle, road, urban and fixie.”

Much like your SF Bicycle Coalition, Avenue Cyclery wants to see their work reflected in improving the world, bit by bit, telling us: “Being in the bicycle business, we truly believe that we have a social responsibility to make the world a healthier and happier place through bikes. The more people we get on bikes, the better San Francisco and the world will be.”

That shared mission makes for a beautiful partnership. Asked why Avenue Cyclery teams up with your SF Bicycle Coalition, Brian said, “We wholeheartedly support the all-encompassing advocacy work that you do.”

Thanks, Brian and Avenue Cyclery. The love is mutual.

In addition to supporting that advocacy work, a San Francisco Bicycle Coalition membership gets you discounts at over 70 local businesses, including Avenue Cyclery. Check out the full list on the back cover of this Tube Times.

**Elect Your SF Bicycle Coalition Board of Directors This Fall**

As in past years, SF Bicycle Coalition members will be electing our Board of Directors this fall.

- Any current member may run for the Board.

- The deadline for nominees to submit their Board Applications and appear on the Board ballot is Nov. 6.

- The deadline to join the SF Bicycle Coalition and be eligible to vote in board elections is Nov. 15.

- Voting will take place via email and online from Nov. 15 to Dec. 30.

- Ballots will also available at the following places and events: Winterfest on Nov. 15, our annual member meeting on Dec. 10, and at our office – 1720 Market Street – from 9:30AM to 5:30PM, Monday through Friday from Nov. 17 to Dec. 22. (Please ask for Frank.)

The new Board will be announced in January 2016. For more information and to find out other ways to vote, please see sfbike.org/news/2015-board-elections/.
Beyond the Bike Lane:

By Libby Nachman

Although we know the power of a bike lane to transform a street, we also know that it’s not enough to simply stripe a lane and expect that all road-users know how to use it. That’s why your SF Bicycle Coalition takes a well-rounded approach including education and outreach to making biking safer for all San Franciscans.

These are the top five ways we work to make our streets better for everyone – beyond the bike lane.

1) Safety (Education) First

We want more people biking in San Francisco, but more specifically, we want more people biking safely in San Francisco. Last year, nearly 2,000 adults learned how to ride safely in one of our classes.

We have a series of free classes designed to make that happen:

**Adult Learn to Ride:** You can’t experience the joys of bicycling if you don’t know how to ride a bike. That’s why we offer classes designed to get people rolling.

**Intro to Urban Bicycling Workshops:** Sometimes, all you need is a little nudge. Our one-hour introductory workshops provide the key information you need to safely bike in the city.

**Traffic Skills 101 course series:** This two-part series, with both a classroom workshop and an on-road workshop, gives a tentative rider the full set of skills needed to navigate city streets. The course culminates with an on-road ride alongside licensed instructors, giving you a taste of city riding and the confidence you need to keep going.

2) Hey, Baby

You don’t need to swap your commuter bike for a minivan once you have kids. Nearly 1,500 children pedalled or glided with us last year. We offer free classes for youth and families designed to help parents learn how to navigate their children safely through the city – from pregnancy all the way through middle school:

**Biking With Babies:** From pregnancy to toddlerhood, biking with babies presents exciting new challenges. We go over the basics of biking before and after your new little bundle of joy arrives.

**Freedom From Training Wheels:** Training wheels are a thing of the past! Our trained instructors and volunteers will get your tot rolling on our fleet of balance bikes at these fun, drop-in events.

**Test Ride a Family Bike:** A pop-up event at Sunday Streets events and other family fairs, Test Ride a Family Bike lets you try all sorts of family bikes for yourself – no strings attached!

**On-Road With Your Family:** Now that your child is rolling, you want to get moving together. Our on-road family class takes a short trip onto city streets so you can learn the skills to navigate the city safely while keeping an eye on your child alongside you.

**Middle School Bicycle Education:** Bikes aren’t too cool for school. We’re proud to partner with YBike to offer bicycle safety and education classes at middle schools across San Francisco.

By Libby Nachman
3) Sharing is Caring

Professional drivers spend a large amount of time on our roads and, as a result, have a big impact on the safety of our streets. That’s why we partner with companies to make sure that their drivers have the skills to navigate their unique challenges and share the road safely with people biking.

We educated over 2,000 professional drivers last year, including new taxi drivers, Genentech and Google shuttle bus drivers, Recology truck drivers and AutoReturn tow truck drivers. One of the most important things we teach professional drivers to do in order to share the road safely is to make safe right-hand turns to reduce the risk of someone on a bike being “right-hooked.” We teach drivers to pull all the way into the bike lane and turn from the curb, as required by all people driving under the California Vehicle Code, while encouraging people biking to look for vehicles turning right and proactively pass on the left.

Other topics in our professional driver classes include: how to reduce the risk of dooring someone on a bike, how to navigate the new bicycle infrastructure popping up around San Francisco, and how to stay on the lookout for people walking and biking. Safety on the road is a responsibility we all share, and it’s particularly crucial for those who spend the most time behind the wheel.

4) Rolling Out the Red CarBike-pet

Who said valet parking was just for cars? After riding on safe and comfortable bike lanes, we want that same security in parking your bike. That’s why we offer free Valet Bicycle Parking, serving the coolest people (i.e. those who bike) at the coolest events all over the city.

In 2014, we kept 17,285 bikes safe at 168 events, and we’re on track to beat those numbers in 2015. We’re excited to offer Bicycle Valet this fall at every Giants home game, the American Conservatory Theater’s Bike to Theater Nights, the Folsom Street Fair and many more events. So hop on your bike and join us for some worry-free fun.

Want to pitch in? Join us: sfbike.org/valetvolunteer.

5) Let’s Get Down to Business

We know that our members bike to work and play, and we’re trying to make both safer and more comfortable. We’ve worked with dozens of employers to make their workplaces more bike-friendly for their employees. From on-site Urban Bicycling Workshops to bike parking consultations, we’re committed to helping employers support better biking at their workplace. If your workplace is interested in becoming more bike-friendly, email our Business Program Manager Paolo (paolo@sfbike.org) to see how we can help!
November 3 is Election Day. Please join your San Francisco Bicycle Coalition to ensure the most bike-friendly candidates and propositions win.

This election year, the SF Bicycle Coalition published our platform at sfbike.org/platform, which we ask all civic leaders to embrace in order to bring about safer, more comfortable streets for everyone:

- Data-driven enforcement to eliminate traffic deaths;
- Protecting people biking and walking on high-injury corridors;
- Increasing funding for safety and capacity improvements to keep pace with the popularity of biking; and
- Expanding bike share equitably, and without delay.

With this platform in mind, and the guidance of our members, the SF Bicycle Coalition is proud to endorse the following candidates and ballot measures:

**NO on Ballot Measure E: Requirements For Public Meetings**

District 3: Supervisor Julie Christensen & Aaron Peskin (dual endorsement)

District Attorney: George Gascón

Mayoral Race: No endorsement

Visit sfbike.org/vote to learn more about these endorsements and how you can make a difference this election season by volunteering for these campaigns. Let’s turn out the bike vote on November 3.

sfbike.org/vote

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Reducing Carbon Emissions While Offering Independence

By Chris Cassidy

Diane Serafini’s been a member of the SF Bicycle Coalition for the better part of 20 years. “I wanted to support bike advocacy,” she told us when asked why she joined. For about half of that time, she has also been an instructor for the SF Bicycle Coalition’s safety and biking education classes (which are free and available near you! Find the complete calendar on page 14.)

“When I joined the SF Bicycle Coalition, I was coming up with ways that I could do something about climate change,” Diane said. “I’d come up with different ideas for how I could reduce my carbon footprint and help others do the same, and settled on teaching people how to bike safely.”

Diane now has over eight years of experience teaching people how to ride confidently and safely on San Francisco’s busy streets.

“When people don’t feel safe, they don’t ride their bikes,” Diane said. That’s why, in addition to advocating for safety improvements across our city, your SF Bicycle Coalition offers free classes with instructors like Diane in order to get more people feeling comfortable on a bike. That means one more car left at home or one more seat open on public transportation.

“When I started teaching the SF Bicycle Coalition’s safety education classes, none of the other instructors wanted to teach the beginners,” Diane recalled. “So I decided that I’d take one for the team.

“I learned that I love it – watching them learn to ride, then ride in traffic and be safe. Their fun is contagious and it’s a great experience,” Diane told us.

Beyond sharing the joys of bicycling with students and reducing everyone’s carbon footprint, Diane enjoys meeting the folks she teaches. “The people are so wonderful! They work so hard to learn.”

One student’s experience really stood out to Diane: “There was one person who came to my class whose husband didn’t support her learning to bike. They lived in Daly City, and he refused to pick her up from San Francisco after the class. She signed up anyway and took her bike onto BART to get to the class. Afterwards, she rode all the way home to Daly City on her own, personifying the independence that biking offers.”
The Faces of Professional Driver Education

CABBIE: “We Can All Use the Road and Get Along.”

By Chris Cassidy

Doug O’Connor is a Luxor taxi cab, van and limo driver who loves the increasing popularity of biking in San Francisco. “We depend on people biking,” Doug told your San Francisco Bicycle Coalition recently. “If they go out at night and don’t want to bike home, there’s an opportunity for us to reach new customers.”

It’s not all about the bottom line for Doug, though. He’s a fan of recent safety improvements, like the Safer Market Street project, which placed turn restrictions for private automobiles onto the city’s busiest thoroughfare. He also supports separating auto traffic from people biking with protected bike lanes, as well as your SF Bicycle Coalition’s safety education classes for professional drivers.

A relatively new taxi driver, Doug took our taxi driver safety education class in December 2014. He says the class helped him think differently about his shifts behind the wheel, particularly when he is driving around people biking.

“There were things I learned that I didn’t know about before, like how to safely handle right turns through a bike lane,” Doug said of the safety training, which is required by law for all San Francisco cab drivers.

Your SF Bicycle Coalition staff show professional drivers, including cab and tow truck drivers, how cautiously merging into the bike lane before making a right turn is safer for everyone.

“I try to let people on bikes go around me on the left, instead of hooking right and risking a collision.”

Before merging into the bike lane either to make a right turn or to drop off passengers, Doug follows the SF Bicycle Coalition’s suggestion and looks for people biking in his immediate vicinity. “I let people bike past me first. If I need to drop a passenger off, I try to give people biking enough room to get around me on the left and I check my mirrors before I let passengers out,” Doug said.

While not everyone who drives or bikes follows best safety practices, Doug is a shining example of how we can all cooperate and get around safely. Through our professional driver education programs, your SF Bicycle Coalition aims to continue reaching people driving and spreading the word about how to navigate our streets in the safest manner possible.
By Chris Cassidy

If you searched worldwide for the best Bicycle Valet Supervisor, you would be hard-pressed to find a better person for the job than Alexis Wallace. It is hard to gauge whether Alexis is a bigger fan of people or bikes. It is exceptionally clear, however, that she loves people who bike.

Alexis is an energetic and engaging San Francisco native. After going to college out of state, she returned home, moving in temporarily with her parents.

“I grew up in Noe Valley and rode my bike around the neighborhood, but never really rode my bike during college,” she told your SF Bicycle Coalition. “After college, my first job in San Francisco was at Third and Market, and I started biking there from my parents’ place.”

“I joined the SF Bicycle Coalition and started to volunteer to meet folks, and Bicycle Valet seemed like the best way,” Alexis said. And meet folks she did.

Since first volunteering in 2008, and then becoming a supervisor in 2011, Alexis has worked more events than she can recount. If you ask about her favorite, be prepared for her answer.

“Bike to Work Day is a flashback to 2007, when if you were biking, everyone else biking around you was excited to see you. The rush of big events like Tour de Fat, Golden Wheel or a Giants playoff game is great. I worked a bike-themed wedding once. I love events at beautiful bike shops like Huckleberry,” Alexis said, bouncing back and forth between scores of memories over the years. “Wait, I can’t believe I forgot Folsom Street Fair!”

You cannot help but smile talking to Alexis, who is genuinely enthusiastic about the thousands and thousands of people she has helped out through Bicycle Valet.

“When you’re securing someone’s bike and handing it back to them, you naturally can’t help but create a bond with most folks,” Alexis told us. “There’s an intense trust, and they’re really happy that we offer the service. Giants fans ask how much we charge, and they can’t believe us initially when we say, ‘It’s freeeeeee!’”

Want to join Alexis on the Bicycle Valet team? We’re hiring! To apply, please visit sfbike.org/jobs.
A Tale of Two Bobbies

By Chris Cassidy

Bobby Lu is a bundle of contagious energy. I asked Bobby for just one thing that he would change about San Francisco’s streets, and he could not help himself.

“I’d like to see the Bike Yield Law adopted here in the city; I’d like to see more street improvement projects approved just like the recent Second Street Improvement Project; I’d like to see more bike racks on sidewalks, more bike parking space on Caltrain,” Bobby told us, before rattling off a slew of other great ideas related to bike theft, kids biking, the Bay Bridge and a network of protected bike lanes criss-crossing our city.

It is tireless, determined members like Bobby that enable us to push for better streets and hold city officials accountable.

Bobby’s laundry list of demands for a better, more liveable city comes from knowing what it takes to achieve those goals, based on his background in urban planning. Bobby worked with the Bicycle Coalition of Greater Philadelphia before moving to the Bay Area. After landing in San Francisco, Bobby bought a new bike and joined your SF Bicycle Coalition before taking his first safety education class.

“I took the Intro to Urban Bicycling workshop offered by the SF Bicycle Coalition before taking his first safety education class.

“I don’t want to confuse other people with whom I share the road just because I am new to the city,” Bobby said.

Despite being an experienced urban bike rider, Bobby still took away tips from the class: Always follow the rules. Oh, and parking your bike overnight at a BART station is not exactly recommended.

Now a trained Bicycle Ambassador, Bobby looks forward to taking one of our family biking workshops. “Although I am not at that stage right now, knowing how families can bike safely would help me encourage families to bike in the city when I am out there talking with people.”

Bobby concluded, “I believe that a street that is not safe for a kid is not a safe street, and if more families are biking in the city, creating a voice, the city will have to make streets more family-friendly.”

Bobbie followed her grandchildren to the Bay Area after living for decades on the East Coast. When she moved to San Francisco, she was so scared of biking that she nearly placed her bike in storage. Then she heard about the SF Bicycle Coalition and our Intro to Urban Bicycling workshop.

Bobbie became an SF Bicycle Coalition member and signed up for her first class last year. To build on the knowledge gained from the class, Bobbie also signed up for one of the many group rides we list online at sfbike.org/events. Just to be on the safe side, Bobbie’s first group ride was designed specifically for beginners on a car-free road in Golden Gate Park.

“Taking that ride was really helpful,” Bobbie recalled. In addition to becoming more comfortable on her bike, Bobbie was inspired by the story of one of her fellow bike-riders.

“I was really impressed with one lady who’d learned to ride just a month earlier at the SF Bicycle Coalition’s Adult Learn to Ride class. She was in her thirties and had tried to learn to bike as a kid, but never took to it,” Bobbie said. “She took that class for beginners, learned to balance on a bike with the pedals removed, and was out pedaling in Golden Gate Park with us a month later.”

These days, Bobbie rides all over town. You can see her riding on Polk Street, heading out to Golden Gate Park, and running errands.

“For me, it’s about the enjoyment of getting out. It sounds trite, but I love the wind in my hair and the freedom,” Bobbie said. “Not waiting for transit or a car, I’m totally independent.”

Asked what she would tell someone who is not yet comfortable biking San Francisco, Bobbie replied: “You have to go out and just ride, and the SF Bicycle Coalition’s classes and rides are a great opportunity.”

Bobbie had one other recommendation — this one for city planners: “Polk and Market Streets – I’d make them public plazas, with auto traffic diverted to parallel streets. Those avenues could be amazing if they were designed just for people walking and biking.”

By Chris Cassidy
For additions to the Chain of Events, visit sfbike.org/events. To submit an event or organize a Rec Ride, go to “Submit an Event” at the bottom of our website.

Events

WOMEN BIKE SF:
COFFEE CLUB | 9-9AM
FRI., OCT. 2 | It’s a Grind Coffee House, 1800 Polk St.
FRI., NOV. 6 | Mercury Café, 201 Octavia St.
FRI., DEC. 4 | Vive la Tarte, 1164 Howard St.

Women Bike SF is an SF Bicycle Coalition program that aims to encourage and inspire more women, transgender*, and female-identified individuals to ride bikes with social events, rides, and workshops. Once a month, an informal gathering of women meet to talk bikes, share tips and coffeeen together. This is a perfect place to find riding buddies and answer some of your questions about biking in SF! sfbike.org/women

VIVA CALLE SJ* | 10AM-3PM
SUN., OCT. 11 | Downtown San Jose Walk, skate, bike and play! Open Streets in San José! VivaCalleSJ is a free recreational program that closes miles of iconic San José streets. vivaCalleSJ.org

SF BICYCLE COALITION
BOARD MEETING
TUE., OCT. 13; TUE., NOV. 10 | 6:30-8:30PM | SF Bicycle Coalition, 1720 Market St.
SF Bicycle Coalition Members are invited to attend all Board meetings. sfbike.org/board.

A.C.T. BIKE TO THEATER NIGHTS*
WED., OCT. 14 | A Christmas Carol! A.C.T., 405 Geary St.

Come out to a special night of theater that's specifically for people who bike! Complimentary Valet Bicycle Parking and pre-show happy hour at the American Conservatory Theater's Sky Bar. Patrons who bike to the theater receive a special discount on tickets using code THEATERSFBC.act-sf.org

SUNDAY STREETS – MISSION*
SUN., OCT. 18 | 10AM-4PM | Valencia St., from 26th St. to McCoppin Hub Plaza
Sunday Streets opens streets to people by closing them to cars and by creating recreational space for everyone! The SF Bicycle Coalition will be teaching our Freedom from Training Wheels workshop, and we’ll have a Service Station located on Valencia St. at 21st St. offering free air for your tires. Stop by and say hi! sundaysstreetssf.com

WOMEN BIKE SF TURNS ONE:
CELEBRATING OUR COMMUNITY
THU., OCT. 22 | 6:30-8:30PM | SF Sports Basement, 1590 Bryant St.
It’s been one year since our first Women Bike SF event. Join us for a celebration, hear from local leaders and share your thoughts on how to pedal the movement forward. sfbike.org/women

BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING*
MON., OCT. 26; DEC. 7 | 6:30-7:30PM | City Hall, Room 408, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Pl.
The committee meets monthly to consider bicycle transportation projects and policies to make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors, the SFMTA, and other City and County agencies. sfgov.org/bac

NEW MEMBER MEET AND GREET
WED., OCT. 28 | 6-7:30PM | SF Bicycle Coalition, 1720 Market St.
Want to find some new folks to bike with? Or know more about our work? If you’ve been an SF Bicycle Coalition member for less than a year, we warmly invite you to come to our New Member Meet and Greet! sfbike.org/event/10-28

WINTERFEST MEMBER PARTY
SUN., NOV. 15 | 1-10:30PM | City View at Metreon, 135 4th St.
Join over a thousand of your bike-loving buddies in an evening of festivities, food, music and bottomless beverages. Enjoy the fabulous local art auction, score a new bike and bid on items donated by your favorite bike-supporting businesses. sfbike.org/winterfest

SF BICYCLE COALITION MEMBER MEETING AND OPEN HOUSE
THU., DEC. 10 | 6-7:30PM | SF Bicycle Coalition, 1720 Market St.
Join us for our Annual Member Meeting to learn what’s new at the SF Bicycle Coalition and share feedback on the campaigns that matter the most to you. We want to hear how we’re doing and what we should be focusing on in 2016. This is your perfect opportunity to mingle with other members, get to know your SF Bicycle Coalition staff and check out our new headquarters. sfbike.org/event/member-2015

Rides

GALS WITH GEARS | 10AM
SAT., OCT. 3 | Iron Horse Trail (Level A)
SAT., OCT. 24 | Wildcat Canyon Rd. (Level C)
SUN., NOV. 15 | San Francisco Waterfront North (Level A)
SAT., DEC. 5 | Bay Trail South (Level A)
Join the Gals for monthly scenic rides for women aged 50+ years young. These fun rides are not fast and include easy tips on city riding. No rider is left behind! RSVP required. sfbike.org/gals.

TOUR DE TRIVIA
SUN., OCT. 11 | 1-5PM | SF Bicycle Coalition, 1720 Market St
Do you like trivia games? Do you ever wish you could show off your trivia mastery while riding your bike? Now’s your chance! Join us for a Tour de Trivía, celebrating our trivia knowledge (or lack thereof) and battling for the glory of being the winning Tour de Trivía team. Play by yourself, or bring a team of up to four people. There will be questions for everyone – and prizes for the winners! Join our Program Coordinator Libby for this fun, casual ride. sfbike.org/event/tour-de-trivia

7TH ANNUAL WHEELS FOR MEALS RIDE*
SAT., OCT. 17 | 7AM-4PM | Shadow Cliffs Park, Pleasanton
Tour the scenic Livermore Valley and then return to a celebration complete with entertainment, a delicious BBQ lunch and family-friendly fun! 15-70 mile route options. wheelsformealsride.com

RIDE SF TO STINSON BEACH
SAT., OCT. 24 | 9AM-2PM | CA Academy of Sciences, 55 Music Concourse Dr
Ride out of the city! This San Francisco to Stinson Beach ride is led by SF Bicycle Coalition member-volunteers and is targeted is for advanced beginners who want to try longer distance riding. This is not a fast-paced ride.
sfbike.org/rides
FALL 2015

Thanks to Dolan Law Firm for supporting the Tube Times

CALIFORNIA DREAM RIDE* OCT. 30 – NOV. 4 Santa Barbara to San Diego
CalBike’s 2nd annual bike tour showcasing some of the most beautiful scenery California has to offer five fun-filled days along many of southern California’s beachfront bike paths, through Santa Monica and Long Beach, the Pacific Coast Highway, into the Inland Empire, and ending in lovely San Diego. cadreamride.org

Free Classes

Don’t see a class date that works for you? We’re always adding more! Please check sfbike.org/education for the most up-to-date list of classes.

ADULTS 50+ INTRO TO URBAN BICYCLING WORKSHOP FRI., OCT. 2 2-3:15PM | SF Senior Center, 890 Beach St. Are you a biking baby boomer? The number of people aged 50 and over biking for transport, health and leisure is increasing faster than ever. With over 1/5 of attendees at our bike education classes aged between 50 and 80, the San Francisco Bicycle Coalition is partnering with the SF Senior Center to present this class specifically for adults aged 50 and over. RSVP required: sfbike.org/education

BIKING WITH BABIES/FAMILY BIKING SHOWCASE SAT., OCT. 3 10:30AM-12PM | Sunset Neighborhood Beacon Center, West Sunset Park 41st Avenue & Ortega Front seat, back seat, tag along or family bike? When can I start riding with my baby, and how do I get ready? Talk to our family biking experts, then try a variety of Family Bikes at the Family Bike Showcase. Vie Bikes will present choices of electric pedal-assist family bikes, the answer to San Francisco’s hills and the best way yet to bike with your family for school work, and everyday transportation. Co-sponsored by SF Public Library. FREE. sfbike.org/family

ATTEND SF BIKE COALITION MEETINGS* WED., OCT. 7 1-5PM | Richmond Police Station, 461 6th Ave. (facebook.com/sfbike), follow us on Facebook. REPRESENTING BAY AREA BICYCLISTS FOR 20 YEARS!

Free Classes

TRAFFIC SKILLS 101: CLASSROOM WORKSHOP SAT., OCT. 10 1-5PM | Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. SAT., OCT. 17 10AM-2PM | Richmond Police Station, 461 6th Ave. Looking to get comfortable riding in SF? Join us for a presentation covering all you need to know for biking in the Bay Area. This is the perfect class for those already riding to hone their skills, or for people interested in riding but intimidated by urban traffic. No bicycle necessary for this class. RSVP required: sfbike.org/education

ADULT LEARN TO RIDE SUN., OCT. 11 10:30AM-1:30PM | Panhandle Blacktop, Ashbury St. & Fell St. You’re never too old to learn to bicycle! Instructors will work one-on-one to teach the basics of balancing, starting, stopping and steering a bike, as well as proper helmet fit and adjustment. Most people learn to ride their bike while taking the class, but even if they don’t, they will leave with tips to continue teaching themselves to ride. RSVP required: sfbike.org/education

FREEDOM FROM TRAINING WHEELS AT SUNDAY STREETS SUN., OCT. 18 11AM-2:30PM | Valencia St. & 21st St. Freedom from Training Wheels is a great way to get kids riding without training wheels. Bring your child’s bike and helmet if you have them. If not, we have balance bikes for kids aged 2-5. We will be at every 2015 Sunday Streets, so we hope to see you there. sfbike.org/family

TEST RIDE A FAMILY BIKE AT SUNDAY STREETS SUN., OCT. 18 11AM-2:30PM | Valencia St. & 21st St. Talk to our Family Biking experts about biking with your baby, toddler or child, and see equipment options up close at Sunday Streets. Want to start riding with your kids? Test ride a family bike and see what works for your family. Children are welcome to try the new ride with you! sfbike.org/family

TRAFFIC SKILLS 101: ON-ROAD SUN., OCT. 25 10AM-4PM | SFPD’s Park Station, 1899 Waller St. Practice what you learned in the Traffic Skills: Classroom. This on-bicycle class follows a comfortable progression onto city streets. After a basic bike maintenance session, the class will practice bike maneuvering skills in a car-free practice area before riding on the streets in small, intimate groups led by instructors. You will gain experience riding alongside moving traffic in different traffic conditions, and apply the safety techniques practiced in the car-free space to real life. RSVP required: sfbike.org/education

ON ROAD WITH YOUR FAMILY/BIKE TO SCHOOL WORKSHOP SAT., OCT. 31 1:30-2:30PM | Argonne Elementary School, 880 18th Ave. Yes, you can bike to school! We’ll help you get comfortable biking for everyday transportation as a family. After a short safety session, we’ll practice riding together as a “bike train.” Children must be accompanied by an adult and have basic biking ability. Parents with or without children, family bikes, child seats and babies on board are also welcome. Free! Event repeats 3-4PM. Please pre-register at sfbike.org/family.
Become a San Francisco Bicycle Coalition member and get discounts all over town!

American Cyclery, Arizmendi Bakery*, Artisans of SF, Avenue Cyclery, Bay City Bike Rentals and Tours, BeOmmi, Bespoke Cycles, Big Swingin’ Cycles, Bike Friday, Blazing Saddles Bike Rentals, BoomBotix, Box Dog Bikes, Canyon Market, Chrome, Citizen Chain, City CarShare, City Cycle of San Francisco, Dahon, DD Cycles, Department Seventeen, Dolores Park Café, Duboce Park Café, Equator Coffees & Teas, Everchange Fitness, fitBERNALfit, fitGLENfit, Freewheel, Fresh Air Bicycles, Golden State Health, Good Hotel, Good Vibrations, Green Apple Books, Greens To Go, Heavy Metal Bikes, High Trails Cyclery, Huckleberry Bicycles, Kasa Indian, Market Street Cycles, Metromile, Mike’s Bikes, Mission Workshop, MonkeyLectric, The New Wheel, Noe Valley Cyclery, Nomad Cyclery, Nopalito, Ocean Cyclery, Other Avenues Co-op, Pacific Bikes & Boards, Pedal Revolution, Po Campo, Precita Park Café, PUBLIC Bikes, Refried Cycles, Rickshaw Bagworks, Roaring Mouse Cycles, Rock & Roll Massage, Sausalito Bicycle Company, See Jane Run Sports, Sports Basement, Streets of San Francisco, Sun Porch Yoga, Swell Bicycles, Timbuk2, A Tran’s Bay Bike Shop, Treat Street Bicycle Works, Valencia Cyclery, Velo Rouge Café, Vespertine, Warm Planet Bikes, Wiggle Bicycles, Yoga Garden SF, Zip Car.

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

JOIN THE SAN FRANCISCO BICYCLE COALITION!

Become a member of the San Francisco Bicycle Coalition and help us Connect the City and make San Francisco a better place to live, work and bike. As a member, you get discounts all over town, free bike trailer and air travel bike box rentals and more. See sfbike.org/membership for all the benefits.

MEMBERSHIP LEVEL:

- $35 ONE YEAR MEMBERSHIP
- $52 A BUCK A WEEK
- $120 SUSTAINERS*
- $250 SUPPORTING MEMBER*
- $500 PATRON*
- $1,000 DONOR*

*includes FREE SF Bicycle Coalition T-Shirt:

Men’s Size ___  OR Women’s Size ___

KEEP OUR WORK ROLLING INTO 2016: Make a year end gift today.

sfbike.org/donate

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