



# STAFF REPORT

## SAUSALITO CITY COUNCIL

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### AGENDA TITLE:

Rental Bike Parking Plan

### RECOMMENDED MOTION:

Authorize the use of City property for enhancing, improving, and controlling bicycle parking.

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### SUMMARY

The planning stages for enhancing, improving, and controlling rental bicycles' path of travel and parking areas is nearing completion. Additional bike parking racks, bike parking areas, and instructions to bicyclist is being added in the form of signage along Bridgeway. No additional sign poles are being installed. New signs will either replace unneeded and outdated signs, or be added to existing poles. Some new signs will be affixed to trash containers. Three bike rack loops to be removed on the east side of Bridgeway between Princess and El Portal. The rental bike companies are adding more instructional information about obeying the rules of road and where to park bikes in Sausalito for their customers.

### BACKGROUND

Renting bikes to travel from San Francisco to Sausalito, or through Sausalito, has dramatically increased in popularity over the past few several years. Sport bike cycling's popularity has increased and led to an increase in pleasure bike cycling. Visitors renting bikes also see this as a green mode of travel vs. renting cars to visit Sausalito. The three main bike rental companies operating in San Francisco (Blazing Saddles, Bike and Roll, Bay City Bike) all reported doubling or tripling of their bike rentals each year over the past two years. Bike counts conducted last year estimated over 2,500 bikes traveled through our town in one day on the weekends. The Blazing Saddles Company alone rented 1,000 bikes a day traveling to Sausalito on summer weekends.

The increased popularity of all types of bicycling along with increasing amounts of visitors and tourism has led to the City of Sausalito to improve our coordination of this growing cycling trend.

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## ISSUES

In 2008 it became very apparent that our City lacked the capacity to park all the bikes coming to town due to the quick increases in the bike rental business. Community members complained about Yee Tock Chee Park, the Horizons Pier, and downtown sidewalks being over-run with bikes and blocking access. Bike collisions were at a ten year high and traffic law violations involving bikes increased. The Police and Public Works Department's experimented with changes to address the bike parking issues. The Blazing Saddles Company donated six bike racks that were deployed downtown last summer. A few additional signs were installed to better direct bike riders.

This year, the police, public works, and Councilmember Herb Weiner developed a coordinated effort to engage with the three main bike rental companies, examine all the possible locations downtown to accommodate increased bike parking, develop more instructional signage, while addressing the complaints received last year. The results this year's plan are anticipated to improve the negative bike parking and coordination issues experienced last year in the downtown area by at least 80%.

## FISCAL IMPACT

1. Additional signage costs are estimated to be \$900. From the Public Works Department's Budget.
2. Police and Public Works labor efforts are estimated at 100 staff hours.

## STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Staff recommends the use of four areas on City property for enhancing bike parking:
  - a. Zone "A," ferry boat landing and visitors kiosk area. Corner of El Portal and Tracy Way.
  - b. Zone "B," the two old "Authorized Vehicle" parking spaces. Corner of Tracy Way and Anchor Street.
  - c. Zone "C," in front of the Bank of America building on the brick surface. Corner of Bridgeway and Anchor Street.
  - d. Zone "D," Gabrielson Park at the north-west end. Corner of Humboldt Street and Spinnaker Drive.

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2. Staff recommends the addition of instructional signage for bike riders.  
Example Signs:

- a. Walk Bikes on Sidewalks.
- b. No Bike Parking in the Park.
- c. Park Bikes only in Bike Racks.
- d. Bike Parking Ahead or Arrows Directing Toward Bike Parking Areas.
- e. Ride Single File on Roadway.
- f. Ride Single File within Bike Lane.

## ATTACHMENTS

See PowerPoint display of photos and mapping of bike parking zones A-D.

PREPARED and SUBMITTED BY:

REVIEWED BY:

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Chief of Police, Scott Paulin

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City Manager, Adam Politzer

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