Bicycle Safety Education Program

Project Number: A13-0001 | January 2016

Project Highlights
Striping bicycling lanes and building bicycle paths is not enough to get more people riding their bicycles safely. Without learning the skills of bicycling in traffic, it can be scary to navigate city streets, and many people avoid it. Others brave the streets but ride unsafely.

The Alameda County Bicycle Safety Education Program offers free classes throughout the county. The program includes a variety of class types to cater to different audiences, including classroom and on-road instruction, classes oriented towards adults, teenagers, and children, classes in English, Spanish, and Cantonese, and classes for new and experienced bicyclists. All classes educate community members in how to ride safely and predictably with the goals of improving bicycle safety countywide and increasing the confidence of interested cyclists who may have concerns about the safety of bicycling.

The Alameda County Bicycle Safety Education program began in 2007 with funding provided by the Measure B Bicycle and Pedestrian Discretionary Grant program. During this period, the program grew significantly in attendees, types of classes offered, and community members reached. In 2013 the program was converted to a competitively bid program and merged with the Alameda Countywide Safe Routes to School Program, in recognition of the bicycle safety education program’s maturation as well as potential efficiencies between the two programs. The program is currently operated by a team including Alta Planning and Design and Bike East Bay (formerly the East Bay Bicycle Coalition).

BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN COUNTYWIDE DISCRETIONARY FUND PROGRAM

Program Fact Sheet

PROGRAM PROVIDER
Bike East Bay
Robert Prinz
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www.BikeEastBay.org/education

PROJECT BENEFITS
This project will educate approximately 4,000 adults, teenagers and children in safe bicycle riding techniques. The countywide education program encourages bicycle riders to ride their bicycles with greater control and environmental awareness to enhance their travel safety.

PROJECT STATUS
The Project Sponsor conducts classes, clinics and regular training around Alameda County. The program continues on its schedule of meeting the target performance measures and has trained over 1,000 adults and teenagers. For the current schedule, visit www.BikeEastBay.org/education

To find out more about the program, please contact Bike East Bay.
ATTENDING OR SCHEDULING CLASSES

If you are interested in attending a class, please visit Bike East Bay’s website (www.BikeEastBay.org) to see a schedule of upcoming classes. Classes are offered at locations throughout the county in easily accessible locations. Note that pre-registration is encouraged or required for most class types. Many classes have giveaways like free reflective vests or bike lights!

If you are interested in scheduling or hosting a class at your place of business, community center, or school, please contact Robert Prinz, Education Director at Bike East Bay to discuss options.

Also check out Bike East Bay’s website for educational information on topics including bikes on transit, bike mechanics and maintenance, arranging to ride with a “bike buddy” and nighttime and rain cycling.

ALAMEDA COUNTY BICYCLE SAFETY EDUCATION CLASS TYPES

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<tr>
<th>Class Type</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Audience</th>
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<tr>
<td>Urban Cycling 101: Day 1 Classroom Class</td>
<td>Fun and entertaining 2-hour classroom workshop taught by a League of American Bicyclists certified instructor. Learn basic rules of the road, how to equip your bicycle, fit your helmet, take a bike on transit, and avoid crashes by riding predictably, visibly, and communicating with other road users by your actions and signals. No bike required.</td>
<td>Any adult or teen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Urban Cycling 101: Day 2 On-road Class</td>
<td>5.5-hour on-road workshop taught by a League of American Bicyclists certified instructor. Topics include improving handling skills, learning crash-avoidance maneuvers, and ability to bike confidently on any street. A functional bike and helmet is required, drinks and snacks provided.</td>
<td>Adults or teens that have completed the Day 1 class.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adult Learn-to-ride Classes</td>
<td>This is a class for adults or teens that have either not yet learned how to ride a bike, or learned a long time ago but want a refresher on the basics of balancing, pedaling and steering. Our trained instructors are friendly, patient, and will help you get off to a great start in a secure, non-judgmental environment. A working bicycle and helmet are required in order to participate in this class.</td>
<td>Adults or teens</td>
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<td>Kids Bike Rodeos</td>
<td>A team of youth cycling instructors conducts fun-filled bike rodeos at elementary schools, festivals, street fairs, or other events around Alameda County. Rodeos include a mock city course, skills building, and walking and bike instruction.</td>
<td>Children grades 3-6</td>
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<td>Family Cycling Workshops</td>
<td>A day of fun games, drills, skills building, and a neighborhood ride. This workshop is for kids able to ride a bike and who are ready to ride on the roadways with their parents. Parents and kids must attend together and should bring their own bikes.</td>
<td>Children and parents</td>
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<td>One Hour Commuter Workshop</td>
<td>These 1-hour, interactive classroom courses are perfect for introducing your employees or members to the concepts of biking for transportation and encouraging a healthy commute. Each class is hosted by a League of American Bicyclists-certified instructor, who will teach the basics of bike commuting, crash avoidance, and bicyclist rights and responsibilities. You will also learn how to outfit your bike, how to take a bike on transit and how to bike smart while having fun.</td>
<td>Businesses, schools, or community centers</td>
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Measure B Bicycle and Pedestrian Countywide Discretionary Fund

Alameda County’s half-cent transportation sales tax funds the Measure B Bicycle and Pedestrian Countywide Discretionary Fund, a competitive grant program and a Countywide Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator. To date, Alameda CTC’s bicycle and pedestrian grant program has funded 51 capital projects, programs and master plans, totaling approximately $12.3 million.