



03

Community Voice

Oakland Department of Transportation teamed up with a number of local organizations to help identify and give voice to the mobility needs of different communities in Oakland.



COMMUNITY PARTNERS



Community Voice

The Oakland Bicycle Plan is part of a wider effort by the City to strive for more equitable City investment in our transportation system. To work towards this, the Oakland Department of Transportation (OakDOT) teamed up with a number of community organizations to help identify and give voice to the mobility needs of disadvantaged communities in East and West Oakland.

The Plan gathered input from communities and residents throughout the City about their priorities for and concerns about biking and overall mobility in their

neighborhoods. Community input guided the City in developing a citywide plan that prioritizes bicycle needs and projects over the next several years.

OakDOT sees these partnerships as a part of a longer process: a process to build trust, improve communication and collaboration, and foster a common vocabulary and mobility agenda across different neighborhoods and communities in Oakland.

With input from City Council, OakDOT contracted with five community-based organizations that

work with Oakland adults and youth, particularly communities of color within East and West Oakland.

The Community Partners included:

- Bikes4Life
- Cycles of Change
- East Oakland Collective
- The Original Scraper Bike Team
- Outdoor Afro



“

Biking and bike infrastructure is different for various communities and neighborhoods — what works for one neighborhood may not work for another. It is crucial to involve resident input in any type of City planning.”

EAST OAKLAND COLLECTIVE



MEET THE COMMUNITY PARTNERS

BIKES 4 LIFE



The Bikes 4 Life mission is to inspire residents to create positive change in the community by biking as an alternative to other transportation. We utilize political education and building a base of committed advocates for change to empower communities to live healthier lives one bike at a time.

? What has been your role within the Oakland Bike Plan and what do you consider the most important outcome of your involvement?

Our role within the Bike Plan has been to provide outreach to our community in the Lower Bottom neighborhood of West Oakland and educate them about the Plan. We hosted an evening community meeting and invited those interested, mostly cyclists, to attend.

More neighbors in our community are aware of the Bike Plan and feel more included in the process being invited to provide their feedback. The Bike Plan's effort to include the community has inspired many to continue civic engagement in Oakland.

? What is a message you would like to convey to the City about biking in Oakland and/or the Bike Plan?

Our message to the City of Oakland is for them to continue to put community and residents first. The City should continue to listen to their needs and critiques as a way to make things better and a smoother ride for all.



WWW.BIKES4LIFE.COM



MEET THE COMMUNITY PARTNERS

THE EAST OAKLAND COLLECTIVE



WWW.EASTOAKLANDCOLLECTIVE.COM

The East Oakland Collective (EOC) is a member-based community organizing group invested in serving the communities of deep East Oakland by working towards racial and economic equity. With programming in economic development, civic engagement and leadership, and homeless services and solutions, we help amplify underserved communities from the ground up. We are committed to driving impact in the landscape, politics and economic climate of deep East Oakland.

? What has been your role within the Oakland Bike Plan and what do you consider the most important outcome of your involvement?

EOC organized three community workshops in East Oakland to engage residents in the update of the Bike Plan and to make sure community input was voiced and heard.

Thinking of creative ways to engage the East Oakland community in the Bike Plan update and work with the entire planning team to adjust to community needs and inputs. Advocating for neighborhood equity from bike infrastructure to funding opportunities that center youth in the update of the Plan.

? What is a message you would like to convey to the City about biking in Oakland and/or the Bike Plan?

Biking and bike infrastructure is different for various communities and neighborhoods— what works for one neighborhood, may not work for another. It is crucial to involve resident input in any type of City planning. East Oakland has a rich history of bicycling and it should be implemented in the Plan— from creative bike culture, skills in bike repair, to a wealth of knowledge in bike education. In the Bike Plan update we want to see increased funding for these opportunities in East Oakland.



MEET THE COMMUNITY PARTNERS

CYCLES OF CHANGE



WWW.CYCLESOFCHANGE.ORG

Cycles of Change works to improve the health and sustainability of our neighborhoods by increasing the access and use of bicycles. We are a collectively-run, People Of Color led organization that has been empowering Oakland youth through bikes since 1998. We provide the much-loved, after school Bike Clubs, in-school PE bicycle safety classes, Upcycle bike commuter and mechanics workshops, watershed education, high school mentorship, and youth job-training.

? What has been your role within the Oakland Bike Plan and what do you consider the most important outcome of your involvement?

We hosted a community listening session, providing valuable feedback to the planning team for the Bike Plan update. Cycles has a longstanding history in Oakland. Our relationships and integrity in the community have made it possible to engage under-represented voices in sharing important, experience-based recommendations. This feedback regarding neighborhood-specific needs for infrastructural improvements, as well as programming and education needs, helped affirm our work, and holds us accountable to seeing this feedback impact the updated Bike Plan.

? What is a message you would like to convey to the City about biking in Oakland and/or the Bike Plan?

Representation is important, it's to ensure the inclusion and steady support of vital community-based organizations, who represent and serve residents best. But residents feel that addressing larger, urgent challenges, such as gentrification, affordable housing, living-wage jobs, better education, and more programs for youth, cannot be ignored in the conversation. How can the Bike Plan prioritize and incorporate larger solutions for Oakland's longtime residents? While infrastructure may contribute to aspects of a more bikeable city, it's hard for some not to feel even further left out. Addressing inequity and prioritizing dignity and security for all residents needs to be a crucial part of the process as well.



“Regular community-based rides, low cost or free resources, accessible mechanics workshops, and diversified bike safety education curriculum for youth and adults enable communities to better access bikes as a powerful form of transportation and wellness, and are a necessary part of a successful, inclusive bike plan.”

CYCLES OF CHANGE



MEET THE COMMUNITY PARTNERS

SCRAPER BIKE TEAM



The Scraper Bike Team empowers urban youth living in underserved communities through self-expression and creativity. We encourage youth entrepreneurship and promote healthy, sustainable living for all. The Scraper Bike Team will use each work-of-bicycle-art to impact social justice and global change.

? **What has been your role within the Oakland Bike Plan and what do you consider the most important outcome of your involvement?**

The Scraper Bike Team's role in the Oakland Bike Plan is to bring awareness of East Oakland's crumbling bike infrastructure and to identify new bikeways that should be considered for the Bike Plan. The most important outcome from our involvement in the Bike Plan was advocating for a center running bike lane on 90th Street in East Oakland. Listening to community's concerns and being able to answer some questions validated our network, that the Bike Plan is indeed listening and considering the people's ideas.

? **What is a message you would like to convey to the City about biking in Oakland and/or the Bike Plan?**

The Scraper Bike Team would like to open up the conversation about creating another center-running bike lane on Bancroft, from 106th to 68th Ave. The Scraper Bike Team is just getting started and we plan on making East Oakland a more bike-friendly community for existing East Oaklanders while capturing and highlighting the true culture.



WWW.SCRAPERBIKETEAM.ORG



MEET THE COMMUNITY PARTNERS

OUTDOOR AFRO



Founded in Oakland, Outdoor Afro is the nation's leading, cutting edge network that celebrates and inspires African American connections and leadership in nature. With nearly 80 leaders in 30 states from around the country, we connect thousands of people to outdoor experiences, who are changing the face of conservation.

? What has been your role within the Oakland Bike Plan and what do you consider the most important outcome of your involvement?

Outdoor Afro hosted opportunities for the community to discuss and ride along the pathways of consideration - among a wide variety of rider ability - to groundtruth us to appropriate and accessible bike lanes that connect neighborhoods to community events, cultural centers, commerce, nature, and each other. We were proud of the ways we were able to use this discussion and experiential opportunity to highlight and elevate African American contribution and culture in Oakland where that community is increasingly displaced and unseen.

? What is a message you would like to convey to the City about biking in Oakland and/or the Bike Plan?

It is important that the most diverse constituents be represented in plans that effect their neighborhood. We want access to safe biking alternatives, but only with input from the communities that live near them will there be relevant sharing and engagement with inclusion for all. Increasingly, as people move into urban centers like Oakland, it will be important for people to have multiple and accessible ways to move about. It is essential that we include as many voices as we can that represent the city of Oakland and its beautiful economic and diversity.



WWW.OUTDOORAFRO.COM



JANUARY - APRIL 2018

Public Engagement and Existing Conditions

MAY - DECEMBER 2018

Proposed Bicycle Network and Priority Projects

SEPTEMBER 2017 - JANUARY 2018

Project Initiation

SEP 2017 OCT NOV DEC JAN 2018 FEB MAR APR MAY JUN JUL

Cycles of Change Listening Session

Outdoor Afro West Oakland Bike Tour

MOBILE WORKSHOPS



Oakland Resident Survey



Bike Plan TAC Meetings



Outdoor Afro-hosted Workshop
East Oakland Collective-hosted Workshop
Bikes4Life-hosted Workshop



Let's Bike Oakland Design Lab



Scraper Bike Ride - Part I

PROJECT TIMELINE



Left: Bikes4Life-hosted Workshop doorhanger; Right: Outdoor Afro-hosted Workshop



Scraper Bike Ride - Part 1

Outdoor Afro West Oakland Bike Tour



MAY 2019
Final Bicycle Plan

Oakland Bike Plan
TAC Meetings

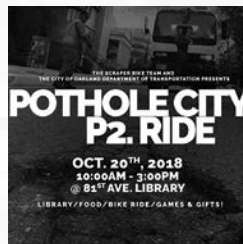
AUG SEP OCT NOV DEC JAN 2019 FEB MAR APR MAY

MOBILE WORKSHOPS



Let's Bike Oakland Design Lab

Scrapper Bike Ride -
Part II



Scrapper Bike Ride Flyer

DECEMBER 2018 - MARCH 2019

**Draft
Bicycle Plan**

Oakland Bike Plan
TAC Meetings

Cycles of Change
Working Session

East Oakland Collective-
hosted workshop

West Oakland Mobile
Workshop with Bikes4Life



60

COMMUNITY MEETINGS or EVENTS

By the Numbers

We connected with Oaklanders in many ways: through Bike Plan events hosted by our community partners, Bike Plan "mobile workshops" at existing community events, and web-based input tools.



3,644

PEOPLE ENGAGED

... in ...

PERSON



1,351

SUBSCRIBERS

..... to the

OAKLAND BIKE PLAN MAILING LIST



576

OAKLAND DOT STAFF HOURS

..... in the

COMMUNITY



Over
2,300
COMMENTS

... on ...

BIKE PLAN WEB MAPS

Outreach Process

“What is needed to make a more bike-friendly Oakland that serves you?”

The outreach process looked to facilitate conversations around that question and to build ownership of the Plan from community groups and Oaklanders at large. To do that, the process centered on partnerships with five community partner organizations - established community groups that have trusted reputation in communities of color in East and West Oakland.

The outreach process was broken into three stages: listen, collaborate, and refine that aimed to build a common understanding of existing conditions and recommendations that started with listening, was strengthened by partnerships, and fine tuned with feedback.





1

PHASE 1

Listen

Within the first phase, each community partner hosted listening sessions with the intent to hear the ideas and concerns of residents. The goals of the first phase included:

- **Hear from residents** about what community ownership of the Bike Plan development process would look like
- **Inform residents** on the Bike Plan process

- **Solicit feedback from community members** in East and West Oakland who typically have barriers to participating in planning processes
- **Understand the unique bicycling and overall mobility needs** of East and West Oaklanders
- **Have East and West Oaklanders inform the City and its Project Team** on how to prioritize projects, programs, and policies in the Bike Plan and funding for bicycle infrastructure in the Bike Plan



LISTENING SESSIONS



The Community Partners shaped the discussion questions and invited their constituents. The engagement of the Plan was able to benefit from the existing relationships and trust these organizations have within their community, and offered a space for those attending to share experience-based recommendations.



MOBILE WORKSHOPS



Across the project, the Project Team has shared information and received feedback at over 25 mobile workshops. Mobile Workshops allowed us to set up a table and bring bike plan updates while receiving feedback from Oaklanders at highly frequented locations and events around Oakland. The Mobile Workshops aimed to reach those that may not be able to attend more formal workshops to intercept them in their daily lives at places such as festivals, transit stations, libraries, and grocery stores.

WHAT DID WE HEAR?

Enforcement Policy

Policing practices disproportionately target people of color riding bicycles, and this deters people in Oakland from bicycling.

Separated Bikeways

Separated bike lanes in Oakland are welcomed, but much more caution, care, and community input needs to be put into the design of these facilities.

Support Existing Bike Cultures

Many people in Oakland already bike, and existing POC and youth bicycling culture should be recognized and enhanced by the Bike Plan recommendations.

Fix it First

Many of Oakland's streets have potholes and declining infrastructure. Focusing on improving pavement quality in underserved areas on neighborhood streets would greatly increase bikeability.

Shape the Future of Bikeshare

Many people expressed dislike of the current form of bikeshare and expressed that future iterations should be community-owned and expanded into East Oakland.

Prioritize Youth

City investment around bicycling should prioritize and serve Oakland youth.

Transparent Process

People want to see how their input in the Bike Plan is shaping the program and network recommendations.

Programs to Encourage Biking

Programs should focus on highlighting the benefits of biking to encourage more people to try this mode.



2



PHASE 2

Collaborate

From the start of the process, participants have asked: "how will my ideas be used to shape the priorities and recommendations of the Bike Plan?" These questions pushed the project team to work towards a more transparent process of developing bikeway and bike program recommendations.

DESIGN LAB

As part of the Collaborate Phase, the Project Team and East Oakland Collective hosted a Design Lab, an all day event where Oakland residents could provide their input on the Bike Plan recommendations. The goal of the event was to let residents draw their preferred bike routes on the map, develop roadway concepts and help shape bike programs and policies within Oakland through small group discussion around enforcement policies, the future of bikeshare, and the process for making infrastructure decisions.



WHAT DID WE HEAR?

To watch interviews with Design Lab participants, follow this link:
<https://youtu.be/w10gds8r-zk>



“For our people of color and for our young bikers of color, I want to see more fair enforcement of the laws and also safer spaces for them to ride their bikes.”

OAKLAND RESIDENT AND DESIGN LAB PARTICIPANT



Residents submitted ideas for new neighborhood bike route pavement markings to better reflect their unique neighborhoods.

Design Lab Make Your Mark(ing)

LET'S OAKLAND



Wayfinding or directional signage is something every city can customize to their specific design requirements. Oakland already has a network of bicycle-focused wayfinding signs. Help design the next generation of Oakland-themed signs.

MAKE A HUGE BIKE Symbol



Design Lab Make Your Mark(ing)

LET'S OAKLAND



Wayfinding or directional signage is something every city can customize to their specific design requirements. Oakland already has a network of bicycle-focused wayfinding signs. Help design the next generation of Oakland-themed signs.





3

PHASE 3

Refine

Within the final phase of outreach, the project team hoped to edit, vet and refine the Programs, Policies and Network developed throughout the process. In other words, it was an opportunity for the project team to say “did we get it right?” and “is there anything we missed?”

We did this in a variety of ways including:

- A Scrapper Bike Team-hosted ride of proposed bikeways in East Oakland
- Receiving online comments on the proposed bikeway network through the online web tool
- Community workshops and meetings hosted by Bikes 4 Life, East Oakland Collective, and Cycles of Change



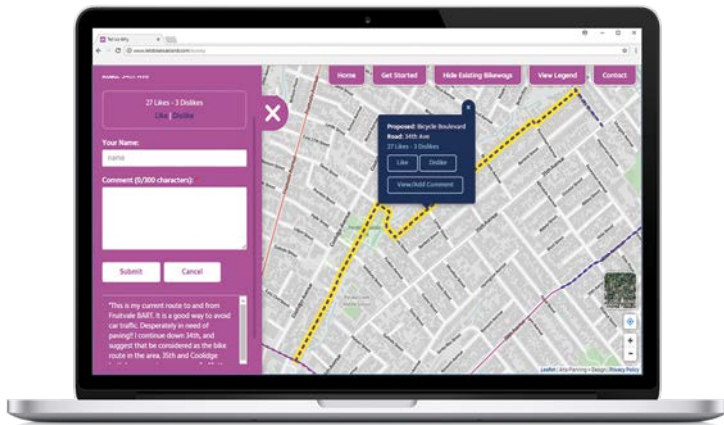
BIKE PLAN BIKE RIDES



Group bike rides provided valuable feedback on proposed bikeways in Oakland. The Original Scrapper Bike Team hosted a ride in Fall 2018 to test out some of the proposed bikeways in East Oakland. The Scrapper Bike Team’s bike shed, and home base, is located in East Oakland at the MLK Library on International Boulevard. The Bike Team brought ride participants on a proposed network of low volume bike boulevards that connected to libraries, parks, and schools. The ride highlighted some of the pavement quality and pothole issues, and challenging intersections that future bike infrastructure will have to address.



ONLINE WEB TOOL



Oaklanders could provide feedback on the proposed bikeway network through an online web tool that allowed people to “like,” “dislike,” and add comments. This tool gathered over 2,300 comments and nearly 6,500 votes.

WHAT DID WE HEAR?

14th Street

People identified 14th Street as an important Downtown-West Oakland connector. Currently people commented that biking this street can feel harrowing, and cars do not give people biking adequate space.

Telegraph Avenue

While support for Telegraph Avenue is mixed, there were many comments to continue bike facilities on Telegraph Avenue, citing how challenging it is that the bike lane currently drops off suddenly.

Foothill Boulevard

Foothill Boulevard is seen as an important long-distance biking corridor from East Oakland to Downtown. People riding this segment would like to see more separation from speeding and aggressive drivers.

Grand Avenue

People would like to see more protected bicycle facilities on Grand Avenue, especially as cars enter and exit Hwy-580.

Access to Shoreline

In East Oakland, people want to see more bike connections to the shoreline, both to the Bay Trail and San Leandro Creek Trail.

Fruitvale BART/ Fruitvale Avenue

People want to see better bike connections to Fruitvale BART, including better wayfinding and signage. There is a desire for more protected facilities on Fruitvale Avenue.