



Anyone Can Bike!

Alameda County General Services Agency

Climate Corps Bay Area

Promoting biking is multi-faceted

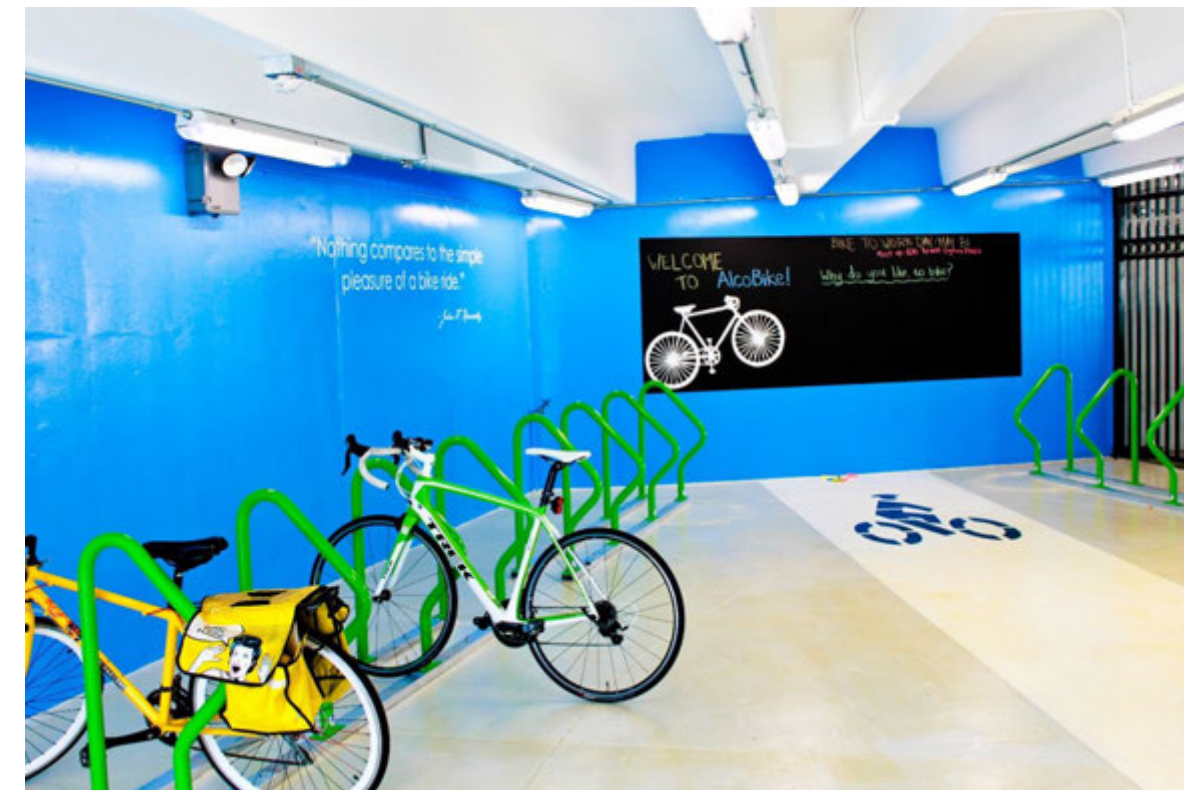
AlcoBike (improving bicycle infrastructure)

AlcoBike is a secure bike parking facility for employees working and attending meetings in downtown Oakland. The space was transformed from an unused area to a vibrant and inviting space for cyclists. AlcoBike was designed not only to be functional but also to serve as a visual symbol that it is a space for cyclists rather than a few racks added to a building as an afterthought.

Before



After



Bike Fleet (introducing a bicycle program)

Since the beginning of July, the County fleet expanded to include 6 bikes. This pilot fleet expands employees' business travel alternatives and will hopefully be so popular that the bike fleet will need to become larger.

Establishing the fleet was challenging due to risk and liability concerns from the County, but a research backed proposal and open conversations to collaboratively design the program made the fleet a reality.

Employees can use the bikes to travel to meetings in downtown Oakland or even take them on BART.



Let's talk numbers

The focus of my fellowship has been to advocate bicycling as a viable form of transportation primarily through infrastructure upgrades. Through AlcoBike and 2 grants from the Air District (BAAQMD), **75 bike racks** were added to Alameda County facilities. These racks serve the public and **9,000 County employees**.

AlcoBike continues to fill up with bicycles, and at full capacity, bike commuters will **save 40325 kg of CO2 per year**. This is equivalent to **not consuming 4,538 gallons of gas per year**.

As the Bike Fleet takes off, employees will save **0.5 kg of CO2** with each 3 mile roundtrip. This saves, on average, **3.3 minutes** by not having to circle for car parking.

Strategies for a successful project

Successful Strategies:

- Follow up on requests like it's your job. Everyone can use a friendly reminder.
- Make sure to loop everyone related to your project early.
- Always thank people for their time, work, and ideas. Fostering positive relationships not only makes work more enjoyable but also can help you in unexpected ways.

Recommendations for Improvement / Program Expansion:

- The County is big – another agency/department might have something that meets your project's needs so breaking silos can expedite and enhance your project.
- Asking stakeholders how they want to engage is more efficient than depending solely on trial and error.

RACHEL OM

Rachel is a graduate of the Environmental Studies program at Amherst College. She has a vision of working in the sustainable transportation field to help cities incorporate resource efficiency, social justice, and livability into the urban landscape and effectively adapt to and mitigate climate change.

Acknowledgements

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