

CROSS ALAMEDA TRAIL: BICYCLE EDUCATION & OUTREACH

NON-INFRASTRUCTURE | ATP CY 1

Applicant: City of Alameda



PROJECT SUMMARY

ATP PROJECT COST: \$141,000

The City of Alameda joined forces with local nonprofits, *Cycles of Change* and *Bike East Bay*, to launch this comprehensive bicycle safety education program, developed for all ages and abilities, and inclusive of all populations within the community. The program, "Bike Safety Education for All," was conceptualized as part of a larger effort that included both infrastructure and non-infrastructure components, supporting the development of a 0.6 mile segment of the multi-use "Cross Alameda Trail" through the new Jean Sweeney Open Space Park. The landmark park and trail not only attract locals; they have become a popular destination drawing visitors from neighboring communities and beyond. "Bike Safety Education for All" was developed to teach children of all ages and incomes,

adults and seniors, and even those who had never ridden a bike before. The program emphasized how to ride safely, encouraging participants to use the trail for both recreation and transportation, and to be inclusive of both new and seasoned riders. While *Cycles of Change* focused their work in schools and at special events for lower income families, *Bike East Bay* coordinated with the Alameda Recreation and Park Department and the Alameda Free Library to increase program reach, and ultimately adult new-rider class participation. Both organizations utilized a variety of instructors and learning formats, providing a comprehensive program with language and culturally competent instruction, truly inclusive for all.

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Activities

Schools program: Bicycle safety education classes were taught in four schools over a two-year period: Maya Lin Elementary, Haight (renamed Love) Elementary, Wood Middle, and Alameda Science & Technology Institute High School. Every student in each of the four schools (2800 students in total) received classroom and on-bike instruction, including teaching children to ride who previously did not know how.

Adults & Teens: A variety of bicycle safety education classes and workshops were offered in both classroom and on the road settings. Adult learn-to-ride classes, geared for those who do not know how to ride or who are not confident riders, provided one-on-one support and a place to ride in a safe, comfortable environment. A total of 492 adults and teens participated, exceeding program goals by 34%.

Homeless & low-income students: Five bike rodeo events were held, all targeted to low-income, homeless and previously homeless youth. More than 350 students participated, including 27 who learned to ride a bicycle from these events.

The City of Alameda was able to use this ATP grant to pilot what became a hugely successful program. With an outpouring of public support, the program continues to thrive, now funded with local transportation tax dollars.

Quick Facts

24

NUMBER OF BIKE EDUCATION CLASSES FOR ADULTS, TEENS AND FAMILIES

492

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IN THE ADULT & TEEN PROGRAM

95

PERCENT OF SURVEYED ADULT STUDENTS REPORTED CYCLING REGULARLY AFTER TAKING CLASSES

27

NUMBER OF YOUTH WHO LEARNED TO RIDE BIKES AT BIKE RODEO EVENT DAYS

2800

NUMBER OF STUDENTS TAUGHT AT 4 SCHOOLS

3,700

Total number of adults and youth engaged in this program

NI Elements

E DUCATION

E NCOURAGEMENT

E QUITY

E VALUATION

Outcomes & Benefits

1. Public participation exceeded program goals.
2. Increased knowledge and skills among participants of all ages and abilities.
3. Increased community interest in bicycle commuting.
4. Dramatic decrease among program participants in the number who never or rarely bike.
5. Increased demand and support for the program which is now funded with local tax dollars.



Photos courtesy of City of Alameda and Bike East Bay.