

# I OAKLAND

Bike news from the Bicycle & Pedestrian Facilities Program of the City of Oakland, California

Summer 2011 | Circulation 1,782

[www.oaklandbikes.info](http://www.oaklandbikes.info)

**I  OAKLAND** is a biannual newsletter of the City of Oakland's Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Program. This newsletter provides an overview of accomplishments in the previous six months on the implementation of Oakland's Bicycle Master Plan.

## RESOURCES

### Suggest a Bike Rack Location

- Review guidelines and either request a rack online or contact us (info on mailing panel). See [www.oaklandbikes.info/bikerack](http://www.oaklandbikes.info/bikerack).

### Oakland's Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee

- Meetings are held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month and are open to the public. More info at [www.oaklandbikes.info/bpac](http://www.oaklandbikes.info/bpac).

### Public Works Call Center

- Call (510) 615-5566 or go to [www2.oaklandnet.com/ReportaProblem](http://www2.oaklandnet.com/ReportaProblem) to report:

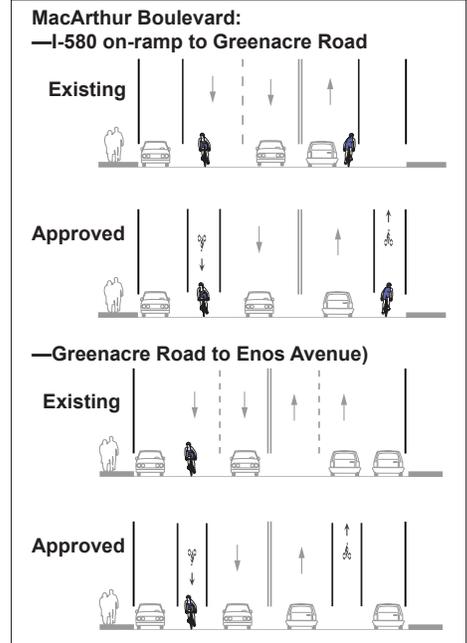
- ▶ hazards such as glass, potholes, unsafe drainage grates, or other obstructions
- ▶ malfunctioning traffic signals
- ▶ abandoned bikes that need removal from bike racks, signs and/or meter poles
- ▶ speeding, or to request traffic calming or another roadway improvement

### Program Staff

- Jason Patton, Bicycle & Pedestrian Program Manager
- Jennifer Stanley, Bicycle & Pedestrian Facilities Coordinator
- Alvaro Rubio, Planning Intern
- Mark Lightner, Planning Intern
- Vacant, Design Intern
- Volunteer(s):
  - Seth Silberman
  - You? Email [bikeped@oaklandnet.com](mailto:bikeped@oaklandnet.com) with a project idea.

## Connecting the Laurel District to Mills College

In May, the City Council approved a new bikeway on MacArthur Blvd from the Laurel District at High St to Mills College at Buell St. This project was initiated by longstanding community support for safety improvements along MacArthur Boulevard between High Street and Seminary Avenue. It will implement a portion of a larger community-based transportation plan – the Laurel Access to Mills Maxwell Park and Seminary Plan (LAMMPS). Information on the LAMMPS Plan is available at <http://tinyurl.com/5uq6he7>. To make room for bike lanes, this project will remove one-to-two travel lanes between High St and Greenacre Rd. The project is planned for construction by 2012 and, in conjunction with other projects pending construction, will create a continuous bikeway on MacArthur Blvd from Lake Merritt to Mills College.



## Signs of things to come

Forty-two more bicycle wayfinding signs were installed during the last six months. In May, eighteen signs were installed as “Phase I” of planned bikeways on E 12th St (Fruitvale Ave to 40th Ave) and 38th Ave (E 12th St to MacArthur Blvd), for a distance of 2.2 miles. “Phase II,” coming this summer, will install bikeway striping (both bike lanes and sharrow markings) to complete these bikeways. In January, nineteen signs were installed along 2.3 miles of Fruitvale Ave (Alameda Ave to MacArthur Blvd). These signs replaced the old numbered bike route signs between Alameda Ave and E 12th St, and extended the bikeway north to the Dimond District. The bikeway striping on Fruitvale Ave north of E 12th St was unexpectedly delayed but

completion is expected this summer. Together with the MacArthur Blvd Bikeway, also coming this summer, east-of-the-Lake bicycle access is truly taking shape.

Finally, the installation of five signs on Tunnel Rd, Caldecott Lane to the Berkeley border, added to the T-shaped Tunnel Rd bike route in Oakland that spans from College Ave/Chabot Rd to Skyline Blvd along one axis, and juts toward Berkeley along the other. Future improvements to the Tunnel Rd Bikeway are planned as part of the settlement agreement with Caltrans over the Caldecott Tunnel project.

## Concrete Progress

In June 2011, rutted and cracked portions of 27th St and Bay Pl were removed and replaced with new concrete to prepare for the new bikeway on these streets. (Repairs were also made on Harrison St, northbound between Grand Ave and 27th St, to prepare for the future Harrison St/Oakland Ave Bikeway described below.) Additionally, the “pork chop” islands on westbound 27th St at Harrison St and Broadway were narrowed, creating the necessary width for bike lanes. The work was done by Rosas Brothers Construction, as part of a larger citywide construction contract performed by Oakland firms. Rosas is an Oakland-based and family-run business, and the Bicycle & Pedestrian Facilities Program thanks the Rosas for their quality work. The 27th St/Bay Place Bikeway will be striped later this summer, resulting in a continuous 1.1 mile bikeway stretching from Grand Ave to San Pablo Ave.



Before: Oh!?!

After: Abbbb ...

Also in June, contractors repaired the worst potholes in the bicyclist’s path of travel on other streets in anticipation of new bikeway striping this summer. The most notable repairs took place on the length of Genoa St in North Oakland and along Webster St under I-580 on the back side of Pill Hill. Other locations include 32nd St, 38th Ave, and E 30th St. These efforts complement the work of the City’s Pavement Management Program, which is charged with maintaining all City streets in a time of declining funds and increasing costs. Read a Public Works Agency Fact Sheet on Oakland Streets at <http://www2.oaklandnet.com/w/oak029130>.



## Santa Clarification

Q: What’s 340 feet long, four-to-six feet wide, and makes a big improvement for bicyclists heading up the hill from Lake Park Ave and Grand Ave to the bike lanes on Santa Clara Ave? A: A new stretch of bike lane that separates motorists accelerating onto I-580 from bicyclists concertedly pedaling uphill (see photo, left). The little bit of bike lane was included in a Federal stimulus-funded repaving project, and installed in June 2011. As part of a separate project, the City rebuilt the gutter along the curb to provide a smooth and uniform surface for the bike lane.

## More Bay Trail Mileage

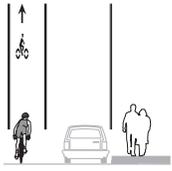
Another segment of the Oakland Waterfront Trail is now in place between the Park Street and Fruitvale Bridges, closing a short but difficult-to-construct gap between Derby Ave and Lancaster St. This new mixed-use path is located directly behind the Oakland Museum of California’s Women’s Board warehouse (site of the legendary annual White Elephant Sale). The project also terraced the shoreline, adding native plants to stabilize the banks. Part of the San Francisco Bay Trail, the project was funded by Oakland Measure DD, a \$198 million bond measure passed by Oakland voters in 2002 to improve Lake Merritt and the Oakland waterfront. *Editor’s note: This segment of path was completed in September 2010 but not reported in the previous edition of this newsletter.*



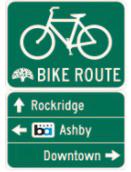
## By the Numbers

This is the second installment of a feature to track progress implementing Oakland's Bicycle Master Plan using the "metrics" in the table below. (For an explanation of these metrics, please see the Winter 2011 newsletter at <http://www2.oaklandnet.com/w/oak026386>.)

### By the Numbers: Oakland Bicycle Facilities as of June 30, 2011



Date (as of)	Bikeway miles	Bike parking spaces *	Bike wayfinding sign assemblies	Bike-friendly traffic signals
December 31, 2007	90.4	3,224	0	0
June 30, 2008	90.6	3,444	0	2
December 31, 2008	94.0	3,492	26	2
June 30, 2009	94.4	4,390	26	5
December 31, 2009	97.6	4,428	26	11
June 30, 2010	100.3	4,566	125	16
December 31, 2010	100.4	4,772	125	16
June 30, 2011	105.6	5,148	167	16



\* Note: The growth in the number of bike racks reflects (1) those installed by the City, (2) those installed by private property owners and accessible to the public, and (3) those installed by the City or by private property owners, but only recently added to the City's database (which tracks all publicly accessible bike racks in Oakland).



### I'm "Bike to Work Day" and I Vote: The Annual Pancake Breakfast Turns 18

Bike to Work Day cast its vote and it was: YES! A brief respite from the rainy spring greeted over 650 bicyclists on Thursday morning, May 12, 2011, the City of Oakland's 18th Annual Bike to Work Day at City Hall. Pancakes were grilled by The Rotisserie Deli with ingredients donated by Piedmont Grocery and Whole Foods Market. Coffee was donated by Tully's. The East Bay Bicycle Coalition provided valet bike parking throughout the day while the owners of Bay Area Bikes and Wheels of Justice Cyclery performed "bike safety checks" (aka free tune ups), with morning help from staff at The Bent Spoke and The Bikery. Five City Council members biked downtown in "Pedal Pools"

Pancake-sated goodie-bag recipients troll tables for more schwag. Photo: Darian Avelino

with their constituents. This year's goodie bags (which were available at all Oakland energizer stations) included the new "Greetings from Oakland, California" postcard set, a copy of the updated and hot-off-the-presses 2011 Oakland Bikeways Map (now available for free at all Oakland bike shops), and plenty of other swell schwag.

An enthusiastic thanks goes to all the volunteers who helped set up in the morning, and all the sponsors who donated



great raffle prizes! Donations of time/services and prizes totaled nearly \$4,000. A special shout-out goes to Amtrak which donated the Grand Prize (valued at \$384): round-trip tickets for two to Santa Barbara, and companion-fare coupons for all goodie bags distributed in Oakland.

The City's Bike to Work Day activities are funded by Measure B, Alameda County's 1/2-cent transportation sales tax, administered by the Alameda County Transportation Commission.



# City of Oakland Bikeway Network

Bikeway Improvements, January to June 2011

Bikeways Pending Construction in 2011



**Completed Bikeways as of June 2011**

- Bike Path (Class 1)
- Bike Lane (Class 2)
- Arterial Bike Route (Class 3A)
- Bicycle Boulevard (Class 3B)
- Bike Route (Class 3)
- - - Proposed Bikeways (all classes)

**Bikeways, Adjacent Jurisdictions**

- Existing
- - - Proposed

## Welcome to Oakland, Bicycle Friendly Community

To spread the word about Oakland's Bronze-Level Bicycle Friendly Community Award from the League of American Bicyclists, purple "Welcome to Oakland" + "Bicycle Friendly Community, 2010-2014" signs (shown) were installed along five cross-jurisdictional bikeways at Oakland's borders:

1. Emeryville border: southbound Mandela Parkway at Horton St
2. Berkeley border: southbound Telegraph Ave at Woolsey St
3. Alameda border: northbound Fruitvale Ave at Alameda Ave
4. San Leandro border: westbound Bancroft Ave at 109th Ave
5. Contra Costa border: southbound Pinehurst Rd at Skyline Blvd

Another sign is planned for Oakland's border with San Francisco on the new Bay Bridge Bicycle & Pedestrian Path, estimated to open in 2014.

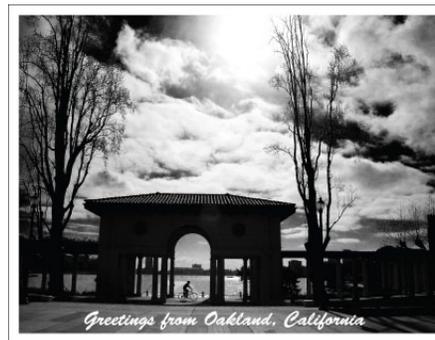


As announced in the last newsletter, a "Greetings from Oakland, California" postcard set was produced in time for distribution on Bike to Work Day. The postcards feature winning photographs (printed below) from the "Bicycle-Friendly Photo Contest" held in March 2011. The six photos by five photographers were chosen from 65 submitted. The photos were displayed in City Hall during Bike Month (May), and are online at <http://tinyurl.com/6grlf8c>.

If you didn't get one on Bike to Work Day, look for sets being distributed by Mayor Quan's office at events this summer.



Photo: Gregory H. Thomas. Skyline Boulevard rewards multitudes of bicyclists with panoramic views of San Francisco Bay, the sweeping spans of the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge, and the iconic cranes of Oakland's Port.



Photograph by Sherreme Gurtler. The renovated Pergola, the new promenade at El Embarcadero and the reconstructed paths around Lake Merritt welcome bicyclists of all abilities – with children finding their balance and adults enjoying the lovely commute into downtown Oakland.



Photograph by Sou Saephan. The "Four Guardians" by Estria mixes Chinese mythology and hip hop in a massive mural at the Thai Kee Building, and like the reclaimed frames of fixed-gear bicycles, brightens city streets with the grassroots, do-it-yourself beauty of Oakland's urban cultures.



Photograph by Daud Abdullah. The Friends of Maxwell Park created this community-based mosaic in the park between Allendale Avenue and Fleming Avenue, expressing the vibrancy of Oakland's neighborhoods through the artistry and organizing of Roberto Costa, Beverly Shalom, Pat Patterson, Daud Abdullah, Adam Abdullah, Karen Difrummolo and many others.



Photograph by Andrew Hecht. Members of the Oakland Yellowjackets Bicycle Club ride in the morning sunshine along Lakeshore Avenue, recently rebuilt with bicycle lanes, new pavement and traffic calming – realizing the vision of the Lake Merritt Park Master Plan and the Measure DD bond for better parks and cleaner water.



Photograph by Sherreme Gurtler. Bicyclists, hikers and dogs enjoy the swirling fog and gleaming sunshine that stream through the redwoods of Redwood Regional Park, part of the East Bay Regional Park District, and one of a half dozen epic open spaces in the Oakland Hills.

***Broadway Bike Lanes Extended***

In May, the Kaiser Hospital reconstruction project added a bike lane on southbound Broadway along Mosswood Park from MacArthur Blvd to I-580. The project adds to the existing bike lanes on Broadway from I-580 to 25th St. Through multiple phases of work, the hospital reconstruction will improve bicycle access on Broadway between I-580 and 38th St. As part of six other projects, the City is working to improve bicycle access in the Broadway corridor from 14th St in downtown to the Caldecott Tunnel.

***Reduce, reuse, recycle***

Three old-school bike racks were relocated to Oakland Technical High School from their former home at Chabot Elementary School. The racks, which can accommodate about 40 bicycles, were installed because attentive parents acted after seeing the need and the opportunity. The supply of bike parking at Oakland Unified School District properties is slowly increasing due to such efforts by parents and others. (Chabot Elementary replaced the old racks with 22 new circular racks accommodating 44 bicycles.)

***Moving On the Harrison St/Oakland Ave Community Transportation Plan***

In May, the City Council approved the Harrison Street/Oakland Avenue Bikeway, a 1.2-mile link on Harrison Street and Oakland Avenue between Grand Avenue and Monte Vista Avenue at the Piedmont city border. The project is one element of the Harrison Street/Oakland Avenue Community Transportation Plan that was completed in 2010. The project will install bicycling striping, markings, and wayfinding signs and includes the removal of one travel lane on Harrison Street between MacArthur Boulevard and Fairmount Avenue. It will extend the bikeway that was installed on Oakland Avenue (Orange Street to Santa Clara Avenue) in August 2009 to the Piedmont city border at Monte Vista Ave.

***New Funding for Bikeway Signs and Stripes***

The City will receive \$175,000 for new bikeways from Transportation Development Act Article 3 grants. The funds are a portion of the State gas tax that is reserved for bicyclist and pedestrian projects. Specifically, \$50,000 will be used for bicycle wayfinding signage along the seven miles of the on-street San Francisco Bay Trail between the Emeryville border at Mandela Pkwy and the Martin Luther King Jr Regional Shoreline at High St. The balance of \$125,000 will be used to build the new bikeway on Harrison St and Oakland Ave.

***City Website Remodel***

The City revamped its entire website over the past six months. Among the variety of changes, the web pages of the Bicycle & Pedestrian Facilities Program are much improved, presenting information in a more organized manner. Due to the revamping, some of the URLs (web page addresses) published in past **I  Oakland** newsletter editions may no longer work. You can still access the bike program home page using [www.oaklandbikes.info](http://www.oaklandbikes.info). Please contact us if you have trouble finding information.

***Just the FAQs***

Why was a particular street chosen as a bikeway? How are projects funded? Can speed limits be reduced on bikeway streets? The Bicycle & Pedestrian Facilities Program developed a list of answers to these and other frequently asked questions about bikeway projects. See <http://tinyurl.com/4qmv6ud>. The list was developed to respond to the most common inquiries fielded by Public Works Agency staff. Is there a question you'd like answered and added to the list? Please contact us.



## Welcome Brothers and Sisters!

Oakland is the host city of the second annual conference of the National Brotherhood of Cyclists (NBC), August 4-7, 2011. The NBC, formed in 2008, is “an affiliation of African American cycling clubs (a total of sixteen and growing) and individual cyclists across the United States.” The NBC’s major goals are inspiring and inspired:

- Create a national network to promote an appreciation of cycling
- Increase the diversity of competitive cycling
- Decrease the health disparities that effect African Americans and other communities

Oakland bicyclists: please join us in extending a hearty greeting and warm welcome to conference attendees! For more information about the conference and NBC, go to <http://thenbc-oakland.eventbrite.com>.



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Infrastructure Plans & Programming Division  
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Si desea un ejemplar del boletín del programa ciclista de la Ciudad de Oakland en español, por favor llame 238-3983 o visite [www.oaklandbikes.info](http://www.oaklandbikes.info) (<http://www2.oaklandnet.com/w/OAK030270>)

如需索取屋崙（奧克蘭）市自行車計劃的中文版新聞快訊，請致電 238-3983 或上網 [www.oaklandbikes.info](http://www.oaklandbikes.info) 查詢。  
(<http://www2.oaklandnet.com/w/OAK030271>)

Để lấy một tờ bản tin bằng tiếng Việt về chương trình đi xe đạp của Thành Phố Oakland, xin gọi số 238-3983 hoặc tới trang mạng [www.oaklandbikes.info](http://www.oaklandbikes.info) (<http://www2.oaklandnet.com/w/OAK030272>)