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One Year In

One year ago, your San Francisco Bicycle Coalition adopted an ambitious five-year strategic plan to guide our work and achieve our mission of transforming San Francisco’s streets and neighborhoods into safe, just and livable places by promoting the bicycle for everyday transportation.

Our plan continues to resonate strongly with me, not just for its ambitious and urgently needed goals and objectives, but also for the values that ground them: transportation justice, sustainability, people power and joy.

Many organizations adopt plans. Often they sit on a shelf gathering dust once approved. I’m proud to report that our plan is different. Our staff and board of directors consult our strategic plan regularly — in many cases weekly — to evaluate our progress toward achieving the goals and objectives we set for ourselves.

The result is that we are making measurable progress after one year. From winning miles of new protected bike lanes across San Francisco to counting the number of bicycles we’ve parked through our Valet Bicycle Parking Program, we’re tracking the impressive advocacy and programs that your membership and donations directly support. See the numbers at sfbike.org/progress.

You’ll read in detail in this issue of the Tube Times just what our collective impact looks like on San Francisco’s streets. Among many victories we’re sharing with you, I’m excited about affordable and accessible bike share, the next step in realizing the dream of a path for people on the Western Span of the Bay Bridge, and protected bike lanes on Howard and Townsend streets.

If you want to see even more changes to our streets, help sustain our momentum in the year ahead by making a donation to the SF Bicycle Coalition Education Fund. It’s easy to do; just go online to sfbike.org/donate. Your support of the SF Bicycle Coalition is what makes our success possible.

In gratitude,

Brian Wiedenmeier
Executive Director
Bike Share For All Expands

Working Toward Equitable Mobility

In 2017, we won a regional bike share system that gives more people the opportunity to ride a bicycle through improved access and a low-income membership program. One year later, Ford GoBike reports impressive numbers for Bike Share For All.

- **3,595 BIKE SHARE FOR ALL MEMBERS REGIONWIDE**
- **67 THOUSAND BIKE SHARE FOR ALL MEMBERS’ TRIPS TAKEN IN SF SINCE 2017**
- **17% OF SAN FRANCISCO FORD GOBIKE MEMBERSHIPS ARE BIKE SHARE FOR ALL**

**TOP 5 STATIONS USED BY BIKE SHARE FOR ALL MEMBERS**

1. **POWELL ST BART STATION** (MARKET ST AT 4TH)
2. **MONTGOMERY ST BART STATION**
3. **CIVIC CENTER/UN PLAZA BART STATION** (MARKET ST AT MCALLISTER ST)
4. **POWELL ST BART STATION** (MARKET ST AT 5TH)
5. **SAN FRANCISCO CALTRAIN**
Quick Releases

2018 Protected Bike Lane Wins

This has been one of the biggest years yet for street safety projects on some of San Francisco’s busiest corridors. From the Tenderloin to SoMa — where most, if not all, streets are high-injury corridors — we’ve made huge strides toward building streets that are safe and inviting for all.

Bike lanes on Turk, Eighth and Folsom streets were built this year and a recent series of victories will give us even more to look forward to in 2019. Protected bike lanes on Valencia, Howard and Townsend as well as safety projects on Sixth and Taylor have all been approved, thanks to our member advocacy. We’ll push to have these lanes ready to ride as soon as possible.

Taller de Bicicletas Para Familias

Free helmets, bike lights, food and conversation brought together families and neighbors from the Mission District at our Spanish-language Family Bike Fair at St. Peter’s Church in late September. Sensitive to the multiple barriers that non-English monolingual communities might face, we provided a safe space for families to receive information about biking, to enjoy riding together and, for some, to learn how to ride for the first time.

While kids practiced their new riding skills with the help of our awesome partners from the YMCA’s Y-Bike team, their parents and guardians had an opportunity to take a class in Spanish on safe and comfortable riding in the city.

The Future of the Embarcadero

More than 200 people filled the second floor of the Ferry Building in October to see the visionary designs unveiled by the SF Municipal Transportation Agency for a two-way protected bike lane along the Embarcadero, from AT&T Park to Fisherman’s Wharf. To make a bikeable and walkable waterfront possible, SF Bicycle Coalition members — along with the pedicab community — kept up the pressure this past summer by attending Embarcadero committee and Port
Commission meetings and reaching out to City leaders. Because of the hard work of this coalition, long-awaited designs for the people-friendly future of the Embarcadero were finally revealed. Along with the long-term vision of protected bike lanes, short-term changes were presented and construction began this fall. To stay up-to-date on more changes to come on the Embarcadero, visit sfbike.org/embarcadero.

Best Wishes to Departing Staff

Two staff members have moved on and will be missed. We’re grateful for Ana Vasudeo’s leadership as the SF Bicycle Coalition’s Program Director. For more than two years, she led our program team, helping to win many grants and setting a high standard for culturally competent outreach. We hope to continue to collaborate with her in her new role at the Bay Area Air Quality Management District.

Miles Stepto, who served first as an intern and then as Program Coordinator, led the largest ever Community Bike-Build this year and also managed our extensive Valet Parking program. We wish him the best in his new position with JUMP bikes.

Thank you to business members

Business membership is a great way to support the work of the SF Bicycle Coalition. If you own a business or believe your employer would like to support us, contact Gina Schumacher at gina@sfbike.org. Thank you to our latest new and renewing business members: Bicycle Coffee Company, Paoli & Geerhart LLP, San Francisco State University, Shofur and Underdog Couriers.

SAVE THE DATE:
BIKE TO WORK DAY IS MAY 9!

25TH ANNIVERSARY

2019 BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTIONS

MEMBER VOTING FOR EIGHT SEATS ON OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS WILL OPEN ON JAN. 23 AND CLOSE ON FEB. 5, 2019.

For complete details, and to learn more about running for the board, go to sfbike.org/news/board-of-directors-2019-director-election
After the completion of the Bay Bridge East Span bicycle and pedestrian path in October 2016, the question remained: When will we be able to ride all the way from Oakland to downtown San Francisco? Now this is no longer a fantasy. During an at-capacity public meeting in November, attendees examined beautiful new renderings as the Bay Area Toll Authority, along with the Arup design team, unveiled the preferred design for the Bay Bridge West Span people path.

The 4.5-mile route, proposed on the north side of the west span, will connect Yerba Buena Island to downtown San Francisco. It will join the 2.2 miles currently open on the East Span to create a spectacular route across the bay. Along with designers’ renditions of the proposed path, planners gave a virtual reality tour of the project that provided a dramatic look at the possibilities and challenges for this transportation link that will be used by an estimated 10,000 people daily.

Your San Francisco Bicycle Coalition will continue to be at the forefront as we look to approve and fund our vision of connecting Oakland and San Francisco by bike.

Take a look at the gorgeous path for yourself and help us make our dreams real: visit sfbike.org/baybridge.
New Staff at the SF Bicycle Coalition

By Rahul Young

We’ve been fortunate to add awesome new staff to the San Francisco Bicycle Coalition. Andy Gonzalez Cabrera is a Community Organizer focused on supervisorial Districts 9, 10, and 11. They empower collaboration among members of our organization, the community and City staff. Our Volunteer and Membership Coordinator Chris Bannister makes sure that we put the priorities of our members and volunteers first. Jen Gennari, our new External Affairs Director, helps manage relationships with our donors, members, friends and journalists. Jeremy Hobbs, our Technology Strategist, ensures the stability and economy of technology infrastructure and brings new ideas on how technology can create stronger connections among staff, members and stakeholders. They answered a few questions so you can get to know them.

When did you first hear about the SF Bicycle Coalition?

AGC: While attending Santa Monica College, I remember a couple of SMC Bike Club members talking about the SF Bicycle Coalition as a strong organization.

JG: Bike to Work Day! I was greeted by someone at the Embarcadero Energizer Station and signed up on the spot.

CB: From my students when I was working as a Resident Advisor in the dorms at San Francisco State University.

JH: When I moved to San Francisco from Chicago, I came across the SF Bicycle Coalition at a Bike to Work Day street party extravaganza. I knew at that moment that I’d somehow found my way back home.

What made you decide to join our organization?

AGC: This is an incredible opportunity to make change happen on the streets of San Francisco and to empower folks to use their own voices. For communities of color that struggle financially, having access to a bike can help them achieve transportation autonomy in San Francisco.

JG: The 2018-2022 Strategic Plan is one of the best I’ve ever seen — and the Bicycle Coalition’s core values of people power, transportation justice, sustainability and joy match my personal hope for change in this world.

What do you like most about working here so far?

CB: I like how excited our members get when they see us out on the streets, representing and supporting their voices.

JH: I knew that the SF Bicycle Coalition was a powerful member-based advocacy organization, but I didn’t appreciate the extent of the organization’s effectiveness until I joined the staff. It’s truly inspiring!
Ten years ago, the idea of bicycle infrastructure in the United States was still a fledgling concept. Even though the first bike lane in San Francisco was striped on Lake Street in 1971, until fairly recently bike design had not advanced beyond simple paint on the pavement. Now we have protected bike lanes, bike traffic signals, and with them, a growing awareness of the implications for people with disabilities.

As the movement for more inclusive and safe bike-friendly streets spreads across the country, we’ve continued to evolve how we talk about bikes and streets. More than 100 American cities have at least one protected bike lane, and urban planning organizations like the National Association of City Transportation Officials have defined best practices for building cities with safe, sustainable and accessible transportation.

But with new design comes new challenges. We are advocating for innovative and ambitious designs for people biking. Are those designs also accessible for everyone on our streets?

On a gray afternoon in April 2017, the city’s Vision Zero Coalition’s Senior and Disability Workgroup partnered with the San Francisco Bicycle Coalition to tour some of our city’s latest bike infrastructure. This workgroup, led by Walk San Francisco and Senior and Disability Action, was formed to prioritize street safety for seniors and people with disabilities, the two communities most disproportionately affected by traffic crashes. Although seniors make up only 15% of San Francisco’s population, they account for over 40% of all traffic deaths.

This bike lane tour came about as a result of renewed conversations between the SF Bicycle Coalition and disability advocates. That afternoon, we visited the Polk Street contraflow bike lane between Market and Grove streets, the recently installed protected bike lane on Seventh.
Street, and the new protected intersection at Ninth and Division streets. We paused to watch delivery trucks unload across the bike lanes and passengers getting on and off Muni buses at transit boarding islands that protected the adjoining bike lane.

By the end of the tour, the dozen participants agreed that we learned a lot about how new design brings significant safety improvements, but access challenges remain. Most importantly, advocates understood the need to push for design solutions that prioritize accessibility early in the planning process. After the tour, the workgroup took these observations and conclusions to planners at the SF Municipal Transportation Agency, bringing suggested tweaks to protected bike lanes that were still in planning.

The workgroup later organized a half-day design charrette for a broad range of street safety advocates and City staff to look into ways to ensure that protected bike lanes are designed to be safe and accessible for everyone, including seniors and people with disabilities.

Partnering with the disability community has made clear that, although there’s an urgency to designing and implementing high-quality bike infrastructure, doing so cannot come at the expense of others who use our streets and sidewalks. In the year ahead, the San Francisco Bicycle Coalition recommits to our core value of advocating for everyone’s equitable access to safe, affordable and healthy transportation to create a just city.

What we’re working on

Healthy Saturdays: In October we co-hosted a discussion and tour with the Mayor’s Office on Disability (MOD) to talk through the extension of year-round Healthy Saturdays open streets in Golden Gate Park and concerns around accessibility. The tour was an opportunity for us and our City agency partners to listen to the disability community and explore how we can create safe routes to the park for all.

Better Market Street: With the goal of a full redesign of Market Street, the Better Market Street project will need to develop improvements that are as accessible as possible. Along with our partners at Senior and Disability Action and community advocates, we are leading the way on novel design solutions to loading/unloading and transit access challenges.

Turk Street: With all of the special loading needs along Turk Street, accessibility across the bike lane was a primary concern for us in the design phase of the Turk Street bike lane. Working hand in hand with Curry Senior Center, we were able to create a new type of loading zone that keeps the bike lane clear, while still allowing access for paratransit.
“I’m doing it! Holy cow, I’m riding!”

A woman we’ll call Grace pedals for the first time across a broad expanse of pavement. Her husband and two young children leap up from their camp chairs and cheer. It’s an exhilarating moment that we never tire of witnessing.

Grace is a student in the San Francisco Bicycle Coalition’s Adult Learn to Ride class, one of our most popular Bicycle Education classes. For the first time, we’ve begun to offer the class in the southeast of the city, in collaboration with NOW Hunters Point, a decommissioned PG&E substation in Bayview-Hunters Point that has been cleaned up and reborn as a community events space.

For years, we’ve been offering this class on the eastern edge of Golden Gate Park, which is centrally located for much of the city. But the park is not convenient for residents of southeast San Francisco, because of distance and transit routes that do not make it an easy trek. Shifting some of our on-bike classes to the southeast is one small step in our commitment to making classes accessible and equitable for everyone in SF. The first class at NOW Hunters Point was held in July, and a second followed in November.

So who are the adults who take these classes? Most people who take our Adult Learn to Ride classes think they’re the only ones who have reached adulthood without learning to ride a bike. When they arrive at a class full of people in their 20s to 60s or older, from all different backgrounds, they know they have arrived at a place where they will be supported, not judged.

Another common fear adults have is that they will have to learn on bikes with training wheels. Our approach is very different. First, we remove pedals, then lower saddles to a height where students can put both feet flat on the ground. New learners start off walking with their weight on the saddle, feeling their balance on two wheels. They take bigger and bigger steps until they’re coasting and steering. Gradually we reintroduce their pedals. Before they know it, they’re like Grace, doing something they thought they’d never learn: pedaling across the asphalt, feeling the freedom and joy of riding a bike.
Happiness is a DIY Cargo Bike

By Rahul Young

When Yaron Milgrom first moved to San Francisco in 2008, he bought a bike and rode it around the Mission with his son in a child seat. When his two daughters were born, his family switched to a pickup truck to get around because their destinations were often too far to walk with three kids. But driving meant facing rush-hour traffic and circling the block repeatedly looking for parking with tired kids in the backseat. Yaron wanted a change.

When his friend Saul Griffith offered Yaron a prototype cargo bike frame from his company Otherlab, along with spare parts and space in his workshop, Yaron jumped at the opportunity. Over two months, he added an electric motor and built out a front basket, a fold-down seat and seat belts.

Now, Yaron and his three kids bike every day — to the Civic Center Farmers Market, to his daughter’s co-op preschool, and on the bike lanes on Cesar Chavez and San Jose Avenue to Dolores Huerta Elementary.

“Biking has transformed my life,” Yaron says. “It’s actually made me feel more fully realized as a parent. When we bike together, the kids are happier, I’m happier, we’re talking to each other, and we’re all more engaged with the world around us. We get to our destination faster than we would if we were driving, and it’s a lot more fun.”

Yaron acknowledges they are lucky to have been given the donated parts and to have secure parking in their apartment building’s basement. “I know I’m fortunate to have had this opportunity. Cargo bikes are cheaper than cars but not affordable for everyone,” he says. “We need to work to make bikes like this a more feasible option for families throughout San Francisco.”

Learn how biking can bring joy to you and your family at sfbike.org/our-work/youth-family/.

ANNUAL MEMBER MEETING AND CANDIDATE FORUM

Join us for the Annual SF Bicycle Coalition Member meeting Jan. 23.

The member meeting and candidate forum offers interested members a chance to meet with board candidates as voting begins for the open seats on the board of directors.
Year One Progress
Bringing Change to Our Streets

It’s been one year since the launch of our 2018-2022 Strategic Plan, and we’re pleased with the progress we’ve made. We’ve transformed streets from Folsom to Upper Market, Seventh to Seventeenth. We’ve broadened the range of people who ride by offering classes in different neighborhoods and distributing refurbished bikes. And we’ve welcomed thousands of people to the joy of riding for everyday transportation.

We’re tracking positive changes and inspiring more people to bike for everyday transportation. Check out the statistics for yourself by visiting sfbike.org/progress.

“It’s not easy to change our city’s streets. There always seems to be an excuse why San Francisco can’t. The SF Bicycle Coalition exists to help overcome those excuses and shape our city for the better.”
YEAR ONE PROGRESS

STRATEGIC PLAN 2018-2022

10,033 FAMILY MEMBERS ROLLED WITH US

603 BIKE RACKS AND CORRALS INSTALLED

20,149 ADULTS EDUCATED ON SAFE BIKING

5.33 MILES OF PROTECTED BIKE LANES

376 BIKES DISTRIBUTED VIA BIKE BUILDS
Women Bike SF
Coffee Club

8 to 9 am | Jan. 4 | Coffee Bar
8 to 9 am | Feb. 1 | Mercury Cafe

If you are new to riding or looking for camaraderie, join us for our monthly Women Bike SF Coffee Club. It’s a perfect place to meet new people, talk bikes, share tips, and caffeinate together.

Volunteer
Light up the Night

5 to 7:30 pm | Jan. 17 | Mission
5 to 7:30 pm | Jan. 29 | Lower Haight

Riding at night with no lights? Thanks to Bay Area Bicycle Law, we’re distributing and installing hundreds of free rear and front lights for people biking without them. Staff and member-volunteers will host several undisclosed pop-up Light Up the Night events in neighborhoods across the city. Find out more and sign up to volunteer at sfbike.org/lights.

Youth and Family
Family Biking Workshop

11 am to 2 pm | Feb. 23 | Rosa Parks Elementary School

Children of all ages are invited to learn to ride with YBike and the SF Bicycle Coalition. We’ll help new riders start rolling, while more advanced students improve by practicing turns, stops and hand signals. Bikes of all sizes are provided (or bring your own bike). A family neighborhood ride starts at 1:30 PM. Sponsored by Safe Routes to School.
Valet Bike Parking Program

Bike to the Theater

7 pm | Jan. 23 | 415 Geary St.
6:30 pm | Feb. 13 | 415 Geary St.
7 pm | Mar. 6 | 415 Geary St

Arrive in style on your bike to see the best offerings at the American Conservatory Theater. We’ll watch your bike while you enjoy a live stage production of Seascape, Her Portmanteau, or The Great Leap.

Bike to Theater Nights are preview performances catered specifically to the San Francisco bicycling community. Patrons arriving by bicycle receive discounted tickets (starting at $10) and pre-show happy hours with complimentary drinks and snacks. Visit act-sf.org and use discount code theatersfbc.
BECOME A SAN FRANCISCO BICYCLE COALITION MEMBER
AND GET DISCOUNTS ALL OVER TOWN

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American Cyclery
Avenue Cyclery
Bespoke Cycles
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City Cycle of San Francisco
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DD Cycles
Everybody Bikes
Frewheel
Heavy Metal Bike Shop
High Trails Cyclery
Huckleberry Bicycles
Market Street Cycles
Mikes Bikes
Mission Bicycle Company
Noe Valley Cyclery
Nomad Cyclery
Ocean Cyclery
Pedal Revolution
Roaring Mouse Cycles
Sports Basement
Swell Bicycles
Valencia Cyclery
Velofix
Warm Planet Bicycles

Clothing & Accessories
Charlie’s Coat
Chrome
Mission Workshop
Po Campo
RearViz
Rickshaw Bagworks
SPC San Francis
timuk2 Store
Urban Bike Tech
Vespertine

Food & Beverage
All Good Pizza
Arimendi Bakery*
Coletta Gelato
Dolores Park Café
Duboce Park Café
Equator Coffees & Teas
Fort Point Beer Company*
Greens to Go
Kasa Indian Eatery
Laughing Monk Brewing
Mercury Cafe
Nopali*’
Other Avenues Co-op
Precita Park Café
Velo Rouge Cafe

Wellness
The Big Hand Massage
Body Awakening
Everchange Fitness
fitBERNALfit
fitGLENfit
Golden State of Health
Good Vibrations*
Impact Bay Area
Sunporch Yoga
Yoga Garden SF
YuBalance

Other
Green Apple Books
Last Minute Gear
Tideline
Zipcar

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

BECOME A MEMBER OF THE SAN FRANCISCO BICYCLE COALITION and help us
Connect the City and make San Francisco a better place to live, work
and bike. As a member, you get discounts all over town, free bike trailer
and air travel bike box rentals and more. See sfbike.org/membership
for all the benefits.

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

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☐ VISA ☐ MASTERCARD ☐ Do not share my name, even with cool
organizations the SF Bicycle Coalition trusts.

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

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

☐ Men’s ☐ Women’s

SIGN ME UP FOR A NEWSLETTER:
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☐ BICYCLE EDUCATION
☐ FAMILY BIKING
☐ WOMEN BIKE SF

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EMAIL:________________________