



April 8, 2014

Steve Heminger  
Executive Director  
Metropolitan Transportation Commission

Re: Bay Area Bike Share

Dear Mr. Heminger,

As the President and Executive Director of the Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition, I am writing to share some of our views in advance of your Programming and Allocations Committee meeting tomorrow.

Bay Area Bike Share has the potential to blanket the region and provide a convenient alternative to driving for many residents. We are supportive of MTC taking over the program from the Bay Area Air Quality Management District in order to forward that goal. To that end, it would be extremely helpful to have one or more dedicated staff people at MTC who manage the regional bike share program. Because bike share is an activity in addition to other important active transportation priorities of MTC, we would suggest not having current staff take on bike share responsibilities on top of their other important work. Additionally, new staff would be able to provide better assistance in building the effectiveness of the current system.

Furthermore, we support the expansion of Bike Share to the East Bay, and we urge you to devote more funding in the near future to develop the current system of Bike Share in the South Bay—particularly in San Jose. The number of bikes deployed in San Jose has not yet reached a concentration at which the system will be well utilized. Given the sunny weather and topography in San Jose, along with high levels of community, business, and political interest, we believe that bike share can be extremely successful there.

Thank you for your consideration. Please feel free to contact our Advocacy Coordinator Emma Shlaes at 408-287-7259 x228 or [emma@bikesiliconvalley.org](mailto:emma@bikesiliconvalley.org) if you would like more information.

Sincerely,

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President and Executive Director

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