

Portland Community College Bike Program

Student funded; Student focused

Student Funded Bike Programs

How do they work?

I share the story of the Portland Community College bicycle rental program:

Successes

Challenges

Outcomes

Resources



Humble Beginnings

- No space available; nothing official
- A pile of bikes in a condemned building
- Free bikes and scavenged parts



Strengths:

Collaboration with Portland Dept of Transportation to host workshops

Bike fair! 125 students served; connections with local agencies and business

73 students borrowed U locks from ASPCC

Centralized work space

Challenges:

A lack of a stable and secure home for the bike program and is the single major stumbling block for growth

There is no long term, secure bicycle parking on any PCC campus

Pilferage and theft of bikes on campus continues to be a major issue

Programming

- Winter Cycling Workshops
- Bike anatomy
- Bike Fair!- the Spring quarter capstone event
- Collaborations with P-BOT, BTA, other agencies and advocacy groups
- Recommendations to local bike shops for equipment and service

The Bikes!

All bikes are equipped with:

- Full coverage fenders
- U-Lock
- Rack
- Lights
- Anti-theft wheel skewer set

Each student is given a free helmet to keep.



Outcomes: The bike program has rented 91 bikes to students for the 2014-15 academic year.

- Economics: total annual savings of students who commute by bike is \$90,454. This is based on an average round trip commute of 12 miles. The cost of driving a car is about \$0.585 per mile according to AAA*
- Healthy outcomes: based on a 12 mile round trip, bike commuters burn around 516 calories at a slow pace (less than 10mph) each day they ride**
- Environment: That same 12 mile trip saves over 11 lb. of toxic GHG emissions**

Sources:

*<http://www.forbes.com/sites/moneybuilder/2011/06/15/the-costs-and-savings-of-bicycle-commuting/>

**<http://www.youcanbikethere.com/bike-commute-calculator>

Resources

- Campus email lists
- Campus and Local advocacy groups
- Bike industry wholesalers
 - Caution- know what you need!
- Local bike shops
 - Don't compete on price, but add value to the community
- Portland Trauma Nurses Association