# The Benefits of BikeLink

Until recently, renting an assigned bike locker was the only way to park your bike to protect it both from theft and parts removal. Unfortunately, renting an assigned space is not a very efficient use of resources if you only park there a few times a month. In fact, most assigned bike locker installations have long waiting lists, but are actually empty most of the time.

BikeLink is **smart**. It takes up less space and costs less per cyclist served because it is shared, like metered parking for cars. BikeLink is used for individual lockers as well as for group storage areas and for automated bike rental. BikeLink is quick and convenient for regular bicycle commuters, but since you pay only when you use it, it works great for occasional cyclists too.

With BikeLink, more people can choose to leave their cars at home, spare the air, and get some exercise on the way to work.



20th Street and Broadway



14th Street and Broadway



The City of Oakland installed these eLockers with a grant from the Transportation Fund for Clean Air and matching funds from Alameda County Measure B.

# Where to Get a BikeLink Card:

#### Purchase a \$20 card online at www.bikelink.org.

Coming soon: locations where you can purchase a card in downtown Oakland. (Stay tuned to www.bikelink.org and/or www.oaklandpw.com/bicycling for locations.)

As of June 25, 2007, cards are available at:

City of El Cerrito Administrative Services 10890 San Pablo Avenue 8am-4pm Mon-Thurs

El Cerrito Plaza BART Station Snack Bar

J.R. Muggs Coffee 11740 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito 6am-4pm M-F, 7am-4pm Sat, 7am-2pm Sun

Check www.bikelink.org for other areas and up-to-date region-specific information.

# Bay Area eLocker Locations (as of June 2007):

14<sup>th</sup> and Broadway, Oakland
20<sup>th</sup> and Broadway, Oakland
El Cerrito Plaza BART
445 Bryant Street Parking Garage, Palo Alto
528 High Street Parking Garage, Palo Alto
Depot Park, Santa Cruz
Metro Center, Pacific Avenue, Santa Cruz
Non-Profit Alliance Center, Santa Cruz
Pleasant Hill BART Station
The Presidio

# **Coming soon:**

San Jose City Hall

Aquatic Park Center, Berkeley

# Welcome to the future of bike parking!



# **Electronic Bicycle Lockers: Now in Downtown Oakland!**

Park your bike in a safe and secure, on-demand electronic bicycle locker, aka *eLocker*. Leave your helmet and bike gear, too. Pay just 5 cents per hour, no monthly fees, and the **first five hours** of each rental is FREE! And, you can use your card at other BikeLink bicycle parking facilities.

# Oakland's eLocker Locations:

- 14th & Broadway, northwest corner, adjacent to the 12th Street BART Station
- 20<sup>th</sup> & Broadway, northeast corner, adjacent to the 19<sup>th</sup> Street BART Station

#### More information:

- www.bikelink.org / info@bikelink.org
- www.oaklandpw.com/bicycling
- **(510) 238-3983**

# Information from BikeLink, eLock Technologies and the City of Oakland. For more information and updates, go to www.bikelink.org or email info@bikelink.org

# **How does BikeLink work?**



## Get a BikeLink card

Your card is both your key and your cash. BikeLink works like a parking meter with a security enclosure. Your card never expires and you can use it at any BikeLink facility. For a card, go to www.bikelink.org.



#### Insert card

The screen guides you through a very quick process to start your rental.



# Park your bike

Once you start your rental, the door unlocks. It relocks when you remove your card.



# **End rental**

Insert your card and get your refund! Unlike a parking meter, any time you don't use is refunded.



To watch videos of BikeLink in action, go to http://bikelink.org/movies.php

# **Frequently Asked Questions**

#### How much does it cost?

Rates vary by location and are displayed at each meter. Typical parking rates are 5 cents per hour. At some locations, frequent users get an automatic discount.

#### Will there always be a space when I need it?

We monitor usage regularly. When local demand warrants it, you will be able to check availability or make a reservation online.

## What happens if I return after my meter expires?

The locker remains secure. For the extra time you are charged a higher rate; usually three times the normal rental rate. If you leave a meter expired too long, the rental is considered abandoned. See the cardholder agreement and info screens for details.

What about when my card runs out? Can I add value? Currently, you must buy another card. You will soon be able to recharge your card online.

# What if the penalty charge is more than I have on my card? Can I still get my bike out?

We don't want to leave you stranded. If you're short, you'll still get your bike.

## Why not just debit my card at the end of the rental?

Your BikeLink or smart transit card may be used to pay for other things while you are renting a parking space, so it makes sense to pay up-front to ensure there will be enough value on your card when you end your rental.

# Can I rent more than one locker at a time?

Yes, but you need to use more than one card.

#### Can I use other cards?

Eventually, BikeLink will work with regional smart cards such as Translink in the S.F. Bay Area and Compass card in the San Diego area. In Santa Cruz you can use the Santa Cruz Park Card. eLockers will also soon work with major credit cards. Check the info screens for up-to-date info.

## Who do I turn to if there's a problem?

For specific locations, just check the info screen on any locker where up-to-date local contact info is displayed. **Email us at info@bikelink.org.** We love feedback and will work hard to help you.

# Why Ride a Bike?

#### For fun

Bicycling puts the fun back into going to work.

#### For your health

Health experts say that adults should engage in moderate-intensity physical activities for at least 30 minutes on five or more days of the week. What easier way then to build it in to your commute to work?\*

## To improve air quality

Bicycles are the ultimate clean air, zero emissions vehicle. According to the Bay Area Air Quality Management District, vehicle emissions are the major cause of air pollution in the Bay Area and bicycle commuting can play an important role in improving local air quality\*\*.

# To save money

With gas prices on the rise, bicycling to work makes more economic sense than ever. Bicycles use no gas and are far cheaper to maintain than cars. By building your workout into your commute, you may be able to save on gym fees.

\*National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, http://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/dnpa/physical/recommendations, April 2005.

\*\*Bay Area Air Quality Management District http://www.baaqmd.gov/pln/prevention/bicycles.asp, April 2005.

