EMBRACING THE STRUGGLES AHEAD

So where do we go from here? I’ve been thinking about that question a lot in the wake of Nov. 8, 2016. As a movement of people who bike, we have fought successfully for improvements to our streets that make it safer, easier and more welcoming to ride a bicycle. But what do those wins matter if people who bike remain unsafe off their bikes?

Two thoughts have lifted me out of total despair in the face of an incoming administration that campaigned on anger, fear and division. The first thought is that it is now more important than ever that we show up to support other movements for justice in our community. The San Francisco Bicycle Coalition has previously chosen not to engage in struggles that did not neatly fit into a narrow interpretation of “promoting the bicycle for everyday transportation.” I think it’s time we take a new course.

We can begin to remedy that neglect by working to protect the San Francisco that so many of us cherish: a place where undocumented families find sanctuary, a safe haven for LGBTQ folks and a community that values pluralism. This was the hard-fought status quo before Donald Trump’s presidency. It will be essential moving forward to defend these values at all costs, or we will lose the place in which we all enjoy living, working and biking.

Many of us who were not fortunate enough to be born and raised here were drawn to San Francisco like a beacon. The second thought that gives me hope is that people will continue to gaze westward to our 47 square miles perched on the edge of the continent. It will matter in the coming years, perhaps more than ever, that we continue to lead in building a more just, affordable and sustainable city.

In this San Francisco of the very near future, we also cannot back down from fighting for the kinds of streets that people who bike deserve. That fight, as it always has, will start with our members coming together and figuring out the kinds of changes they would like to see on our streets to make biking safe and easy. We will involve communities across our city in this process and reach out to stakeholders to engage them in discussing how our streets can work better for those who use them. Then, we’ll take those ideas and plans to City Hall and begin the process of making those visions concrete. Along the way, we will continue to organize members to show up to meetings, write decisionmakers and voice their views. The end result should be the kinds of streets that people across San Francisco’s many neighborhoods deserve.

I know you all have thoughts and opinions as well. The good news is that you will have opportunities to add your voice. Strategic Planning kicks off in earnest in 2017. We will craft a plan to guide our work over the next five years and are actively seeking members’ input. Visit sfbike.org/StrategicPlan for more information on how you can get involved.

Ultimately, it’s you, the 10,000-plus members of the San Francisco Bicycle Coalition, bringing me the most hope in dark times. Your energy and passion have gotten us this far. We will not give up and we will need each of you, and more, to continue moving forward.

I’m ready to roll up my pant leg and pedal. I hope you’ll remain riding by my side.

Thank you for being a member,

Brian Wiedenmeier
Executive Director
San Francisco Bicycle Coalition

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
A group of San Francisco activists is taking matters into their own hands, installing safe-hit posts along unprotected corners and bike lanes, and capturing the imaginations of people who care about safe streets. The collective calls themselves SF Transformation, or SFMTra, a play on the name of the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA).

According to SFMTra members, tensions are running high between the two groups.

“We have obviously chosen to be provocative with our installations, calling attention to what could be if there was more leadership in City Hall,” SFMTra members said under condition of anonymity. “As a result, it appears that there are some people in the SFMTA who are upset with us.”

Reached for comment, the SFMTA characterized the organizations’ relationship differently.

“We hear the frustration the SFMTra is expressing and we share the same vision for safer, more bike-friendly streets,” the SFMTA told your SF Bicycle Coalition. “While we wish the SFMTra wouldn’t install unsanctioned measures on our streets, we do value the statement they are making. The discussion they have sparked has brought our attention to how even a few posts can transform a street in some people’s minds and make their ride feel safe.”

At most SFMTra action sites, the SFMTA has moved quickly to remove the activists’ posts. The lone site where City officials expressly allowed SFMTra posts to stand for a longer period is at the eastern entrance to Golden Gate Park’s JFK Drive. Videos taken shortly after SFMTra’s installation there show slowed automobile traffic and fewer incursions into the painted bike lane by people driving. Those 10 vigilante-installed posts were allowed to remain until the City later replaced them with six longer-term safe-hit posts.

“We believe to make Golden Gate Park a truly safe place for park-users, the City will need to come up with a proper solution for protected bike lanes and minimize the use of the park as a shortcut for speeding cars,” SFMTra members said. “Six posts and nine speed bumps is a good pilot, but San Francisco can and must think much bigger.”

Following the SFMTra action on JFK Drive, as well as the SFMTA’s replacement of their work, bigger thinking was on display in December 2016. With several SF Bicycle Coalition members in attendance, the City hosted an open house to, in their words, “identify solutions that reduce speeds and better manage vehicular traffic while maintaining access to Golden Gate Park destinations.”

While your SF Bicycle Coalition continues advocating for safety improvements in Golden Gate Park and across San Francisco, we asked both the SFMTA and SFMTra members how they envision seeing safe streets delivered.

“We know there’s a need to build more safety into our streets, and that it needs to get done faster,” the SFMTA said. “We are up to the task and we’re using the city’s crash data to target our safety projects and investments.”

“We want every citizen to take a fresh look around at the speeding vehicles and the dated infrastructure, and imagine a world where these are being addressed with smart solutions and policies,” SFMTra members said. “The City can act now to implement cheap, simple solutions and simultaneously develop plans for drastic, long-term street transformations. We also need to work together with the San Francisco Bicycle Coalition and other groups like Walk SF to make this a high-priority issue for our leaders.”

Visit SFMTra.org to learn more about the work of SFMTra members, find their accounts on social media and sign up for their emails. To support advocacy for permanent safety improvements on San Francisco streets, find the volunteer opportunity right for you at sfbike.org/get-involved.
Winterfest 2016 was a roaring success with music, art, bikes and fun sprawling across three floors. Thanks to everyone who volunteered, contributed and enjoyed.

SUNDAY STREETS RETURN IN MARCH

Biking, walking, rolling and playing – that’s our favorite way to enjoy SF’s streets. We’re excited to welcome Sunday Streets back for another great season from March through October. Sunday Streets are fun, free, open-streets events that rotate through SF’s neighborhoods. Your SF Bicycle Coalition will be out at every Sunday Streets under our orange tent offering free air for your tires, an easy opportunity to join or renew your membership, and our ever-popular Family Biking programs: Freedom From Training Wheels and Test Ride a Family Bike. Whether you’re volunteering with us or out enjoying the event, we’d love to see you. Check out the full 2017 schedule at SundayStreetsSF.com.

MORE FAMILIES BIKING AT SHARED SCHOOLYARDS

Your child now has a safe place to learn to bike in every San Francisco neighborhood. The Shared Schoolyard Project opens over 30 public school playgrounds every weekend from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm and will open even more schoolyards in 2017. When a school joins the Shared Schoolyard program, the school and its PTA receive cash grants for school and community activities. Learn more at SFSharedSchoolyard.org.

You may have seen SF Bicycle Coalition and our Safe Routes to School partner Presidio YBike last year at Shared Schoolyard kickoffs across the city from Bayview to the Parkside. Thanks to Shared Schoolyards, we will provide even more family biking workshops this spring. Check our calendar for upcoming events at sfbike.org/events.
WINTER 2017

CHINATOWN COMMUNITY BIKE BUILDS

This winter, we are hosting a pair of Community Bike Builds in Chinatown. On Nov. 30, our staff led a Community Bike Build and rodeo for children and adults in partnership with the Chinese Newcomers Service Center. In addition to distributing around 15 bikes, we delivered our Introduction to Urban Cycling class in Cantonese. This month, we will partner with the Chinese Progressive Association on another Community Bike Build for the Chinese immigrant community. We are excited to partner with these wonderful organizations to ensure that our work is inclusive and representative of San Francisco’s rich diversity. Find more information on our Community Bike Build program at sfbike.org/BikeBuilds.

RAINDROPS KEEP FALLING ON MY BIKE

Are gray skies making you think twice about hopping on your bike? Although rain may dampen your commute, riding in wet weather is easier than you might think. Here are our top tips to keep you riding safely year-round.

Take it slow: The ground can be slippery, and your brakes are less effective. Give yourself extra time to stop. Avoid slick metal grates, train tracks and sewer covers.

Gear up: Rain jackets and pants are your friends. Add in a synthetic base layer to keep you warm and to wick away sweat. Fenders will keep you cleaner and dryer, too.

Be visible: Brightly-colored clothing, front and rear lights, and reflective accessories will ensure other road-users are aware of you.

For more tips on rolling in the rain, visit sfbike.org/rain.

THANK YOU, BUSINESS MEMBERS

Make 2017 a great year for biking at your workplace by joining the SF Bicycle Coalition Business Membership program. Business Memberships include in-office bicycle education workshops, bicycle parking consultations, complimentary memberships, social events for your employees and more. Plus, your membership directly supports the advocacy necessary to make our city a better place to bike.

Thanks to our new and renewing Business Members: Credit Karma Inc; dydx LLC; Quantcast; San Francisco Health Plan; The Law Offices of Meisel, Krentsa & Burneikis; Underdog Couriers; WaterSmart Software; and Welkin Health.

CLIMATE RIDE

JOIN THE SAN FRANCISCO BICYCLE COALITION TEAM ON THE CALIFORNIA CENTRAL COAST.

JUNE 9-13, 2017

CLIMATERIDE.ORG

Thanks to Dolan Law Firm for supporting the Tube Times.

Member-volunteer Cathy Kora at our Nov. 30 Community Bike Build with the Chinese Newcomers Service Center.
The year is 2040. San Francisco’s South of Market (SoMa) neighborhood is everything a livable, sustainable community should be: Each street has been designed with people as the priority. Integrated transit lines meet up at the beautiful, iconic Transbay Terminal. Biking and walking are the best ways to get around and experience the neighborhood. Two key corridors, Folsom and Howard Streets, form the healthy, sustainable backbone of SoMa. The influx of new housing and job centers means that local businesses are thriving from all the foot traffic. With so many different transportation options available, getting around is more affordable than ever.

**THE PLAN BEFORE THE PROJECT**

In 2011, the City kicked off the Central SoMa Plan, recognizing the need to grow our downtown core as our city attracted more jobs and residents. The Plan sought to answer several key questions: How will we increase capacity for jobs and housing? How do we maintain the diversity of residents who call SoMa their home today? How can we expand open space? And how can we promote biking, walking and transit as the preferred means of getting around?

Six years of walking tours, community surveys, and countless meetings with community groups and neighborhood stakeholders was the first step in answering these questions. The City is now in the final stages of incorporating feedback, refining plans and completing environmental review. The next step is seeking the Board of Supervisors’ approval for those plans in mid-2017.

In order to accommodate growth, the City needed to plan for its infrastructure to-be, starting with its transportation networks. While the Central SoMa Plan was bounded by Second Street to the east and Sixth Street to the west, the City looked beyond those boundaries for two key corridors: Folsom and Howard Streets.

Using the groundwork laid by the Central SoMa Plan project thus far, the SFMTA launched their Folsom and Howard Streetscape Project in December 2016 to hone in on the ideal design for these two streets. The scope of this project extends from Second all the way to 11th. By the end of 2017, the SFMTA aims to approve physically protected bike lanes connecting the full length of the project as well as a suite of pedestrian, transit and livability improvements from better lighting to more open spaces.

**MAKING OUR DREAMS COME TRUE**

The work ahead is to join today’s infrastructure to the vision people dream of and deserve. Knowing our advocacy is strongest when informed and led by our membership, your San Francisco Bicycle
Coalition surveyed members about your vision for SoMa and received nearly 500 responses. The results were clear: Streets need to be redesigned with people as the top priority.

What was most interesting was the feedback on design preferences. A few big picture design options were proposed by the Central SoMa Plan, and we included the conceptual images in our survey. Respondents preferred physically protected bike lanes going both directions on Folsom over adding lanes to Howard.

Given that 80 percent of respondents were concerned about dangerous intersections, we know that protected intersections are part of the answer, as well. Protected intersections, like SF’s first at Division and Ninth Streets, take the chaos out of crossing a street by adding physical barriers to separate people biking from vehicle traffic. They can add additional signage and signals along with raised crosswalks so that everyone is visible and knows when to cross. Protected intersections also employ treatments to slow speeds of turning traffic, further improving safety.

Seventy-four percent of survey respondents noted concerns about drivers entering the bike lanes. Survey results also showed that people want to see more greenery in SoMa. Bike lanes physically protected with concrete planters can solve both these problems by incorporating greenery and stopping drivers from entering the bike lane.

Now is the time to imagine the possibilities for every inch of asphalt, curb space and sidewalk in order to transform Folsom Street into the bike-friendly, walkable, people-first street we know it can be. Over the next year, the SFMTA will lead a series of open houses and other opportunities to solicit public feedback. And your San Francisco Bicycle Coalition will regularly convene our SoMa Member Committee, which launched last year and won approval of protected bike lanes on Seventh and Eighth Streets in November. (See sidebar.)

We know that the way to win these projects is bringing the whole neighborhood together and fighting for a vision of safe streets that serves everyone. That’s why it’s more important than ever that we reach out to our long-standing community partners, our allies in safe streets advocacy and other neighborhood leaders. Join us and tell everyone you know: Share your dream for SoMa with folks you know and welcome them to the table.

**IMPROVING CONNECTIONS TO FOLSOM**

Our vision for San Francisco is a network of physically protected bike lanes criss-crossing our city and connecting every neighborhood. With that goal in mind, we wanted to share two campaigns that will make a newly redesigned Folsom Street accessible for people coming from other parts of the city.

**EMBARCADERO**

Plans are in the works to reimagine the Embarcadero with a world-class biking experience. In November, the SFMTA unveiled design options to transform the street with protected bike lanes from AT&T Park to Fisherman’s Wharf, providing more space for people to take in views of the Bay. Stay tuned: The SFMTA will hold a workshop this spring to display the next round of options and to gather public input on the designs.

**SEVENTH AND EIGHTH STREETS: APPROVED!**

Mayor Ed Lee released his Executive Directive on Vision Zero in August and he didn’t mince words: Complete three protected bike lane projects within the next nine months, including safety improvements on Seventh and Eighth Streets.

With the hard work of SFMTA staff to ensure due diligence in outreach and design were met, we saw over 100 letters of support that convinced the SFMTA Board of Directors to approve the project for protected bike lanes connecting Market to Folsom Streets in November. Construction will begin early this year to significantly improve biking and walking there.

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Design options under consideration for Folsom Street include a two-way protected bike lane (top) and separate physically protected bike lanes on either side of Folsom (bottom).
“Advocacy groups like the SF Bicycle Coalition help me feel like I have a direct impact on local politics. It shows that a grassroots group of people who care deeply about an important cause can make real changes in a place where change is notoriously hard to come by.”

Carlin Eng
member & monthly giver

“I love that I can bring my bike on Caltrain. If I couldn’t, I would have to drive to work in San Mateo. So the Caltrain Member Committee is something really important to me. The bike-and-train combo gives me a chance to ride my bike each day and have productive time on the train before and after work.”

Danielle Thoe
SF Bicycle Coalition Caltrain Committee member

“I can’t stress it enough, but my favorite part about the SF Bicycle Coalition is the community. In my first meeting there I met several people who have already become close friends. There really is something special about finding a place and group that not only shares your passion, but seeks to enable others to share it as well.”

Kendal Feirce
new member

“I’d really like to see SF become a city in which everyone can feel welcome and comfortable on a bike and which has world-class protected bicycle infrastructure.”

Asumu Takikawa
member & advocate around Duboce Park

“My favorite thing about the SF Bicycle Coalition is the commitment and enthusiasm of the staff and the volunteers, anytime, anywhere. Volunteering at Bike to Work Day is always a wonderful experience, too.”

Mark Scheuer
member & advocate around Duboce Park

“Last year when I was hit by a car on my way home from work, the SF Bicycle Coalition was there to support and advise me. They helped turn my anger into advocacy. It was a reminder of how much work we have yet to do, and how important continuing my membership is to help get it done.”

Emily Claymore
member & advocate in the Mission

“I don’t just think that the SF Bicycle Coalition’s work can change SF streets. I’ve witnessed and been part of it for many many years.”

Esther Gallagher
barter member

“sfbike.org/membership/
#OtherWaysToJoin

“My favorite thing about the San Francisco Bicycle Coalition is the resources available to everyone which include Rules of the Road with visual pictures and clear explanation of transportation codes. It helps me focus my objectives for student learning during bicycle unit plans.”

Shenny Diaz
member & bike-to-school champion at Denman Middle School

“Carlin Eng
member & monthly giver

Mark Scheuer
member & advocate around Duboce Park

Emily Claymore
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Esther Gallagher
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Shenny Diaz
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“Advocacy groups like the SF Bicycle Coalition help me feel like I have a direct impact on local politics. It shows that a grassroots group of people who care deeply about an important cause can make real changes in a place where change is notoriously hard to come by.”

“San Francisco Bicycle Coalition is the resources available to everyone which include Rules of the Road with visual pictures and clear explanation of transportation codes. It helps me focus my objectives for student learning during bicycle unit plans.”
I first learned about the SF Bicycle Coalition while searching the internet for San Francisco internships from a hostel in Chile in 2014. I’d never ridden a bicycle in San Francisco and I knew next to nothing about the organization. Three months later, I enjoyed my first bike ride in the city straight to the SF Bicycle Coalition office for my internship interview. Spoiler alert: I got the internship.

I loved promoting the bicycle for everyday transportation so much that when a staff position opened up, I jumped on it. Now the organization’s Program Coordinator and manager of our internship program, I’m grateful to the many talented individuals who give their time to support our organization as interns (and volunteers!)

We’re lucky to have three staffers in addition to myself who began as interns, and many more who have risen to take on new roles or started recently.

Anna Gore heard about the SF Bicycle Coalition through her work with a bicycle advocacy organization in Athens, Georgia. As soon as she arrived in San Francisco in 2012, she jumped into volunteering and interning. She started out as Bicycle Education Intern. After wearing a couple of different hats, including Interim Volunteer Coordinator and Database Assistant, she seized the opportunity to join the membership team and is today our Membership and Business Program Manager.

“As an intern, you are often working with one or two staff members so you only see one side of the organization’s work,” Charles said. “Transitioning to staff, you get to see and hear about everything that people are working on, which is a ton. The work we do here is incredibly important for San Francisco and to be able to do that full-time is an exceptional opportunity.”

Julia Schaber began as a Graphic Design Intern at the beginning of 2016 to complement her last semester studying Visual Communications at San Francisco State University. She was drawn to the organization because it aligned with her personal morals and values, even as she strived to be more comfortable biking in urban settings. It was on Bike to Work Day in May of 2016 that she found her wheels, riding to City Hall with her local Commuter Convoy and around town with the Communications team. She loved supporting our work so much that she applied to join the staff when the chance arose. Now our Graphic Designer, she’s impressed with the organization’s impact.

“I love seeing what an incredible amount of work such a small team can accomplish, and how far-reaching the work of the SF Bicycle Coalition actually is,” Julia said. “Our work doesn’t only affect people on bikes, but the entire community of San Francisco. I am so glad to be a part of that influence.”

We’re also excited about some of the recent promotions we’ve made to elevate exceptional staff members to new roles. Brian Wiedenmeier, now our Executive Director, passed the reins of the Development Director position to former Development Manager Tracy Chinn. In 2015, we were thrilled when long-time Community Organizer Janice Li accepted a new role as Advocacy Director.

In addition to these familiar faces, you’ll see some new people hanging out at the SF Bicycle Coalition office. Ana Vasudeo recently joined the team as our Program Director, bringing years of advocacy work around parks and green jobs to our work. Keep an eye out at public meetings on the waterfront and in western neighborhoods for Community Organizer Julia Raskin, and look for Membership Assistant Kelsey Roeder’s smiling face at Women Bike SF’s Coffee Clubs.

Come see us, won’t you? Whether at a Women Bike SF event, phone banking or at our upcoming New Member Meet & Greet, we’re organizing an array of events and have them all listed for your convenience on pages 13-14 and at sfbike.org/events. We hope to see you soon!
Riding in the Richmond

By Julia Raskin

With ocean views, endless dining options and beautiful parks to the north and south, what could make the Richmond District even better? More and better biking, of course!

We are working with members like you on some exciting projects that will make the Richmond more comfortable for people riding bicycles and walking to local stores, schools and parks. The San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) and SF Planning Department collaborated with then-Supervisor Eric Mar to set the groundwork for improvements that make it easier and more enjoyable for people to bike and walk.

Arguello Boulevard

Get ready to roll out the green carpet on Arguello Boulevard from Golden Gate Park to the Presidio. Coming this February, a spacious buffered bike lane will connect two world-class parks, with safety islands at McAllister Street, Golden Gate Avenue and Cabrillo Street that will make crossing the street more comfortable. Thanks to the leadership of Supervisor Mar, the SFMTA led an extensive public planning process to gather input from residents, our members and local businesses. We made sure that Arguello Boulevard will be safe and enjoyable for everyone, and will offer a welcoming green connection for people biking between the parks.

“neighborways”

Imagine your Richmond neighborhood with calm streets where people walking and biking are given priority. The SFMTA is committed to this vision through their Inner Richmond Neighborway project, focused on Eighth and 23rd Avenues. Public outreach for Eighth Avenue started in the fall, and outreach for 23rd Avenue will kick off later this year. The goal for these north-south corridors is calm and easy-to-ride streets with reduced speeds and auto traffic volumes, providing another connection between Golden Gate Park and the Presidio. This winter you can look forward to giving your feedback on the first round of designs on Eighth Avenue.

Golden Gate Park

Last year, Mayor Ed Lee’s Executive Directive identified Golden Gate Park as a top priority for improving road safety to support the City’s Vision Zero commitment to eliminate traffic deaths in San Francisco by 2024. As a first step in that process, the SFMTA installed speed humps on JFK Drive west of Transverse to address chronic speeding. What’s the next step in building a park for people? The City is conducting a traffic circulation study and held an open house in December to hear your experiences of getting around the park. Your SF Bicycle Coalition will continue to advocate alongside our members for more open streets for people and less speeding as the study continues. Get the latest at sfbike.org/ggp.

A holistic strategy for the Richmond

The Richmond District Strategy is a collaboration between Supervisor Mar’s Office and the San Francisco Planning Department that provides a big-picture view of the District’s current and future needs, including housing, parks and transportation. SF Planning conducted a survey to inform the strategy in 2015 and received over 1,400 responses. Of the respondents, 28 percent bike and 86 percent walk to the local shops, and residents of the district show a strong desire for more transportation choices aside from personal vehicles. At an open house in December, SF Bicycle Coalition members came out to discuss the findings around street safety and areas for improvement. Members are excited to build momentum for a Richmond that prioritizes sustainable, active transportation.

For every improvement towards livable streets in the Richmond, SF Bicycle Coalition members deserve credit for turning out, speaking up and empowering us to advocate for your vision: A network of physically protected bike lanes that make every corner of our city accessible and fun to bike. We could not do this work without you and are grateful every single day for your support.

Self-powered in the Excelsior

By Chris Cassidy

The San Francisco Bicycle Coalition is a collection of people dedicated to collaborating on improving our neighborhoods for everyone’s enjoyment, but we’re not the only folks delivering safe streets for San Franciscans.

The Excelsior is a neighborhood teeming with passionate advocates organizing to improve access to healthy, affordable transportation. Among the many efforts underway there is a grassroots-organized, weekly Walk & Roll to School Hub for families to enjoy. Frank Sanchez, Safe Routes to School liaison at nearby SF Community School, rides with families to school from the Hub every Tuesday morning. (see the sidebar on the next page.)

The SF Community School bike class is a great complement to the Hub. Nic Aulston, the class’ teacher, also co-founded Bicis del Pueblo, self-styled as “a community-based bike project that works ... towards providing low-income youth and families ... resources to incorporate the bicycle into their everyday lives.” Their programs, supported by PODER, include providing community members access to bike repair skills and safety education. They also distribute bikes, sometimes in partnership with our Community Bike Builds program.
SF Community School is just one of four schools close to the Hub. Last Bike & Roll to School Week, students from Denman Middle School’s bike class also stopped by before riding to school together.

“That ride was the first time that half of those students ever rode a bicycle in the streets of San Francisco,” the class’ teacher Shenny Diaz said. “As a Physical Education teacher, my main concern is health and well-being. Bicycle advocacy can help transform students’ lives by providing a positive outlet to deal with stress and having the feeling of being free.”

Working with community members like Shenny, Nic and Frank, your SF Bicycle Coalition advocates for improvements for everyone biking in and around the Excelsior including on Mansell Street, Geneva Avenue and through the Excelsior Neighborhood Greenways Project.

As recently as last year, Mansell Street bisected McLaren Park with several lanes of high-speed traffic. Those traffic lanes are being reduced in number to create a physically separated path for people biking and walking, opening up access for more community members to San Francisco’s second-largest park. The reduced number of automobile lanes is also intended to reduce speeds through the park.

A few blocks south of Mansell, Geneva Avenue runs from Ocean Avenue to the southeast city line, connecting the Outer Mission, the Excelsior and Crocker-Amazon. In addition to safety improvements for people biking and walking, the City’s multi-modal project on Geneva seeks to improve the reliability of the 8-Bayshore bus. That Muni line serves about 23,000 San Franciscans every day, making it among the busiest bus lines citywide. We’re advocating to see robust outreach by the City on this project, including non-English materials to meet the needs of Cantonese-speakers and other communities along the corridor.

Three neighborhood greenways are also planned for the Excelsior with funding from Caltrans. The corridors are yet to be named, but City planners intend to integrate their construction with the redesign underway for Geneva Avenue. As the process moves forward, we will engage community members with opportunities to help shape where and how neighborhood streets are improved for biking and walking.

Together, with community groups leading the way, your SF Bicycle Coalition is proud to do our part in supporting Excelsior residents and neighbors realizing their dreams for their streets.

“Bike & Roll to School Week”

**APRIL 17-21, 2017**

**EVERY SCHOOL CAN JOIN THE CELEBRATION!**

The Excelsior Walk & Roll to School Hub not only serves as a model for other Safe Routes to School communities, but has also increased the number of families walking or biking to school. Your SF Bicycle Coalition hosted the kickoff for Bike & Roll to School Week at Excelsior Playground last April with bike trains to all four nearby schools. Then-Supervisor John Avalos and other community leaders joined hundreds of students biking, walking and scooter-rolling to school as part of the celebration.

The program exemplifies the power of collaboration with Excelsior families taking the health and happiness of their community into their own hands.

Would you like to join the fun? The SF Bicycle Coalition leads the “bike trains” from the Excelsior Walk & Roll to School Hub on the first Tuesday of every month, supporting biking families and SF Community School’s bike class (taught by Nic Aulston – see left). See the calendar of events for the bike train schedule at sfbike.org/events or email nancy@sfbike.org.

**ONE YEAR IN: SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL FROM EXCELSIOR PLAYGROUND**

At a playground in the Excelsior within walking distance of four schools, local families had a vision: What if we organized a daily gathering for students, parents and caretakers to build community and encourage more people to walk and bike to school?

Now entering its second year, the Excelsior Playground Walk & Roll to School Hub is a testament to community-centered organizing. Families come together every Tuesday morning during the school year to enjoy free snacks, coffee and a chance to catch up with their neighbors before making trips to Cleveland Elementary, Denman Middle School, Monroe Elementary and SF Community School.

To encourage more sustainable, healthy transportation options for families, neighborhood activist and Safe Routes to School Ambassador Jacquie Zapata-Chavez secured a community action grant from the Excelsior Collaborative. She then helped launch the Walk & Roll Hub in December 2015.

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EMBARKING BY BIKE

By Kelsey Roeder

“Depending on the size of your dog, there are a lot of different ways to bring them along: front-mounted baskets, rear-mounted crates, trailers. But whatever system you use, make sure your dog is safe. Be sure they can’t jump out of their basket or crate while you’re riding, or that they won’t shift and cause you to lose your balance. Start with a short ride, take it slow, and encourage your dog with lots of treats.”

- Ivan Abeshaus

“Sandy usually rides in my backpack and will rest her head on my shoulder or stick her nose in the wind. We usually bike to Golden Gate Park or Ocean Beach. She loves to run through the plants and sand at the beach.”

- Kaitlin McGee

“Biking is already one of our favorite things to do together, and adding our puppy into the mix just makes it all that much more fun. Plus, there’s no better crowd-pleaser than a puppy on wheels! We go to the dog park together, or to the ice cream shop to get her a scoop of vanilla (her fave).”

- Kelsey Roeder

“When I am not commuting into work on my bike, I often ride on several South Bay trails. A relaxing ride on the Stevens Creek trail and the Coyote Creek Trail are Monte’s favorites. I have several backpacks that I use to ride with him. The most important item is a dog-body harness that can be firmly attached to the backpack to prevent Monte from falling out. Optional item is ‘Doggles’, for eye protection. This item is mandatory for motorcycle rides, but that’s another story.”

- Hugo Gonzales

“Start slow. We gave our pup a chance to get used to her trailer with treats for a couple weeks before we ever moved it. Then we hand pushed it to get her used to the movement. Biking with Dashi gives us another thing to do that she loves and finds engaging. I love biking to the dog park. It’s just such a convenient way to get there.”

- Juli Uota
**KEEP YOUR WHEELS SAFE: HOW TO LOCK YOUR BIKE**

By Libby Nachman

1. **U-Lock secured to rack and around bike frame through rear triangle and wheel rim**

2. **Cable secured through U-Lock and around wheel**

3. **Locking skewers replaced quick releases for added security**

4. **Cable secured to seat and around bike frame for added security**

**PROPER LOCKING IS THE FIRST DEFENSE AGAINST BIKE THEFT.**

**PREVENTING BIKE THEFT**

In San Francisco, always use a hardened-steel U-Lock as your primary lock. Cable locks and cheap U-Locks can easily be cut. Secure your wheels with locking skewers (best) or cable around both wheels. Lock the U-Lock through the rear triangle of your bike frame (never just the wheels) and to a secure corral, rack or pole. Allow for as little space within the lock as possible; loose locks can be more easily broken open. For extra security, get a locking skewer for your seat or attach a cable through your seat and frame. You can also install a locking skewer for your handlebars.

If you’re in need of new locks, be sure to flash your SF Bicycle Coalition membership card at one of our participating Discount Partners: sfbike.org/discounts.

We also strongly recommend being proactive about keeping your records straight. Take photos of your bike and its serial number. Contact your renter’s or homeowner’s insurance company to see what options exist for insuring your bike. Register your bike with SAFE Bikes, who maintains a registry of bikes in SF. You’ll get a unique serial number attached to your bike. If your bike is stolen and then recovered, the police will know who to get it back to. Visit safebikes.org to register your bike.

**WHAT IF MY BIKE IS STOLEN?**

We sincerely hope it doesn’t happen, but if it does, follow these steps to aid in recovery of your bike.

First, file a report with the SF Police Department. While you can file it online (sanfranciscopolice.org/Reports), investigators strongly recommend reporting it in person at the nearest station. Provide your serial number and photos of your bike. If you can, collect extra evidence: Look for cameras near where the bike was stolen. Buildings often have cameras facing the street, and you can contact the building owner to recover the tapes. Ask soon after the bike is stolen to ensure the footage isn’t deleted. We also suggest filing a claim with your renter’s or homeowner’s insurance company, if bike theft is covered.

Next, post your stolen bike online. You can register it with the Bike Index (stolen.bikeindex.org). The Bike Index makes stolen bikes harder to sell and easier to reunite with owners when they are recovered. We also recommend posting the bike as “Stolen” in the bikes section of craigslist. However, if you receive a tip or info, contact the police. Do not attempt to recover the bike on your own.

Finally, visit local flea markets to look for your bike. Some people have reported finding their bikes at San Jose (Wednesday, Friday); Oakland Coliseum (Saturday) and Laney College (Sunday) flea markets. If you do spot your bike, call the local police immediately and ask them to assist in your recovery.

For more resources on theft & locking, please visit: sfbike.org/theft.
EVENTS

BIKEWINNER HAPPY HOUR®
Thu, Jan. 12 | 6:00 - 8:00 pm | International Sports Bar, 1000 Columbus Ave.
Venture up to North Beach for the January BikeWinner Happy Hour. Check in with Santa by 7:15 pm and you’ll have a chance to win lights, fenders and other BikeWinter goodies. sfbike.org/events.

BIKECYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING®
Monday, Jan. 23, Feb. 27, Mar. 27 | 6:30 - 7:30 pm | 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.

SF BICYCLE COALITION
BOARD MEETING
Tuesdays, Jan. 31, Feb. 28, Mar. 28 | 6:30 - 8:30 pm | SF Bicycle Coalition, 1720 Market St.
The SF Bicycle Coalition is governed by an all-volunteer Board of Directors. The board is responsible for the organization’s financial health and achievement of its mission. SF Bicycle Coalition members are invited to attend all board meetings. No RSVP needed. sfbike.org/board.

SAVE THE DATE: BAY AREA BIKE TO WORK DAY
Thu, May 11 | SF Bay Area
The Bay Area loves biking, and one of the most fun and rewarding days to bike is the annual Bay Area Bike to Work Day celebration. Join the SF Bicycle Coalition and thousands of others who will be biking to work on this great day. Energizer Stations will be set up in neighborhoods across the city to offer free coffee, bike tune-ups, snacks and other goodies. sfbike.org/btwd.

FAMILY

BIKE & ROLL TO SCHOOL WEEK
ORGANIZERS MEET-UP
Thu, Jan. 19 | 6:30 - 7:45 pm | SF Bicycle Coalition, 1720 Market St.
Help your SF Bicycle Coalition plan for Bike & Roll to School Week. Take place at schools throughout San Francisco Apr. 17-21. SF Bicycle Coalition members, past bike-to-school organizers, parents, caregivers or school staff who want to have a great event at their school are welcome. Here’s your chance to advise on logistics, publicity, student giveaways and school incentives, and learn about leading a bike train or practice ride. Children welcome (no child care available). sfbike.org/events.

LEARN TO RIDE WITH SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOLS
Sat, Jan. 21 | 11:00 am - 2:00 pm | Noe Valley: Alvarado Elementary School
Sat, Feb. 11 | 11:00 am - 2:00 pm | Bayview: Bret Harte Elementary School
Sat, Mar. 11 | 11:00 am - 2:00 pm | Portola: E.R. Taylor Elementary School
Sat, Mar. 18 | 11:00 am - 2:00 pm | Western Addition: Rosa Parks Elementary School
Safe Routes to School sponsors YBike at host schools in every neighborhood. The program includes an optional on-road ride. Free. For more events and details see sfbike.org/family.

LEARN TO RIDE WITH YBike®
Sundays, Jan. 8, Feb. 5, Mar. 5 | 11:00 am - 2:00 pm | Main Post Parade Ground – Presidio
Learn to ride your bike with YBike’s awesome instructors. They provide bikes and equipment — you just bring your game face (ideally a big, toothy grin) and a little determination. All ages of children welcome. Free. First Sunday every month. Program details subject to change. ymcasf.org/programs/ybike-presidio.

SAVE THE DATE: BIKE & ROLL TO SCHOOL IN THE EXCELSIOR
Tuesdays, Jan. 3, Feb. 7, Mar. 7 | 8:00 - 9:15 am | Excelsior Playground, 579 Madrid St.
The SF Bicycle Coalition leads a Bike & Roll to School “bike train” from Excelsior Playground to nearby elementary schools. Join parents, teachers and students who gather with bikes and scooters (and helmets). Live further away? Park the car nearby or hop off MUNI at Madrid and Persia to join the fun. The bike trains roll on the first Tuesday of every month. There are also weekly “walking school buses” for walkers and strollers. Heavy rain cancels bike rides. We walk rain or shine. sfbike.org/events.

For additions to the Chain of Events, visit sfbike.org/events. To submit an event or organize a ride, go to “Submit an Event” at the bottom of our website. Events not officially organized by the SF Bicycle Coalition are marked with an asterisk.
BIKING WITH BABIES / FAMILY BIKING SHOWCASE | Ongoing

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. Free. Details: sfbike.org/family

ON-Road WITH YOUR FAMILY / BIKE TO SCHOOL WORKSHOP | Ongoing

Yes, you can bike to school. After a short safety session, we’ll practice riding together as a “bike train.” Children must have their own bikes and be accompanied by an adult. Parents with or without children, family bikes and babies on board are also welcome. Free. For dates and event details see sfbike.org/family.

PIE RIDE | Sun, Mar. 12 | 2:30 – 7:00 pm | Mission Pie, 2001 Mission St.

In honor of upcoming Pi Day, join us for a social ride to some of the great pie-makers in the city. We’ll meet around 2:30 pm for a quick bite at Mission Pie. Just want to ride? Meet us outside at 3:10 pm; we’ll depart promptly at 3:14 pm to visit a few pie peddlers around town. After a quick (pizza) pie break in Lower Haight around 4:45 pm, we’ll pedal to Ocean Beach to whet our appetites and enjoy the sunset. We’ll end the ride a little after 6:00 pm at Chili Pies & Ice Cream, so be sure to save room for dessert. This is a 20-mile, mostly flat ride at an intermediate pace. Bike locks, appetites and cash/card for food purchases are strongly recommended. If you’d like to dine, but costs are a concern, please contact the ride leader. RSVP appreciated but not required. Full details here: sfbike.org/rides

BIKEWINTER SEASON | Ongoing

FinaLE RIDE | Sun, Mar. 19 | 1:00 – 4:00 pm | McKinley Monument in the Panhandle (Oak & Baker)

Say farewell to the BikeWinter season on San Francisco’s most cycled attraction, the Golden Gate Bridge. Meet by the McKinley statue in the Panhandle (Oak near Baker) and roll out at 1:15 pm to ride through Golden Gate Park, then up Arguello and Washington to reach the bridge. We’ll return to Golden Gate Park the same way, ultimately ending near Hippie Hill. This is an intermediate ride at a casual pace; RSVP appreciated but not required. sfbike.org/rides

BICYCLE AMBASSADOR TRAINING | Tue, Feb. 17 | 6:00 – 7:30 pm

Flex your advocacy muscle and become a Bicycle Ambassador. Come to our training to get up to date on what’s going on with the SF Bicycle Coalition and learn how to sign up new members. This training will also prepare you to volunteer at races, festivals, Service Stations and other events. Please note that you must be a current member of the SF Bicycle Coalition to become a Bicycle Ambassador. RSVP: sfbike.org/volunteer.

FREE CLASSES

Please check sfbike.org/education for the most up-to-date list of classes.

ADULT LEARN TO RIDE | Ongoing

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 bikes 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.

INTRO TO URBAN BICYCLING WORKSHOP | Ongoing

Come learn the basics of biking in San Francisco at our Intro to Urban Bicycling Workshop. Our one-hour course covers bicycling for everyday riding in SF, the rules of the road, route planning and more. RSVP: sfbike.org/education.

TRAFFIC SKILLS 101: CLASSROOM WORKSHOP | Ongoing

Looking to get comfortable riding in San Francisco? Join us for a presentation covering all you need to know for biking in SF and 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 bike is necessary for this class. RSVP required: sfbike.org/education.

TRAFFIC SKILLS 101: ON-ROAD | Ongoing

Practice what you learned in the Traffic Skills: Classroom. This on-bicycle class follows a comfortable progression onto city streets, beginning with a short review of the lessons from the classroom course. 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 safe-riding techniques practiced in the car-free space into real life. RSVP required: sfbike.org/education.

COMMUNITY BIKE BUILDS | Ongoing

In SF and the Bay Area. This is the opportunity for the community to come together and refurbish reclaimed bicycles for its members. Every Community Bike Build requires more than a dozen volunteers to help out with both mechanical and non-mechanical tasks, and lunch is provided. We’d love your help. Sign up at sfbike.org/volunteer.

BARTER MEMBERSHIP | Volunteer for 10 hours in a three-month period and earn a year’s membership for free. If you’d like to get started with our Barter Membership program, please visit sfbike.org/membership.

WINTER 2017
YOUR SPECIAL YEAR-END
DONATION TODAY WILL
SUPPORT OUR WORK TO
CREATE SAFE STREETS
FOR PEOPLE BIKING.

Let’s RIDE
sfbike.org/donate

BECOME A SAN FRANCISCO BICYCLE COALITION MEMBER
AND GET DISCOUNTS ALL OVER TOWN!

American Cyclery
Artizmendi Bakery*
Artisans of SF
Avenue Cyclery
Bay City Bike Rentals & Tours
BeOmni
Bespoke Cycles
The Big Hand
Big Swingin’ Cycles
The Bike Connection
Bike Friday
Blazing Saddles Bike Rentals
Body Awakening
BoomBotix
Box Dog Bikes
Canyon Market
Charles Coat
Chrome
Citizen Chain
City Cycle of San Francisco
Dahon
DD Cycles
Dolores Park Café
Duboce Park Café
Equator Coffees & Teas
Everchange Fitness
fiBERNALfit
fitGLENSt
Freewheel
Fresh Air Bicycles
Golden State Health
Good Hotel
Good Vibrations
Green Apple Books
Green’s To Go
Heavy Metal Bikes
High Trails Cydery
Huckleberry Bicycles
IMPACT Bay Area
Kasa Indian
Market Street Cycles
Mike’s Bikes
Mission Bicycles
Mission Workshop
MonkeyLectric
Noe Valley Cyclery
Nomad Cyclery
Nopalito
Ocean Cyclery
Other Avenues Co-op
P-Fits
Pacific Bikes & Boards
Pedal Inn
Pedal Revolution
Po Campo
Precita Park Café
PUBLIC Bikes
Rickshaw Bagworks
Riide
Roaring Mouse Cycles
See Jane Run Sports
SFC San Francisco
Sports Basement
Streets of San Francisco
Sun Porch Yoga
Swell Bicycles
Timbuk2
A Tran’s Bay Bike Shop
Treat Street Bicycle Works
Urban Oasis
Valencia Cyclery
Velo Rouge Café
Vespertine
Warm Planet Bikes
Wiggle Bicycles
Yoga Garden SF
Zipcar

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

*includes free SF Bicycle Coalition t-shirt! Please choose.

Men’s  Women’s

MEMBERSHIP TYPE:

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

Yes, I want to volunteer!
Sign me up for info on:

☐ MARKET STREET
☐ POLK STREET
☐ 2ND STREET
☐ THE WIGGLE
☐ THE EMBARCADERO
☐ BIKES AND BUSINESS
☐ SOMA STREETS
☐ OTHER: ____________

Make checks payable to: San Francisco Bicycle Coalition.
Check with your employer about matching your donation.

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NAME ______________________________________ CITY ___________
ADDRESS ____________________________________________
ZIP ____________________________ HOME PHONE _____________ EMAIL ____________________

□ VISA □ MASTERCARD □ Do not share my name, even with cool organizations the SF Bicycle Coalition likes

□ VISA □ MASTERCARD □ Do not share my name, even with cool organizations the SF Bicycle Coalition likes