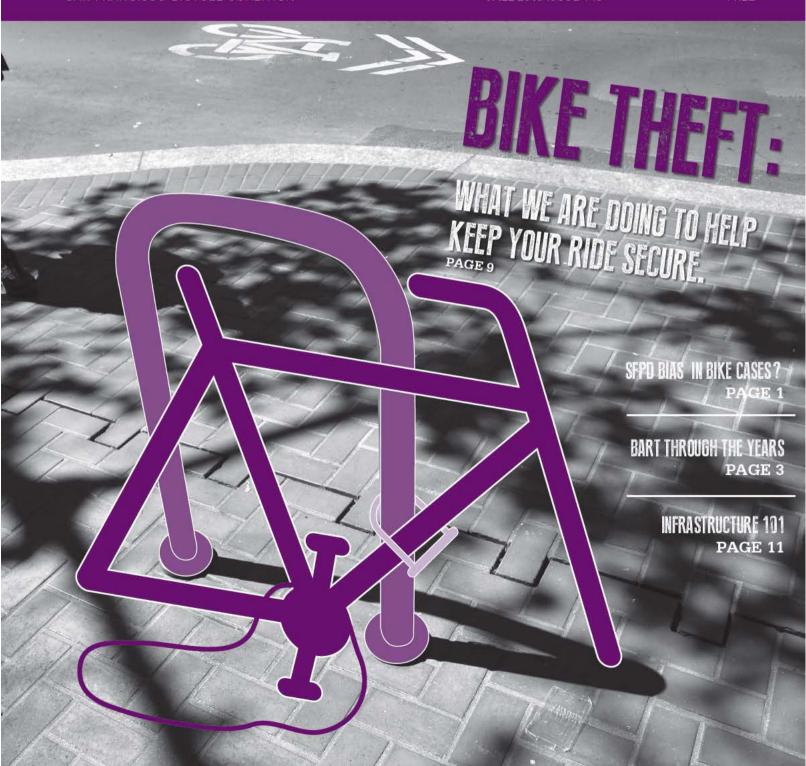
PROMOTING THE BICYCLE FOR EVERYDAY TRANSPORTATION

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SAN FRANCISCO BICYCLE COALITION

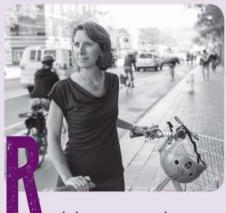
**FALL 2013** ISSUE 145

FRFF



# Letter from the Executive Director

# DEMANDING FAIR & EQUAL TREATMENT FROM POLICE



passionate reaction from our members and community as we did in August — after a series of tragic and troubling events.

First, there was the heartbreaking death of 24-year-old Amelie Le Moullac, who was hit by a truck driver at 6th and Folsom Streets as she pedaled to work on one of the city's busiest bike lanes.

Then, many of you watched in further horror as the SF Police Department nearly botched the investigation into the crash, and a deeply concerning bias among some in the police force came to light.

Responding to these tragedies is the most heart-wrenching work we undertake at the SF Bicycle Coalition. But, sadly, it is at times like these that our advocacy work is needed most.

It is thanks to our members' committed and passionate support and our staff's tenacious advocacy that we were able to step up in the tragic wake of Amelie's death and help move a difficult conversation toward positive outcomes.

Nothing can bring Amelie back, nor the other two lives cut tragically short this year while bicycling. But the SF Bicycle Coalition will work tirelessly to make sure that, in their memories, others are safer on our streets.

In addition to our stepped-up advocacy for safety improvements in SoMa (page 2) and an increased focus on educating frequent drivers (such as professional operators of large vehicles), the SF Bicycle Coalition will be shining a long-overdue spotlight on the way

bicycle-related cases are handled by the San Francisco Police Department (SFPD) and District Attorney's office.

I wish I could say I was surprised by the SFPD's mis-handling of the investigation of Amelie's death, or by the fact that our own SF Bicycle Coalition staff was more diligent in finding evidence than the police (page 2). And I wish I was shocked by the behavior of the SFPD Sergeant who so inappropriately interrupted our memorial event at 6th & Folsom Sts. to block the bike lane and publicly blame the biyclists in all three fatal crashes for their own demise.

But I am not surprised by any of this. For the past 10 years, I and other SF Bicycle Coalition staff have been hearing disturbing accounts from people about the SFPD's often inappropriate and unequal treatment of people on bikes. These experiences range from people hit being refused a police report; reports incompletely and inappropriately written with assumptions of fault with the bicyclists; selective enforcement of bike infractions while misbehaving drivers go unscathed; ignorance or denial of the rules of the road; and prevalent stereotypes that people on bikes are lawbreakers and deserve less than fair treatment.

The shocking "blame the victim" attitude expressed so blatantly by Sgt. Ernst at our otherwise-peaceful memorial in August may be helpful in bringing attention to this long-ignored problem.

In the end, all we are asking for is fair and equal treatment on our streets. Who can argue with that?

To keep up-to-date on the SF Bicycle Coalition's advocacy around fair and equal traffic safety enforcement, see sfbike.org/enforcement. To learn more about the Folsom Street crash and the SFPD's poor investigation into it, visit sfbike.org/main.

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# SAFES MASIRETS NEW!

Every day, your San Francisco Bicycle Coalition is working to make your ride safer, smoother and more civil. In August, our advocacy was forced into high gear, when Amelie Le Moullac was hit and killed while biking on Folsom Street.

Amelie was the third person this year who was killed while biking in San Francisco. Each deadly crash involved a large truck and happened in or around SoMa. In response we launched our Safe SoMa Streets campaign, calling on the Mayor to make immediate safety improvements to Folsom and other SoMa streets.

Unfortunately, as you read in Leah's letter (page 1) tackling the unsafe street design wasn't the only aspect of this case. The tragedy also put a spotlight on the poor police investigation into the deadly crash and raised questions about how thoroughly and fairly the police investigate crashes involving people biking.

Supervisor Jane Kim has called a hearing to look into the issue of how the SFPD and District Attorney handle crashes involving people biking or walking; as always, we'll make sure your voice is heard in City Hall. If you have had an unfortunate interaction with the enforcement or justice system relating to a bicycle issue, please email kit@sfbike.org and share your story.

But fixing our enforcement and legal system alone won't prevent more deaths. So we continue to focus our advocacy efforts to redesigning SoMa streets so you and those you love can bike and walk safely in this central district.

Thanks to the more than 800 people who sent in letters to the Mayor. Your calls were heard — the City has committed to a pilot redesign of Folsom Street that will include separated or buffered bikeways!

The City's commitment to a pilot is a great step, and we are now working to ensure that this pilot gets implemented quickly, and that it includes separated or buffered bikeways on Howard street as well.

We will be calling on our members who live, work and ride along Folsom and Howard to keep the pressure on the City to implement this pilot. To join our SoMa and Central Member City Committee, email chema@sfbike.org.



A volunteer handing out flyers to people commuting on Folsom Street



Two people signing letters to Mayor Lee supporting Safe SoMa Streets Now



Hundreds of neighbors and commuters signed the petition for Safe SoMa Streets

# Bike Share is Here!

Have you ridden the celeste green bikes yet? Bay Area Bike Share launched in late August, with 700 bikes spread out across San Francisco, San Jose, Redwood City, Palo Alto and Mountain View. The bike share program is set to expand to 1,000 bikes in the coming months. The San Francisco Bicycle Coalition does not run the program, but we have been working hard helping the region make plans to expand this very small pilot to a full-scale system in San Francisco that is on par with other big cities like Washington D.C. and New York City. Want to help expand the bike share network? Sign our letter to Mayor Lee, calling for a full-scale bike share program. Visit sfbike.org/bikeshare for the letter and more info on this expanding program.



Bike share station at City Hall.

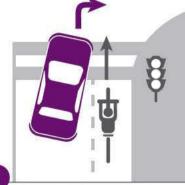
# **Welcoming New Staff**

We're thrilled to welcome three new full-time staff members to the San Francisco Bicycle Coalition's team! Nancy Buffum steps into the role of Family and Schools Program Manager. She has many years of experience as an organizer, and looks forward to engaging local families and school communities. John Calaway is our new Development Director. He brings a wealth of fundraising experience from his tenure at the Sierra Club and has served on the SF Bicycle Coalition's Board of Directors.

# **Right Turns and Bike Lanes**

# Wrong

Driver is not turning from as far right as practicable (CVC 22100)



Bike rider should look for turn signal, avoiding driver's blind spot.

# Correct

Driver must safely merge into bike lane & turn from curb (CVC 21717)



Bike rider should pass on left as driver merges into the bike lane.



# Turn from the Curb!

Unsafe turning is the number one cause of injuries to people biking in San Francisco. Do you know how to aviod the all-too-common 'right hook' - both on a bike and in a car? Hopefully this diagram will help explain the issue a little better! Through the SF Bicycle Coalition's dozens of Street Safety Workshops across the city, we're working to educate thousands of people each year on this topic and more. We educate MUNI Operators, Taxi Drivers, and of course, people on bike about the rules of the road. Sign-up for one of our free classes at sfbike.org/edu

Paolo Cosulich-Schwartz joined the program team as Business and Community Program Manager. His rich experience working with small businesses will take our business outreach to the next level.

We bid farewell to longtime staff members Jodie Medeiros and Marc Caswell, who are moving on to other great and change-making opportunities. Thank you, Jodie and Marc, for many years of tireless bike advocacy!

# **Bavview Bike Builds**

Our Bayview Community Bike Builds — which provide free bikes for at-risk youth - was recently selected for funding by the Bayview HEAL Zone Action Fund. The project is a collaboration between POWER and the SF Bicycle Coalition. POWER (People Organized to Win Employment Rights) is a grassroots, memberled organization that unites lowincome Latino and African American families, youth and workers to achieve economic,

racial and gender equity through organization and empowerment. POWER recently secured \$9 million to fund Free MUNI for Youth, which provides free transit for more than 40,000 youth in San Francisco and has now turned to bicycles to provide transportation alternatives to eastern neighborhoods. The project will aim to catalyze bicycle usage by refurbishing bicycles through a series of local events for Bayview residents in conjunction with other community-based



# Bikes On BART: Oh, How Far We've Come!

BART opens, bicycles prohibited on trains and in stations at all times.

Bicycles allowed only during off-peak hours, in rear of last car only and only with a permit

Bicycles allowed during peak hours in reversecommute directions with a permit.

Permits no longer required, bicycles allowed in any car but the first, except during rush-hour.

Bicycles allowed at all times on Richmond-Fremont line

Bicyclists no longer required to use rear door of each permissible car.

1972

1975

1988

1997

1998

1999

organizations. Our first event will take place at BCA/Rafiki Wellness. 601 Cesar Chavez on October 12. Visit sfbike.org/bikebuild if you would like to lend a helping hand!

# Better Bike Parking

City leaders approved major changes to the Planning Code to dramatically increase the number of required bike parking spots in new and renovated buildings. Since the early 2000's, bike parking has been required in new buildings - but now that number will help meet the large and growing demand for secure bike storage for years to come. All newly constructed buildings from housing to office space to stadiums and supermarkets will be required to provide abundant, secure bike parking. Read the details at sfbike.org/ planningcode

# What is a Neighborhood Greenway?

Neighborhood greenways create a calmer experience and allow bicycle riders, pedestrians and even drivers to relax and slow down in an often-stressful city by focusing more on sharing the space. If you've been participating in the campaign to improve the Wiggle, you've heard us talk about the potential for those streets to become a neighborhood greenway. Sounds nice, but what exactly is it? Neighborhood greenways are residential streets with low volumes of car traffic and



low speeds where people walking and biking are given priority. The key to creating neighborhood greenways is to deter people driving from using the street as a cut-through route. Street designers usually accomplish this by adding "diverters" at intersections and/or alternating the direction of the streets in order to physically prevent people driving from using the street as a high speed through-route, while still allowing people walking and biking to continue through. People driving are still able to access all streets, but not use the streets as a through route. See more

designs of the Wiggle as a neighborhood greenway at sfbike.org/wiggle.

# Be a Bike to School Champion

Are you a parent who is already biking your kid(s) to school? Wouldn't it be nice if more families at your school - and around the city - also biked? It's possible! We can help you promote biking to school at your child's school. To get involved, e-mail Nancy Buffum, our Family & Schools Program Manager, at nancy@sfbike.org.

# Make your Company a **Business Member**

Your SF Bicycle Coalition has launched a new Business Membership program that will help to make your workplace more bike-friendly. Become a Business Member to receive in-office Bicycle Education, bike rides for your employees, bike parking consultation, volunteer opportunities, bike news and more! We are proud to welcome San Francisco marketing firm Swirl as the SF Bicycle Coalition's first Business Member! Go to sfbike.org/ business to connect us with your business.

# Bike the Vote in District 4

The San Francisco Bicycle Coalition is proud to endorse Katy Tang in this November's election for District 4 Supervisor, Before being appointed to the D4 seat in February 2013, Tang, who grew up in the Outer Sunset, served as Leaislative Aide to former D4 Supervisor Carmen Chu. You can read Tang's responses to the SF Bicycle Coalition questionnaire and her public commitment to better biking at sfbike.org/vote. Meet her at our upcoming D4 bike ride on October 19 (see page 13).

Next time you're at a party, here's a fun fact you can whip out to amaze your friends: It's taken forty years of advocacy (yes, 4-0!) to go from bikes being completely prohibited on BART to the access

we enjoy today.

On October 24, the BART Board will vote whether to make the allaccess pilot a permanent rule. This vote is by no means assured. Visit sfbike.org/bart to take action to win this critical vote. We will need people who care about this access to speak at the hearing and to send letters to your BART Board members.



The Wiggle reimagined as San Francisco's first Neighborhood Greenway

Daily ridership increased by 27% over a decade & riders with bicycles increased by 69%.

BART begins retrofits of cars to improve access for wheelchair users. bicycles, and passengers with luggage.

BART conducts first Bike Pilot, allowing bikes all hours on Fridays through month of August.

2012

After first successful pilot, BART holds second Bike Pilot, allowing bikes all hours for one week in March.

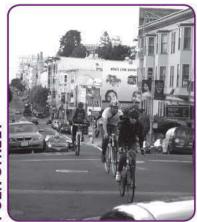
2013

BART runs third pilot, allowing bikes on board all times of day, July 1 - December 1. BART Board will vote on permanent lift this year!

BART adopts first-ever Bicycle Plan with a goal of 3% bicycle ridership by 2010.

# WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

# PROGRESS ON KEY BIKE ROUTES ACROSS THE CITY



In July, the SFMTA held a scheduled Polk Street Improvement Project community open house to present and discuss their preferred alternative for the project. The SFMTA alternative splits Polk Street into two segments with California Street as the dividing line, and each segment will receive different levels of infrastructure improvements. While their alternative does incorporate certain positive elements, the draft widely misses the goal of having a continuous, separated bikeway in both directions that can be used safely by everyone, leaving people biking to contend with nothing more than sharrows along a substantial portion of this dangerous corridor. We continue to work local member-champions to push for a continuous, separated bikeway the full length of the street. We need all members who live in the area to speak up for safety. Email chema@sfbike.org to get involved.

2ND • MANSELL • MASONIC



Funding was recently approved for the urgently needed Second Street, Masonic Avenue and Mansell Street project in McLaren Park projects. These projects herald the beginning of a more comprehensive vision of complete streets, inclusive of multiple modes of transportation, prioritizing safe and efficient travel for everyone. Over the next few months we will continue working with local member-champions, residents, businesses and the City to explore what improvements can be implemented immediately. We will also continue working on ensuring that the projects are not derailed by the small but vocal opposition determined to keep these streets the exclusive realm of fastmoving vehicles. If you live near these projects, please get engaged in these campaigns. Visit sfbike.org/connectingthecity for details.

**MARKET STREET** 



The City has presented multiple design options for Market Street. Your SF Bicycle Coalition continues to push for a separated bikeway the full length of the street. The Better Market Street project now goes into the City's lengthy environmental review process, followed by the design selection and approval process. Though the City recently repaved the outer lane and added green sharrows to the street, there is enormous room for improvements to biking that can, and should, happen right away. We need help from you and your workplace to show personal and business support for immediate improvements to biking, walking and transit on our city's main corridor. Email paolo@sfbike.org to get involved with this campaign.

# TAKE ACTION

From conception to implementation, each of these campaigns take years of work and the dediction of member-champions around the city. Getting the bikeways you want and deserve takes countless meetings, outreach and on-the-ground advocacy. Want to help win these improvements? Email chema@sfbike.org to get involved!

# MONTHLY GIVER LIKE NANCY

You can become a part of our Monthly Giving program for as little as \$10 per month and thereby provide regular and reliable funding to the SF Bicycle Coalition's programs and on-street advocacy. Monthly Giving Memberships save us paper and processing time, ensuring that your membership dollars go directly to the campaigns that need them. Plus, as a Monthly Giver, you'll never have to worry about renewing your membership again! Don't worry, we'll send you a new membership card each year.

Become one of our core supporters at: sfbike.org/join monthly

# MEMBER PROFILE: NANCY BOTKIN

Nancy Botkin has been an active member of the SF Bicycle Coalition for more than 15 years. She worked for our organization as an office manager from 2000-2003 and has continued to volunteer since then. Nancy loves to lead bike rides and organize events that combine bikes and crafts. We talked to Nancy about what issues are most important to her, what changes she's seen and why being an SF Bicycle Coalition member is so important.



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

In "the old days" of the mid-90s, I felt so alone biking to work in the city. I never imagined there was a group of people like me. It felt like a support group. I wasn't the only one!

# Which of the issues that we work on is most important to you?

The issue that I have been personally trying to solve is cyclist visibility at night. A little bit of reflective material can go a long way in terms of being seen. I helped organize a streetside "reflectorize" event last year. We set up a craft station on the Wiggle and offered to "reflectorize" cyclists by sewing or ironing on reflective material. We also made reflective zipper pulls and buttons to hand out. It was a hit and we were busy all evening. If you buy cycling-specific athletic clothing or shoes, they usually come with reflectors embedded, but now that we have all learned we can bike in our everyday clothes, it's easy to get caught out after dark wearing all black with dead batteries in our lights.

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

I am a consultant for a living, and I travel to all my clients by bike and bring my bike on BART to get to my East Bay clients. (Thanks, SF Bicycle Coalition for opening up all day access!) I used to hide the fact that I had biked to meet my clients, but now when I arrive by bike everyone just wants to show me where their bike parking is.

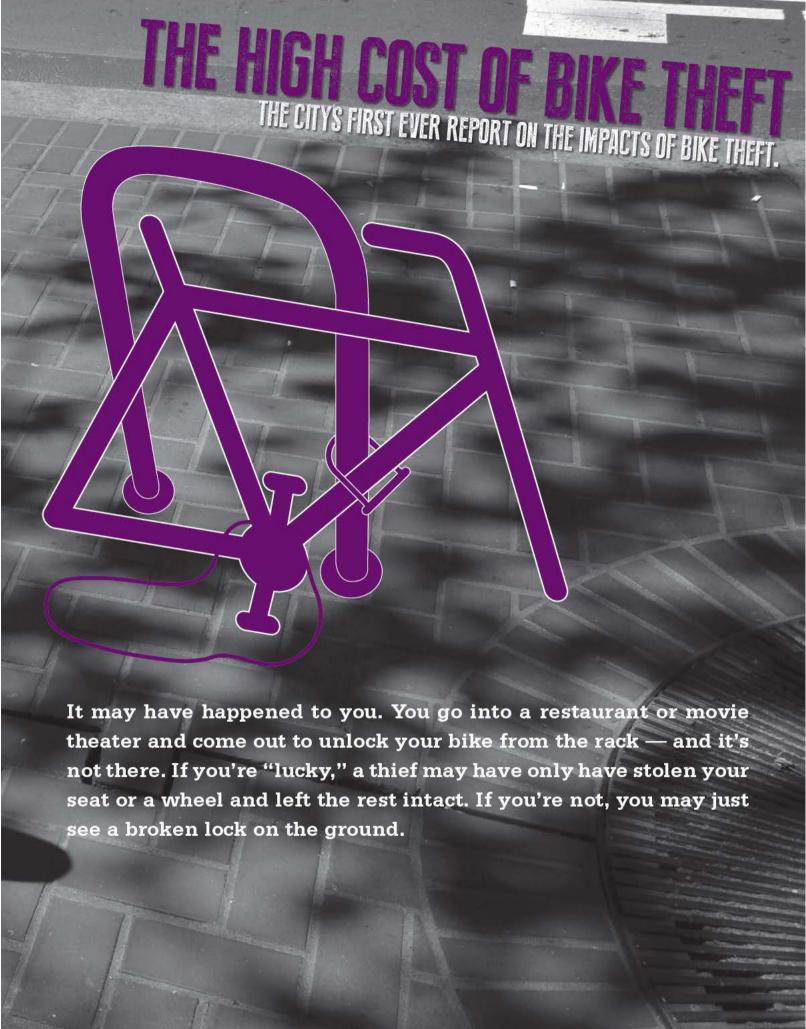
# Any words of wisdom for new members of the SF Bicycle Coalition?

Check the batteries in your lights regularly. Be prepared to buy new bike lights every year. They get lost, stolen, broken or left in your other purse. If you end up with an extra pair, you can loan them to a friend who's dressed in black. It's part of the expense of biking, so budget for nice lights and batteries. Besides, the new USB-port rechargeable ones are fantastic!

# Why do you think it's still important, after all these years, to remain a member?

Knowing that you're not the only one! Strength in numbers really, really works. You can't expect someone to do it for you!

Nancy cares a lot about being visible and having bike lights! As always, the SF Bicycle Coalition will be handing out free lights at Light up the Night stations around town with the SFMTA this winter. Volunteer for a station and find out more at sfbike.org/lights



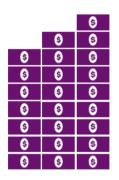


The report also highlighted how difficult it is to get a bike back, even if it's recovered by the police. Police recover bikes in bike theft stings, when someone is arrested with the bike or if it is found abandoned in another part of the city.

But right now, if the police find your bike, you still may not be able to get it back. There is no centralized database for recovered bikes, and unless you have a serial number and the original receipt for the bike, you won't be given your bike. At a July 18 hearing, Supervisor Malia Cohen asked if a photo of her with her bike would be acceptable to get her bike back. The answer: No.

While the report highlights a myriad of frustrating facts, it also offers clear solutions to help combat bike theft and get bikes back into the hands of their rightful owners.

Among the recommendations proposed are the idea of a voluntary registration program, which would house peoples' bicycle serial numbers in one place. The nonprofit San Francisco SAFE is working with the City to discuss how this program might best be implemented. The report also suggests focusing and enforcing bike theft hot spot areas, as well as setting up a bike theft unit in the police department.









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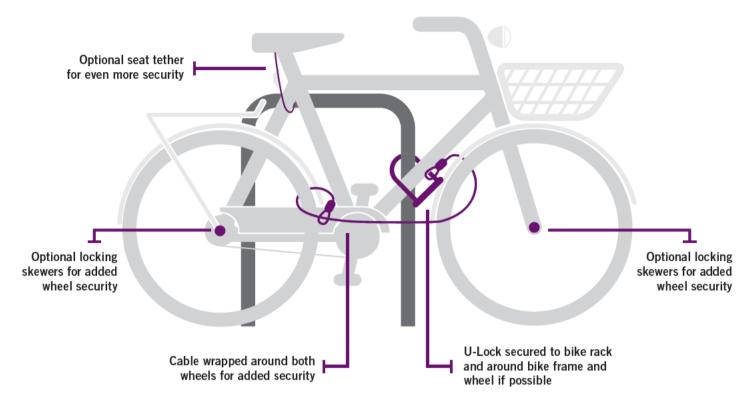
TO REMOVE DAMAGED BIKES FROM SIDEWALK RACKS

# YOUR BIKE IS STOLEN:

- File a report with the police.
- · List it as "stolen" on Craigslist
- · File a claim with your insurance company, if you have coverage. (Bikes may be covered under your renters insurance policy; call your company to find out for sure.)
- · Check Craigslist and Ebay and visit local flea markets to look for your bike. If you see your bike, call the police immediately.

Bike theft is a serious problem in San Francisco, but it can and will get better. The SF Bicycle Coalition has been working to get more secure bike parking. Last year, we helped pass the Employee Bike Access Bill, which allows you to bring your bike into the office, so you don't have to leave it parked outside all day. (Read more about it at sfbike.org/access)

# **HOW TO PROPERLY LOCK YOUR BIKE:**



- Lock to a bike rack, parking meter or pole.
   Never lock to a railing or tree.
- Always use a U-Lock. Cable locks can easily be cut in a matter of seconds.
- Lock the frame of the bike to the rack. Don't just lock the wheel; you may come back to find only your wheel and lock.

- Eliminate space around the lock. The tighter the lock is, the harder it is to slip a tool in and break the lock.
- Lock your wheels. You can use a cable lock to do this, but the best option are locking skewers.
- To learn more about how to properly lock your bike and what to do in case of theft, go to sfbike.org/theft.

# Keep Your Serial Number Somewhere Safe...like the freezer.

Even without a centralized database, it's still a good idea to have your bike's serial number on hand. The officer who gets your case might go the extra mile to check it against bikes found throughout the Bay Area. Keep your serial number in a safe place, like the freezer. Download our Freezer Form at sfbike.org/freezer. Hopefully you'll never need it, and it'll just sit next to that freezer-burned ice cream!

Much of this piece was originally published in our Bike About Town column in the San Francisco Chronicle. Visit stgate.com/columns/bikeabouttown for more articles on SF biking.

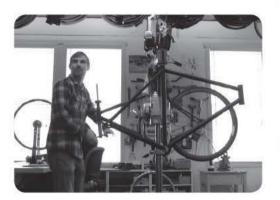
# **Fighting Theft Through Strong Partnerships**

We are excited to be partnering with SF Safety Awareness For Everyone (SAFE), a non-profit working with SFPD to empower people to take an active role in creating safer neighborhoods. SAFE, along with the SFPD and the SF Bicycle Coalition, is evaluating strategies to reduce bicycle theft including a voluntary citywide bike registration program. Stay up to date on our work fighting theft at sfbike.org/theft.

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# BIKE SHOP PROFILE: MISSION BICYCLE COMPANY









One of the many perks of being an SF Bicycle Coalition member is getting discounts at bike shops all across the city. This year, we hosted the "Ultimate Bike Shop Challenge," which put SF bike shops in a head to head competition to sell the most SF Bicycle Coalition memberships. Congrats to this year's winner, Mission Bicycle Company! We caught up with Mission Bicycle's Kai McMurtry to hear more about his shop and Mission Bicycle's role in making SF a better place to bike.

# Why is it important to Mission Bicycle to support the SF Bicycle Coalition?

We focus on getting new riders ready for the streets, and know that the SF Bicycle Coalition is working to get those streets ready for new riders. It's vital to educate new riders about how bike improvements happen and make new riders realize the smooth bike lane they take to work is the result of countless hours of work, by countless numbers of people, all of whom care about cycling in SF. While there's a lot more to be done, there's already so much to be thankful for, and the SF Bicycle Coalition is a part of that.

# How did Mission Bicycle get started?

The business was founded in 2008 by two friends in the tech world with a love for city cycling. Originally housed in their office conference room, interest quickly demanded a move and shortly we were in a Mission district warehouse space. We moved into our current space at 766 Valencia in mid 2009.

We've designed our space, and the customer experience, to be totally unlike any other bike shop. We curate the shop like a gallery or boutique. We want our customers to find unique accessories, made locally, they won't find anywhere else.

# What makes Mission Bicycle unique?

We are building custom city bicycles, one at a time by hand, in San Francisco. We let each rider design every aspect of his or her bike. They get to choose gearing options, posture, color, saddle and on and on. In the end they have a bike that is matched to their specific riding habits and personality. This approach is powerful because it truly encourages riding. That affection increases trips by bicycle and that makes San Francisco, and our world, a better healthier place to live.

# What advice would you give to someone who's looking to start bike commuting?

Jump right in! Bicycle commuting is a profoundly empowering and liberating thing and San Francisco is one of the safest and most organized cities in which to be a bike commuter. Make your best estimate for what kind of commuting you'll be doing — distance, frequency, topography — and then get a bike you love suited for that commute. Don't settle, get what you want and remember, there's no such thing as a bike that does it all.

# **UBE TIMES 145**

# A Glossary of SF Bike Infrastructure



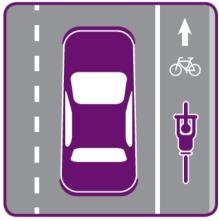
# **SHARROW**



Sharrows (share the road arrows) are placed just outside the door zone. Ride right down the middle and you'll stay clear of car doors. In the last few years, bright green "super sharrows" have been popping up, provide even more visibility of designated bike routes.

Where to find in SF: Streets throughout SF. Super Sharrows on Wiggle and Market Street

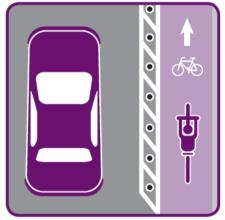
# **BASIC BIKE LANE**



The SF Bicycle Coalition won SF's first bike lane in 1971, on Lake Street. Today, there are hundreds of bike lanes across the city. Remember to ride toward the outside of the lane, to stay out of the door zone.

Where to find in SF: Streets throughout SF like Valencia, Howard, Folsom, Arguello and likely one right near where you live

# SEPARATED BIKEWAYS



Separated bikeways, also known as green lanes, are used throughout the world to make streets safer for people biking. Separated bikeways are more than just paint; they have an actual barrier between the bike lane and car lanes.

Where to find in SF: Fell and Oak Streets, JFK Drive, parts of Market Street and Cesar Chavez Street

# RAISED BIKEWAYS



Raised bikeways (often called cycletracks) are a few inches above the car lane, but below the sidewalk. These bikeways are the norm in topnotch biking cities like Copenhagen and Amsterdam.

Where to find in SF: Nowhere yet, but they are planned for 2nd Street and Masonic Avenue

# **GREENWAY PATH**



Greenways are shared bicycle and pedestrian paths that are not on the street roadbed, and thus separated from motor vehicle traffic.

Where to find in SF: Panhandle, Embarcadero, alongside part of the Great Highway, etc

# **BICYCLE ROUTE**



Still not sure if you're biking on the best street? Look for the sign. In San Francisco, all bike routes are marked with this green sign. Even numbered routes run East/West; Odd numbered routes run North/South

Where to find in SF: Everywhere. Heads up, we're working to get clearer signage that tells you distances and times for biking

# **VOLUNTEER PROFILE:**BRIAN HAAGSMAN



Meet Brian Haagsman, San Francisco Bicycle Coalition member and frequent phone bank volunteer. We caught up with Brian to learn more about what keeps him picking up the phone on our behalf time after time.

# **VOLUNTEER LIKE BRIAN**

Brian's one of our stellar phone bank volunteers. What's phone banking, you ask? Great question! Together with our wonderful Phone Bank Coordinator, Juli, phone bank volunteers make calls twice a month to former SF Bicycle Coalition members offering them an easy way to renew. There's no cold-calling involved, and Juli trains you in everything you need to know. Afterwards, we all go out and enjoy a group dinner. If you're passionate about helping grow the bicycle movement, come give phone banking a try!

Join the team of terrific volunteers at sfbike.org/volunteer

# How did you get involved with the SF Bicycle Coalition? What motivated you to start volunteering?

I moved out to San Francisco in the Fall of 2010 — right after the bike injunction was lifted. It was exciting to see all of the projects getting on the ground so quickly and to see how a street can change to immediately be better for people biking and walking. I wanted to be part of the group who was making all of this happen, so I decided to show up for a phonebank that the SF Bicycle Coalition was hosting for a Board of Supervisors election. Since I realized that San Francisco is an expensive place to move to, I volunteered originally so I could earn a barter membership.

# What has been your favorite volunteering moment?

I love the times when I talk to a member who has learned of a new way that the SF Bicycle Coalition has just improved their neighborhood or daily route, and it motivates them to get even more involved.

# What keeps you coming back to phone banking?

The food! I love that after each phonebank we share tasty food. Other than the food, the direct benefit to the Coalition's work that you see from phonebanking. The role that members play in the SF Bicycle Coalition is not just a minor addition to what the group does, it is one of the largest drivers of its work. Talking to members who are due to renew their memberships and encouraging them to come back each and every year as members is an easy thing to do.

# What do you do when you're not donating your time to the SF Bicycle Coalition?

When I'm not at the Bike Coalition, I am very possibly on my bike — in the city during the week or in the East Bay or Marin hills on the weekend.

# What advice would you give to folks thinking about volunteering?

Relieve yourself of the idea that volunteering with the Bike Coalition is anything but an easy, casual and personally rewarding experience (and did I mention the food?). I think people imagine phonebanking as some high-stress nightmare version of telemarketing, where you're expected to push five day getaways and credit cards on any person who happens to answer their phone. In reality, it's a friendly thank you and a reminder to people who are already behind the work of the SF Bicycle Coalition to renew their support just as they did last year (and very possibly the many years before that). Taking a little bit of time to be a friendly volunteer and calling other members can make the difference in how strong the SF Bike Coalition continues to be.

# CHAIN OF EVENTS C



# OCTOBER | NOVEMBER | DECEMBER

We're always adding great new events. Visit sfbike.org/chain for updates to our calendar. To submit a bike event or organize a Rec Ride, email calendar@sfbike.org.

# Events

#### HARDLY STRICTLY BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL FRI.-SUN. OCT. 4-6 | 11AM-7PM | Golden Gate Park

Ride your bike to enjoy this year's incredible musical lineup in Golden Gate Park! With over 90 bands, this free three-day festival is a true San Francisco favorite. Bring your friends by the SF Bicycle Coalition booth and catch up on important campaigns. hardlystrictlybluegrass.com

#### **BIKES TO BOOKS** SUN., OCT. 6 | 10:30AM | Meet on the North side of Jack Kerouac Street at South Park

A combination of San Francisco history, art, literature, cycling and urban exploration! Local author and SF Bicycle Coalition member Nicole Gluckstern devised a comprehensive bike tour and enlisted avid amateur historian Burrito Justice as cartographer. The 3-hour ride ends at Jack Kerouac Alley in North Beach for a reading sponsored by the City Lights Foundation. RSVP at: sfbike.org/ rec rides.

#### INTERNATIONAL WALK AND **ROLL TO SCHOOL DAY** WED., OCT. 9 | ALL DAY | Schools across San Francisco

Join students across the world in this collective walk-to-school with a purpose - to promote health, safety, physical activity and concern for the environment. This event kicks-off the 2013-2014 SF Safe Routes to School (SF-SRTS) Program run in partnership with the SF Bicycle Coalition. See if your school is participating and check out resources for ongoing programs at sfsaferoutestoschool.org

**NEW MEMBER MEET & GREET** WED., OCT. 23 | 5-8PM | SF Bicycle Coalition, 833 Market St, 10th floor Why hi there! If you've been a member for less than a year, we warmly invite you to come to our New Member Meet & Greet. Come join us for a special edition of Volunteer Night! You can chat with fellow members. learn more about your friendly SF bike advocacy organization, and the different ways you can get involved. Don't forget to bring up your bike. Please RSVP at sfbike.org/rsvpmember.

#### SF BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETINGS THU., OCT. 24, DEC. 16 | 6:30PM | City Hall Room 408

Come and speak up about bicycle issues in San Francisco. This 11member committee meets once a month and advises the Board of Supervisors on all matters bicycle. Contact BAC chair Bert Hill at sfbicycleadvisorycommittee@gmail. com to ask to have an issue on the agenda or to request notice of

#### SF BICYCLE COALITION BOARD MEETINGS

TUE., OCT. 22, NOV. 19 | 6:30-8:30PM | SF Bicycle Coalition, 833 Market St, 10th floor SF Bicycle Coalition Board of Directors meetings are open to all. Contact Leah at (415) 431-2453 x306 or email leah@sfbike.org for agenda.

# WINTERFEST MEMBER PARTY & FUNDRAISER SUN., NOV. 3 | 6-10:30PM | Cityview

at Metreon, 105 4th Street Don't miss your SF Bicycle Coalition's largest bash of the year! 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, get an unbeatable deal on a new bike and bid on the chance to win over 200 silent auction items! sfbike.org/winterfest

SF BICYCLE COALITION MEMBER MINGLE: SOMA THU., DEC 12 | 6-7:30PM | SoMa StrEat Food Park, 428 11th Street Join the SF Bicycle Coalition for a preholiday member mingle to chat with some of your friendly SF Bicycle Coalition staff and fellow members! We'll share up-to-date information about our campaigns and member programs, and want to hear what's on your mind. Do you have a friend, relative, or co-worker who's interested in becoming a member? Bring them with you and we'll offer them a discounted membership as a preholiday gift! RSVP at sfbike.org/

# Rec Rides

San Francisco Bicycle Coalition's recreational rides are free for members (\$10 for non-members) unless otherwise noted. Rain cancels ride. Secure your spot at sfbike.org/rec\_rides.

### RIDE FROM SF TO BIKETOBERFEST SAT., OCT. 12 | 10:45AM | SF Ferry Building

Join the scenic 25-mile bike ride from SF to Fairfax for bicycles, breweries, live music and great food! This popular annual brewfest and festival of all

things bicycle in beautiful Fairfax. CA (the birthplace of the mountain bike) features over 30 handcrafted beers from the West Coast's best brewers.

All proceeds from Biketoberfest benefit the Marin County Bicycle Coalition and Access4Bikes and their efforts to expand Marin County's network of bike lanes, pathways and trails! Details at sfbike.org/rec\_ride.



# GALS WITH GEARS

There's a new riding group in town! Powered by longtime SF Bicycle Coalition members, Gals with Gears is a social riding group designed for women over 50. The new group kicked off this September and is quickly expanding with a robust series of rides and social events around the City. Mixing fun and safety, each ride will start off with S.A.S.S.Y. instructions for Gals: Select a Bike / Adjust a Helmet / Secure a Bike / Safe Riding Rules / You Can Get Up That Hill! Basic riding skills required. Free for SF Bicycle Coalition Members. Join the group, sfbike.org/gals

#### GALS WITH GEARS: WATERFRONT RIDE

SUN., OCT., 20 | 10AM-1PM | Plaza opposite the Ferry Bldg, Embarcadero Want to cycle in the city but feel uneasy about it? Join the Gals for an enjoyable ride along Embarcadero to the Marina and back. We'll show you a route, provide tips for riding in the city, and have a relaxing and easy ride. This is a no drop ride. Gals with Gears is a group of women 50+ years young seeking fun, healthy and practical bicycling in San Francisco - with women our own age! Distance: approx 10 miles, helmet required. This is a no drop ride. RSVP required: sfbike.org/gals

#### **ENDANGERED SPECIES BIKE RIDE** SUN., OCT. 13 | 9:30AM-12:30PM | Bazaar Cafe, California St at 21st Ave Join the Wild Equity Institute on a bike ride through some of San Francisco's last wildlife habitats. We will search for and learn how to save the endangered species living within the Golden Gate National Parks. We will have the opportunity to see the Gowen Cypress, Raven's Manzanita, Humpback Whale, San Francisco Lessingia, the Western Snowy Plover, and if we are very lucky, the Steller Sea Lion, the Marbled Murrelet and the Southern Sea Otter! Free ride, bring water and snacks. Rain cancels. RSVP Required, wildequity.org

SPIN THE SUNSET: A NEIGHBORHOOD BIKE RIDE SAT., OCT. 19 | 10AM-1PM | Meet Java Beach, 2650 Sloat Blvd Join D4 Supervisor Tang, neighbors and the SF Bicycle Coalition for a casual bike ride through the Sunset area. The group will experience the joys of using a bicycle to get around the Sunset neighborhood and will stop along the way at fabulous local businesses. Riders can choose to end in Golden Gate Park or continue with the group to City Hall. People of all abilities will enjoy this ride, especially new riders looking for to try biking in the comfort of a group. RSVP required sfbike. org/rec\_ride.

### 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 email margaret@sfbike.org.

# Volunteer

Amazing San Francisco Bicycle Coalition volunteers keep the wheels of advocacy spinning all year long. Find out more about upcoming volunteer opportunities at sfbike.org/volunteer

# **VOLUNTEER NIGHTS** WED., 10/9, 10/23, 11/13, 12/4\*, 12/18\* | 5-8PM | SF Bicycle

Coalition, 833 Market St., 10th floor This twice-monthly tradition has been happening for as long as we can remember and newcomers are always welcome. Stop by, snack on tasty treats, chat with fellow members and help us keep our organization rolling. Dinner is provided. Bring a friend: the more the merrier! Bring up your bike to the office. No RSVP necessary to volunteer. Special thanks to Rainbow Grocery for providing snacks for our volunteers.\*Please note the December dates are 1st and 3rd Wednesdays.

### SERVICE STATIONS TWICE MONTHLY | Citywide

Twice a month, your SF Bicycle Coalition pops up in different neighborhoods with our friendly, volunteer-staffed Service Station, offering hi-fives and free coffee or other goodies to folks riding by. If you'd like to volunteer to brighten the rides of your fellow commuters, view our upcoming Service Stations and sign up at sfbike.org/ambassadors. Contact margaret@sfbike.org with any questions.

#### PHONE BANK (CHECK SEBIKE ORG/CHAIN FOR DATES) I 5-8PM | SF Bicycle Coalition, 833 Market St., 10th floor

Accept the challenge to chat up your fellow SF Bicycle Coalition members! Join the volunteers who keep the SF Bicycle Coalition strong. No coldcalling, just calls to friendly lapsed members offering an easy way to renew. Plan to stay for the thank-you dinner afterward and get to know your fellow volunteers. You must be a current or former member. Contact juli@sfbike.org to sign up or for more information.

#### BICYCLE AMBASSADOR TRAINING THURS., OCT. 17 | 6-7:30PM | SF Bicycle Coalition, 833 Market St, 10th Floor

Itching to get more involved with your SF Bicycle Coalition? Well, wait no longer: Come to our Bicycle Ambassador training to get up to date on current campaigns and learn how to sign up new members. This training will also prepare you to volunteer at races, festivals, Service Stations, special events and more. Contact margaret@sfbike.org to sign up. Looking forward to seeing you there!

#### FREEDOM FROM TRAINING WHEELS SUN., OCT. 27 | 11AM-2PM | Sunday Streets: Richmond

Teach little ones to bike at Freedom From Training Wheels. This is our last class of the Sunday Streets season. Sign up for a fun-filled day of getting kids rolling, scooting and pedaling! Sign up at sfbike.org/freedom.

### VALET BICYCLE PARKING ONGOING I Citywide

Justifiably famous in SF, the SF Bicycle Coalition's Valet Bike Parking is like a coat check for bikes. Give the precious gift of a worry-free fun time to a fellow bicyclist, all while in the company of other SF Bicycle Coalition volunteers. You will be trained on site by our friendly and experienced Valet Supervisors; no previous experience required. View upcoming opportunities and sign up to volunteer at sfbike.org/valet\_volunteer.

#### LIGHT UP THE NIGHT SERVICE STATIONS TBD DATES NOV-DEC | 5-7PM | Secret SF Locations

The SF Bicycle Coalition is proud to partner with the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency for Light Up the Night - an annual bike light giveaway. With our amazing volunteers, we install hundreds of white front lights and red back lights on bicycles for people riding in the dark. To make sure that the bicycle lights go to those who need them the most, we keep the giveaway locations a secret. The giveaway corresponds with the darkest months of the year, starting in November, right after Daylight Savings takes effect, and runs through December, sfbike.org/lights

# Classes

We often add new classes throughout the year, so please visit sfbike.org/edu for updated calendar. All classes are free. These courses are funded in part by SFMTA. Sign up for all courses at sfbike.org/edu-intro.

# TRAFFIC SKILLS 101-1: IN-CLASS The SF Bicycle Coalition will be hosting a variety of workshops on safe

bicycling for everyone. Come learn about types of bikes, the rules of the road and how to make your bike comfortable for everyday riding. We offer both a 1-hour "Intro to Safe Cycling" workshop, and a more in-depth 4-hour "Traffic Skills 101-1." All skill levels are welcome and no bike necessary. These courses are funded in part by SFMTA. RSVP at: sfbike.org/edu1.

#### TRAFFIC SKILLS 101-2: ON-ROAD

Practice what you learned in the Traffic Skills 101-1. This on-bicycle class follows a comfortable progression onto city streets, beginning with a short review of the lessons from the 101-1 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 situations. Adults and anyone over 14 vears of age are welcome; bicycle, helmet and pre-registration required. Please bring your lunch. Sign up at sfbike.org/edu2

#### FAMILY BIKING: FREEDOM FROM TRAINING WHEELS SUN., OCT. 27 | 11AM-2:30PM | Sunday Streets: Richmond

We can teach your young one how to balance, turn, and pedal without training wheels. Freedom from Training Wheels, a group effort to get kids riding without training wheels, will be a part of this and every Sunday Streets. Bring your child's bike and helmet, if you have one. If not, we have a few balance bikes for kids ages 2-5. Find out more at sfbike.org/freedom.

#### ADULT LEARN TO RIDE SUN., NOV. 10 | 10:30AM-1:30PM | Waller Bicycle Learning Area, at Waller & Stanyan Streets

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. Register at: sfbike.org/edu3.

# VOLUNTEER AT WINTERFEST

Come volunteer at Winterfest and enjoy the party for free! Volunteering at Winterfest is a members-only opportunity. You'll get to help make the magic happen, meet your fellow members and earn admission to the event and a free beer token in the process. With volunteer shifts including the DIY Craft Station, Game Operator, Beer Pourer and so much more, there's sure to be something that strikes your fancy. So what are you waiting for?

Sign up today at sfbike.org/winterfest volunteer.

#### INTRO TO SAFE BIKING DECEMBER DATE TBD | 12-1PM | SFMTA Office, 1 South Van Ness Ave 2nd floor

Learn the basics of bike commuting in an urban city. In this one-hour workshop, we'll teach you how to ride safely and confidently sharing the street, the rules of the road, and how to integrate bicycling into your daily life. All ages and skill levels are welcome to attend and no bicycle is

SF Bike Coalition

Members get a free

2hr Consultation

required. This course is funded in part by the SFMTA. Check back for date and RSVP at sfbike.org/edu-intro.

Vote for SF Bicycle Coalition Board of Directors in November. sfbike.org/board

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A picture is worth a thousand on Instagram, @sfbike.



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# **HUGE THANKS TO ALL OF OUR DISCOUNT PARTNERS FOR** OFFERING SWEET DEALS AND PERKS TO SAN FRANCISCO **BICYCLE COALITION MEMBERS!**

# USE YOUR MEMBERSHIP CARD AT THESE BIKE-FRIENDLY BUSINESSES:

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

\*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 it a better place to bicycle. plus get a Tube Times subscription, discounts, free bike trailer and air travel bike box rentals and more. See sfbike.org/membership for all the benefits.

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	I HEARD ABOUT THE SF BICYCLE COALITION	
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ì	☐ \$35 ONE YEAR MEMBERSHIP	☐ \$250 SUPPORTING MEMBER*
	(add \$15 each additional household member)	□ \$500 PATRON*
	□ \$52 A BUCK A WEEK	☐ \$1,000 DONOR*
Į	☐ \$120 SUSTAINERS*	

\*includes FREE SF Bioyole Coalition T-Shirt: Standard Size OR Form-Fit Size

3	MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: SFBC, 839 Market St., Floor 10, San Francisco, CA 94103. Barts memberships are available in exchange for volunteer time. Donations made to the SF Bioyole Coalition are not tax-deductible. If you're interested in a tax-deductible deduction for your contribution, contact Tracy at 415-431-2453 x316 or visit sfbike.org/edfund Check with your employer about matching your donation.		
1	NAME		
	CREDIT CARD #		
	□ VISA □ MASTERCARD EXPIRATION DATE/ □ Do not share my name, even with cool organizations the SF Bicycle Coalition likes. I WANT TO VOLUNTEER!		
	☐ Volunteer Night (every other Weds.)	☐ attending public meetings	
	staffing an information table	☐ newsletter writing	
	☐ daytime office assistance	☐ newsletter mailing/distribution	
	☐ phonebanking	other:	
	☐ valet bike parking at events		