



National Association of
City Transportation Officials

OAKLAND

CITIES FOR CYCLING

APRIL 9-11, 2014





OAKLAND

Cities for Cycling Road Show

Introduction: Increasing opportunities for bicycling is critical to Oakland's economic development and sustainability goals. Oakland's climate, culture, topography, and urban setting all suggest an ideal city for bicycling. Yet, Oakland's existing bicycle network has gaps and does not take advantage of many emerging design innovations. Moreover, at current funding and staffing it will take 10 years before Oakland will have the capacity to proactively tackle these issues given the resource requirements for already-programmed projects.

The NACTO Cities for Cycling Road Show provides a unique opportunity to convene staff, advocates, and decision-makers interested in bicycling to discuss these challenges, and identify practical methods to address them.

The Road Show will focus on two parallel, but related tracks: (1) better design and (2) program resources. Through these, the Road Show will help foster a discussion about what Oakland needs (i.e., better design) and how to achieve it (i.e., better resources).

Guest Speakers

Nicole Freedman
Director of Boston Bikes
City of Boston

Ryan Russo
Assistant Commissioner for Traffic & Planning
New York City Department of Transportation

Mike Amsden
Assistant Director of Transportation Planning
Chicago Department of Transportation

Linda Bailey
Executive Director
NACTO

David Vega-Barachowitz
Director, Designing Cities Initiative
NACTO

Design: Current design standards in Oakland are fairly basic, and there is a clear need to adjust and expand bikeway designs to meet cyclist needs. A broader range of the treatments in the NACTO Guide should be accepted on City streets. This track should engage primarily technical staff at the project and staff management levels to build comfort with using new treatments on a regular basis. Note that City of Berkeley staff will be invited to participate in the technical sessions.

Resources and Policy: Based on current staffing levels, completing the bike lanes and sharrows in the existing bike plan could take 10 years or more. This track will focus on the experiences of peer cities that have quickly expanded bikeway programs, and the policy changes and resources that were required to achieve these changes. This track will target decision makers and upper level management.

The Road Show will focus design questions for two corridors currently in a preliminary design, with the expectation that results are transferable to other facilities. These facilities are Telegraph Avenue (20th St. to 57th St.) and 14th St. (Brush to Oak).

While the Road Show is Oakland-specific, it will also include a regional event outlining a vision for Oakland as the hub of a world-class bike network in the East Bay.

Focus Projects

Telegraph Avenue (20th St. to 57th St.) - The Telegraph Avenue Complete Streets Project is currently developing alternative design concepts to incorporate bicycle facilities on Telegraph Avenue. The Road Show will provide a unique opportunity for a peer review of alternative concepts by national experts in bikeway design to ensure that the project incorporates emerging best practices.

14th Street (Brush St. to Oak St.) - 14th Street provides one of the only opportunities for an east-west bicycle connection through downtown Oakland. Design has not yet started for 14th Street, and the Road Show will provide a chance to evaluate the pros and cons of potential design options (e.g., one-way cycle track, two-way cycle track, buffered bike lane).





Schedule of Events

4.10.14

Opening Session

8:00am - 8:45am

City Hall, Hearing Room 4

Brooke Levin, Director of Public Works, City of Oakland
Linda Bailey, Executive Director, NACTO
Breakfast and coffee to be provided

Innovative Bikeway Design Training

9:00am - 11:00am

David Vega-Barachowitz, Director, Designing Cities Initiative, NACTO
Nicole Freedman, Director of Bicycle Programs, City of Boston
Ryan Russo, Assistant Commissioner of Traffic & Planning, NYC DOT
Mike Amsden, Assistant Director of Transportation Planning, Chicago DOT

Bike Tour of Focus Projects

11:15am - 2:15pm

Lunch to be provided on tour

Led by Jamie Parks and Jason Patton, City of Oakland

Focus Projects Design Charrette

2:30pm - 4:30pm

Building a Better Oakland Bikeway Program

5:30 - 8:00pm

Hosted by the East Bay Bicycle Coalition

4.11.14

Opening Remarks and Introduction

9:00am - 9:15am

City Hall, Hearing Room 3

Mayor Jean Quan
David Vega-Barachowitz, Director, Designing Cities Initiative, NACTO

Bicycling Means Business

9:15am - 9:30am

Kelley Kahn, City of Oakland Economic Development Special Projects Lead

Oakland's Bicycle Program: Yesterday and Today

9:30am - 10:00am

Jason Patton, City of Oakland Bicycle Program Coordinator

Building a Better Bicycle Program

10:15am - 11:00am

Nicole Freedman, Director of Bicycle Programs, City of Boston
Ryan Russo, Assistant Commissioner of Traffic & Planning, NYC DOT
Mike Amsden, Assistant Director of Transportation Planning, Chicago DOT

Panel Discussion: Building a Better Oakland Bicycle Program

11:15am - 12:00pm

Featuring Nicole Freedman, Ryan Russo, and Mike Amsden
Oakland City Council President Pro-Tem Rebecca Kaplan, Moderator

12:00pm - 1:00pm

Break for lunch

1:00pm - 4:00pm

One-on-one and small group meetings with invited speakers.

4:30pm - 5:00pm

Recap of key messages

Speakers

Mike Amsden, AICP is Assistant Director of Transportation Planning for City of Chicago Department of Transportation. Mike served as Project Manager for two major CDOT Bicycle Initiatives – Chicago’s Protected Bike Lane Initiative and the Streets for Cycling Plan 2020. The protected bike lane initiative aims to install 100 miles of protected bike lanes by May of 2015. The Streets for Cycling Plan 2020 is a citywide plan identifying a network of bicycle facilities that will allow all Chicagoans – from children riding to school to senior citizens riding to the store – to feel safe and comfortable bicycling on City streets. In addition to other responsibilities, Mike is involved in all facets of bikeway planning and design, from location selection, coordination with local officials and the public, review and approvals and project implementation. Mike has a Master’s Degree in Urban Planning from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

Ryan Russo is an Assistant Commissioner at the New York City Department of Transportation. Mr. Russo has been with the department since 2003 where he leads planning and operational offices responsible for pedestrian safety programs and projects, bicycle network development, traffic planning, sign manufacture and installation, geometric design and maintenance of roadway markings. From 2006 to 2009, Mr. Russo oversaw the expansion of NYC’s bicycle network by 200 miles in a 36 month period. He developed the 9th Avenue Parking Protected Bicycle Path, widely considered the first on-street, urban cycletrack in the United States and has overseen the design of over 30 miles of protected bicycle lanes. Mr. Russo has managed numerous complex pedestrian-oriented street reconfigurations, including the design, implementation and evaluation of the “Green Light for Midtown” project, which closed portions of Broadway to vehicular traffic, creating pedestrian plazas at Times and Herald Squares while improving motor vehicle traffic flow. Currently, he is leading the development and implementation of the engineering agenda for NYC’s ambitious Vision Zero Action Plan that aims to dramatically reduce pedestrian fatalities. Mr. Russo holds a Masters in City Planning from UC Berkeley and began his professional planning career in the San Francisco office of Nelson/Nygaard Consulting Associates.

Nicole Freedman currently works as Director of Bicycle Programs for the City of Boston. The program is part of the Mayor’s vision for healthy, sustainable communities and neighborhoods. During her tenure, she helped former Mayor Menino transform Boston from the worst cycling city in the country to a recognized leader in cycling. Nicole attended MIT before graduating with a degree in Urban Planning from Stanford University. Prior to working for Boston, Nicole competed professionally in bike racing from 1994-2005 winning two national championships and competing for the United States in the 2000 Olympics in Sydney.

David Vega-Barachowitz is the Director of the Designing Cities initiative at NACTO. Since joining NACTO in 2011, David’s work has focused on re-imagining the fabric of the American streetscape and challenging conventional approaches to city design. In his role at NACTO, he coordinates NACTO’s Designing Cities initiative and Cities for Cycling Project, convening peer experts in transportation, design, and sustainability from around the United States. In 2012-13, he served as project manager for the Urban Bikeway Design Guide and was a lead author of the Urban Street Design Guide, a 21st century blueprint for designing city streets in the United States. David has been a national leader in spurring investments and coordinating best practices for bike share systems, and co-hosted the first national bike share summit in Washington D.C. with the Federal Transit Administration. He is a graduate of Columbia University with a degree in Urban Studies with Architecture.

Linda Bailey is the Executive Director of the National Association of City Transportation Officials and until Spring 2014, served as a federal policy advisor for New York City Department of Transportation. She has been working in U.S. transportation policy for 12 years, with a career that has spanned research, advocacy, and implementation, always focusing on sustainability within the transportation sector. In the last three years, she has overseen the publication of two new national design guides, one for bicycle facilities and another for urban streets for NACTO. She worked for six years on national research projects regarding the intersection of the environment, health and transportation. Her publications include *Aging Americans: Stranded without Options*; *The Broader Connection between Public Transportation, Energy Conservation and Greenhouse Gas Reduction*; and *Improving Metropolitan Decision Making in Transportation: Greater Funding and Devolution for Greater Accountability*. Ms. Bailey has a Master’s Degree in Urban Planning from the University of Michigan.



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Mission

The National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit association that represents large cities on transportation issues of local, regional and national significance. NACTO views the transportation departments of major cities as effective and necessary partners in regional and national transportation efforts, promoting their interests in federal decision-making.

We facilitate the exchange of transportation ideas, insights and best practices among large cities, while fostering a cooperative approach to key issues facing cities and metropolitan areas. As a coalition of city transportation departments, NACTO is committed to raising the state of the practice for street design and transportation by building a common vision, sharing data, peer-to-peer exchange in workshops and conferences, and regular communication among member cities. We believe that by working together, cities can save time and money, while more effectively achieving their policy goals and objectives.

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