

The San Diego County Bicycle Coalition advocates for and protects the rights of all people who ride bicycles. We promote bicycling as a mainstream, safe and enjoyable form of transportation and recreation.

Fall 2013

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Photo courtesy of Jinna Albright

SANDAG Approves \$200 million for Regional Bike Plan

In late September, the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) approved Scenario 1 for the Regional Bike Plan Early Action Program (EAP), which allows a \$200 million investment in high priority bike projects over the next 10 years. The San Diego County Bicycle Coalition considers this a momentous step toward creating a regional bicycle network of interconnected corridors, support facilities and programs to make bicycling a convenient form of transportation.

“The momentum for bicycling as an active form of transportation in San Diego County is in high gear,” said Andy Hanshaw, Executive Director of SDCBC. “By approving Scenario 1 for the Regional Bike Plan, SANDAG has put into motion essential improvements that will enable folks to ride bicycles more safely on more direct and convenient routes that connect more cities throughout the county.”

This decision arises out of a 2011 commitment from SANDAG’s board of directors to support active transportation with the adoption of the 2050 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and its Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS), including integration of the San Diego Regional Bicycle Plan (*Riding to 2050*). The adoption of the RTP/SCS also included a call for the development of a Bike Plan Early Action Program and in April 2012, SANDAG’s Transportation Committee accepted the framework and goals that guided the development of this EAP. The Board’s action gives approval for the early action projects included in the 2050 Regional Transportation Plan.

From the Executive Director



Fall is here, and what an eventful time it has been here at the Bicycle Coalition. Our summer of riding was packed with good friends, great fun and success—especially on the fund raising front where thanks to your support we raised more than \$100,000 at the annual Bike The Bay and Tour de Fat events. Not only that, but we also celebrated on the open streets during CicloSDias, our region’s first-ever event for communities to come together and enjoy open space by bicycling, walking and other non-motorized means. It was a glorious and historic day...and just the beginning of this effort. You can read all about these events in this edition of ChainGuard. And speaking of historic moments for bicycling, we cannot overstate the importance and significance of this summer’s approval of the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) Early Action Program which will allocate \$200 million for bike projects in the Regional Bike Plan over the next 10 years. Our thanks to all who came out to support that vote by the SANDAG Board of Directors. It will translate into safer, more accessible connections throughout our region and get more people riding and out of their cars sooner.

Our momentum is rolling and our regional leaders and decision makers are listening and taking action to improve bicycling conditions all throughout San Diego County. Your membership matters! Together we are making things happen to improve our bicycling conditions and enhance the quality of life for us and for future generations of all of us who ride. Thank you for your continued support. We are grateful to have you along for this incredible ride!

Roll on!

GET YOUR MEMBER DISCOUNT ON MERCHANDISE, RIDES AND BIKE SHOPS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY.

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www.itsabikeshop.com
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Hollands Bikes
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10% off to members

CycleQuest
www.cyclequestsd.com
10% off to members

SDCBC Jersey
www.sdcbc.org
\$5 off

Bike Bling
www.bikebling.com
10% off to members

San Diego Padres tickets
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Up to 50% off to members
(receive your discount code in
2014 for next season)

**Know a bike shop or business that may want to join SDCBC’s Member Incentive Program?
Contact development@sdcbc.org to make a recommendation.**

Summer Events Recap

CicloSDias

The City of San Diego and SDCBC proudly hosted the first ever CicloSDias open streets event on Sunday, August 11. The 5.2-mile route was open from 10 AM–4 PM to all who felt the urge to bike, walk, or dance in the car-free streets. The course extended from Golden Hill through North Park and South Park to Cherokee Point Elementary School in City Heights, looping through popular parts of each neighborhood and including hundreds of local businesses.



Families enjoying CicloSDias in North Park

CicloSDias brought an estimated 10,000 San Diegans out to spend their Sunday riding, walking, strolling and skipping through some of our city’s most picturesque parks, neighborhoods and districts at no cost. Local businesses saw a surge in activity as participants “shopped local.” Spontaneous bands played on the sidewalk, dancers put on performances, stores brought their products outside to sample and businesses offered specials to rejoice in all the activity of this “first-in-a-lifetime” event.

Look out for the next CicloSDias, slated for early February in the beach communities of San Diego.

Bike the Bay

The 6th Annual Bike the Bay ride, which took place on August 25th, was the most successful one yet—raising more than \$60,000 for the San Diego County Bicycle Coalition! The casual 25-mile ride around the San Diego Bay has become a popular event over the years, offering a picturesque ride along the Bayshore Bikeway and the only opportunity of the year to ride your bike across the Coronado Bridge! Over 3,500 people participated in the ride, including both beginning and experienced cyclists from all over California and other parts of the U.S. Thanks again to everyone who participated! SDCBC members receive discounted and early registration for Bike the Bay, so be sure to keep an eye out for that deal in the New Year.

Tour de Fat

Tour de Fat, New Belgium Brewing’s traveling festival of bikes, beer and bemusement, raised more than \$40,000 this year—up 32% from last year! About 6,000 bicycle and beer enthusiasts came to Golden Hill Park for the event and 2,000 people participated in the bike parade. SDCBC Executive Director Andy Hanshaw was delighted: “Thanks to New



Fun at Tour de Fat

Belgium and Tour de Fat, more than \$40,000 was raised that will support our bicycle advocacy outreach and education programs right here in San Diego. We’re making great progress in furthering our region to support all who ride. These funds will go a long way and keep our momentum rolling!” he said.

Attendance at this year’s Tour de Fat was up 71% from last year, and the 2,000 participants in the bike parade represents an 82% increase from 2012.

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Coalition Board



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Executive Director: Andy Hanshaw
 Membership/Development Coordinator: Britany Statt

ChainGuard Editor: Isabella Furth

Collaboratively Raising the Profile of Livable Streets

By Randy Van Vleck

The Livable Streets Coalition is a relatively new collaborative effort in San Diego to improve walkability, bikeability, transit, and livability in our communities. Members of the coalition include The Bike Guy, Bike SD, City Heights Community Development Corporation, Great Streets San Diego, Move San Diego, Placemakers, San Diego County Bicycle Coalition, Urban Green, and Walk San Diego. To date, the organizations have worked together to share advocacy strategies, calls to action, and promote and organize events.

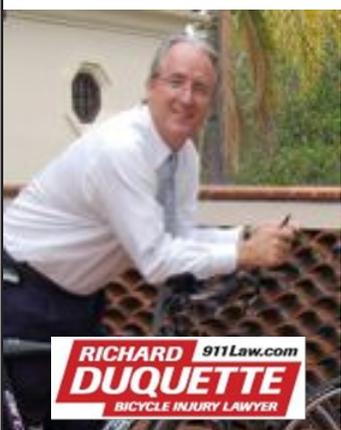
Most recently, the Livable Streets Coalition organized a Mayoral Candidate Speaking Series with major candidates in the City of San Diego mayoral race including David Alvarez, Kevin Faulconer, and Nathan Fletcher. Each candidate had his own event which allowed residents and advocates to ask questions of the candidates. Questions focused on the concept of Neighborhoods First, community role in planning process, traffic safety, Complete Streets, policy, project implementation, and how candidates plan to bring world-class, livable streets to our city. Visit sandiegocountybicyclecoalition.blogspot.com/2013/11/mayoral-candidate-speaker-series-q-a.html to see their responses.

The Livable Streets Coalition will continue to raise the profile of these important issues that affect our quality of life.

Randy Van Vleck is Active Transportation Manager at the City Heights Community Development Corporation and an SDCBC board member.

Representing Bicyclists is not just my job....

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Coronado Receives Bike Friendly Community Designation

Congratulations to Coronado for recently being designated as a silver level Bicycle Friendly Community by the League of American Bicyclists! Coronado joins Oceanside as the second city in San Diego County to receive the Bicycle Friendly Community designation.



Learn more about the Bicycle Friendly Community program and see the full list of bicycle friendly communities by visiting www.bikeleague.org/content/communities.

The League of American Bicyclists' Bicycle Friendly America program provides incentives, hands-on assistance, and award recognition for communities, universities and businesses that actively support bicycling, as well as ranking states annually based on their level of bike-friendliness.

Give the Gift of Membership!

As the holiday season draws near, it's time to start thinking about gift ideas for friends and family.

What about your favorite cyclist? Give a membership to the San Diego County Bicycle Coalition and we will even include a special gift with their membership. They will appreciate that you have made a donation in their honor to support better bicycling in San Diego County, and they will also receive our membership benefits.

Here's how to purchase your gift membership:

1. Go to www.sdcbc.org/joinus.html and fill out the gift membership form, including the information for the person you want to give to.
2. Send a check to SDCBC and write "Gift Membership" in the memo line. **OR** make a donation online at <https://donatenow.networkforgood.org/sdcbc> and designate "Gift Membership" as the special purpose for the donation.
3. We will wrap the gift and membership information and mail to the recipient with a message of your choosing. Or if you prefer we can send the gift to you to wrap and present to your friend or loved one.

If you have questions about purchasing a gift membership, email development@sdcbc.org.

Calendar

NOVEMBER

- Nov 14: Education Committee meeting
- Nov 18: Urban Bicycling Part 1: Intro to Safe Cycling (Oceanside)
- Nov 20: Organizational Development Committee meeting
- Nov 23: Urban Bicycling Part 2: Street Skills (Oceanside)
- Nov 24: BLT Ride (Bike & Learn Together): Downtown San Diego

DECEMBER

- Dec 7: Spin Your Wheels: Ride Smart with SDCBC (San Diego County Library Imperial Beach Branch)
- Dec 12: 3rd Annual Holiday Joy Ride

JANUARY

- Jan 9: Education Committee meeting
- Jan 22: SDCBC Full Board Meeting

THINGS TO WATCH FOR THIS SPRING

Launch of Bike Share program

CicloSDias Beach Style!

For more information about these events, visit www.sdcbc.org

GIVE THE GIFT OF MEMBERSHIP!



5 LED BLINKING SAFETY / BICYCLE LIGHT



FREE COUNTY BIKE MAP

Get your free San Diego County bike map at:
www.sdcbc.org
 OR
www.511sd.com

Join us for our 3rd Annual Holiday Joy Ride

Join us on Thursday, December 12th at 5:30 PM for our 3rd Annual Holiday Joy Ride & Party at SILO in Makers Quarter.

We will begin with a light-your-bike ride through Downtown San Diego followed by a bike party, complete with food trucks, drinks, music and bike-themed art by local artists. We will celebrate a great year for the bicycling community in San Diego County and share some of the things the Coalition has accomplished. We will also honor the winners of our Golden Gear Awards: people who have gone above and beyond this year to help make our region more bike-friendly. Purchase raffle tickets at the event for a chance to win a variety of prizes, including a new bike!

The event is open to the public, so invite your friends! Tickets can be purchased online at www.sdcbc.org.

Get your bike ready for the Joy Ride by purchasing a set of Cycle Lights (cyclelightsilc.com)! Cycle Lights is offering a 30% discount on lights to event attendees with discount code.

Visit the event page by going to www.sdcbc.org or email development@sdcbc.org to get your discount code.



Interim Mayor Todd Gloria receives the Golden Gear Award in 2012 for Public Partner of the Year. Also shown from left: Mia Kohout (Keynote speaker from Momentum Magazine), Andy Hanshaw (SDCBC Executive Director), Kevin Wood (SDCBC Board Chair)



SDCBC Board meetings
are held quarterly.

See Calendar for dates
and locations.

San Diego Rides: Great Western Loop and Mt. Soledad

by Carrie Stemrich

The Great Western Loop is 38-mile introduction to mountain riding that can be done on a road bike or any geared bike. This ride has long, gradual climbs, and offers a different landscape than you will find on many other San Diego rides. Be prepared for a long ride and bring plenty of water and snacks to keep your energy up.

Starting from Willow Glen Drive, the beginning stretch is relatively flat for a nice warm-up.

At Dehesa Road, turn right for the start of the climb.

At the top (about 8 miles), take another right on Japatul Road. You will recognize when you reach “the wall”—the steepest part of your climb. There will be some descents to balance out the ascents, but the ascents will take the most time.

After another 8 miles, turn right on Lyons Valley Road/Skyline Truck Trail.

After 15 miles, turn right onto Jamul Drive (look for the church at this intersection). At this point, the climbing is over.

A right on Steele Canyon Road will take you back to Willow Glen Drive (about 3 miles); ride back to your starting point to complete the loop.

Mt. Soledad offers a ride closer to central San Diego. This landmark mountain has a lot of San Diego history, from the veteran’s memorial at the top to being the last place Dr. Seuss lived. Plus it’s a well-known cycling destination. There are a number of routes to get to the top of this mountain, from a short and steep 1.5 mile climb to a leisurely climb over 3.5 miles.

Tenacious beginners might be most comfortable on roads such as Soledad Mountain Road, Soledad Road, or Cardeno Drive.

Nautilus Street is appropriate for a rider with some skill, and Hidden Valley by way of Capri Road from Torrey Pines Road starts off gently, but picks up for more advanced riders. There is a ride for all skill levels on this cycling rite of passage.

If you are new to cycling in this city or want to refresh your routine, you can find rides for all skill levels at the SDCBC blog: www.sdcbc.org/Blog.html

SANDAG Approves \$200 Million for Regional Bike Plan

(Continued from page 1)

Some high profile early-action projects include the North Park–Mid-City bike corridor, the Uptown bicycle corridor, several Coastal Rail Trail San Diego bikeways, San Diego River Trail bikeways, additional Bayshore Bikeway connections and some downtown to southeast San Diego connections.

According to Hanshaw, these much-needed bicycling improvements in San Diego County complement the greater bicycle momentum occurring throughout all parts of the region. Earlier this fall, Governor Brown signed a bill that will require motorists to give three feet of space when passing a bicycle rider on the road. The City of San Diego and its bike share partner, [DECOBIKE](#), are currently searching for input on locations for the new bike share system slated to open in 2014. And [San Diego's Business Improvement Districts](#) run the largest bicycle-friendly program of its kind in the nation.

“SANDAG’s approval for early action on these high-priority bicycle road and pathway improvements nicely wraps together bicycle-related projects and improvements occurring simultaneously in all parts of the county,” Hanshaw said.

Chris Kluth, SANDAG’s Active Transportation Program Manager, worked with active transportation planning staff and engineering staff for over a year to develop the detailed project cost estimates that make up the EAP. “We also worked a lot with our Finance Department to develop the different funding/financing scenario options that were presented to our Board,” notes Kluth. He says, “Putting the EAP together was a huge effort. This is much more detailed than other programs of this size and we went through several iterations. But it’s worth it in the end. For one, it gives us a tool to advance funding and get projects done sooner than we would have otherwise. In addition approaching the implementation of the Bike Plan programmatically with the EAP allows the region to improve mobility by delivering high-priority projects earlier, and it lets us leverage funding (which we’ve already done) and be more competitive for outside dollars. And having multiple projects in development gives you the potential to keep more projects moving forward: you have the flexibility to shift projects up and down the list should a project run into a roadblock—or if an opportunity arises to partner and share costs on another project, then that project can move up.”

Kluth emphasizes that the EAP includes much more than bike paths. “One of the key EAP framework goals is the inclusion of supporting programs from the Bike Plan. The cost estimates also include programmatic elements aimed at maximizing ridership and safety: things like outreach/education, targeted marketing efforts, opportunities for Safe Routes to School, and community-based travel planning.” All of these will work together to support the capital investments of constructing San Diego’s Regional Bicycle Network.



MEET A FRIEND. HEAD DOWN TO THE BOARDWALK. TAKE A QUICK COFFEE BREAK. RUN BACK TO THE OFFICE. CHECK OUT THE ART AT BALBOA PARK. GO TO A MEETING. GET TO A WORK ON YOUR BICYCLE. LAUNDRY. TAKE A STROLL AROUND THE GASLAMP.

To receive more information about the car2go service and to register for membership, visit our website sandiego.car2go.com.

CAR2GO

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- By U.S. mail

- \$25: Individual Membership
+ Regional Bike Map
- \$52: "A Buck a Week for Better Bicycling"
+ SDCBC water bottle
- \$100: Velorevolutionary Membership
+ SDCBC water bottle **OR** SDCBC cycling socks
(circle one)
- I'd like to make an additional tax-deductible donation
in the amount of _____ to further support
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Note: a portion of your membership dues is tax-deductible!
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