

SANDAG E-Bike Pilot Program

Khalisa Bolling April 19, 2024

San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG)

- The San Diego region's long-term planning agency—made up of representatives from all 18 cities, and the county.
- SANDAG is responsible for creating the long-term vision for the San Diego region.
- Regional Plan adopted every 4 years



Sustainable Transportation Services

- Reduce # of people who drive alone (SOV)
- Reduce traffic congestion
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions



Better Use of Space



Photo credit: We Ride Australia

E-Bikes

- About half of all trips people make are less then 3 miles
- E-bikes allows more people of all abilities to ride a bicycle for longer distances and hills
- E-bikes have become increasingly popular in the last few years. Between 2018 and 2021, sales in US increased from less than 300,000 to over 1 million
- However, the cost of an e-bike purchase can be prohibitive to new riders particularly low-income individuals



Bike Subscriptions

- Allows for a recurring monthly payment for access to bikes including E-bikes
- Includes maintenance & insurance
- On demand repair
- Helmet, lock
- May include a buy out option
- **Example:** GoSGV! (San Gabriel Valley)



Bike Libraries

- A Bike Library is a place where bicycles and cycling equipment can be lent or loaned.
- Range from: 1 week to 9 months

Examples:

- Electro-Bici (Northeast San Fernando Valley)
- Community Pass Program (Santa Barbara)
- E-Bike Lending Library (Long Beach)
- E-bike Library (Oakland)



Bike Vouchers

- A Bike Voucher allows for the subsidizing of the purchase of a Bicycle.
- CA E-Bike incentive program (funded by CARB) \$1,000 for e-bike or \$1,750 for cargo/adaptive e-bike



Bikeshare Membership

- Bikeshare facilitate the renting of bikes for shorter periods of time.
- Single Ride, Day Pass, Monthly, Yearly Membership
- Docked or Dockless



Trials or Demos

- Trials allow for the short term usage of a Bike.
- 30-minute demo rides to 5 day ebike loans

Examples:

- Try a Bike (San Luis Obispo)
- EZ Bike Project (Santa Barbara)



Loan to Own Program

 The Loan to Own Program allows for an individual who participates in the program to keep a loaned bicycle after a set amount of conditions.



E-bike Program Resources





peopleforbikes[™]



ClimateAction Center

E-Bike Incentive Programs of North America Tracker -Google Sheets

Electric Bikes | PeopleForBikes E-Bike Resources -CalBike

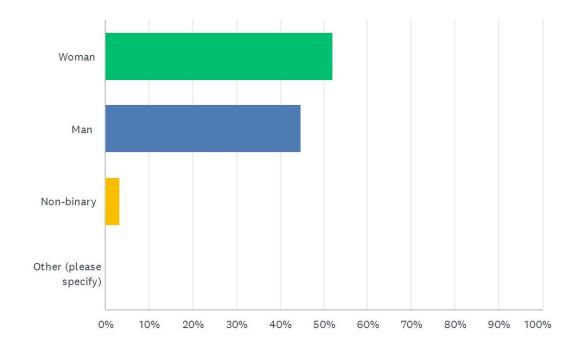
Program Overview

- Partnership with Pedal Ahead
- E-bike loan-to-own program
- 108 participants
- Participants work towards owning an e-bike by:
 - Riding a minimum of 100 miles per month
 - Recording trips via strava
 - Sharing feedback through Surveys



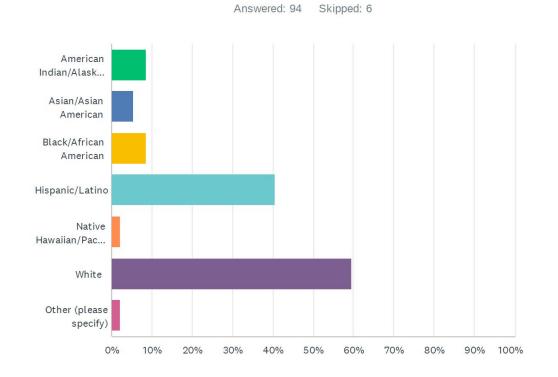
Demographics

Q26 Which of the following do you identify with?



Answered: 94 Skipped: 6

Q27 Which of the following best describes you? (Select all that apply)



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Trip Purpose

Q3 Do you plan to ride your e-bike to commute to work and/or school?

Yes No Don't commute 0% 10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
The program has enabled me to take less VEHICLE trips	77.66%	73
The program has enabled me to live a healthy, active lifestyle	90.43%	85
The program has provided me a sense of community	50.00%	47
The program has saved me commute/travel time	41.49%	39
Other (please specify)	14.89%	14
Total Respondents: 94		

Answered: 100 Skipped: 0



Pilot Program Goals

- Reduce car trips
- Connect to regional transit
- Increase access and opportunities
- Build community around active transportation
- Increase bicycle safety and awareness



Program Launch & Participant Onboarding

- Applications opened November 2022
- 1,500 applications received
- Screening and bike distribution





Screening & Enrollment Process

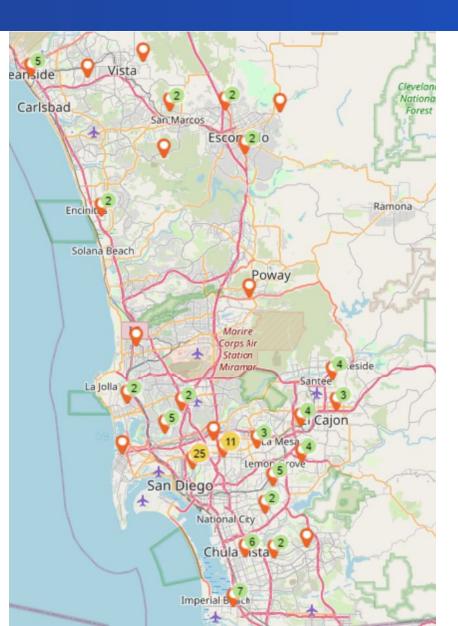
1. Completed Application

Screening Criteria

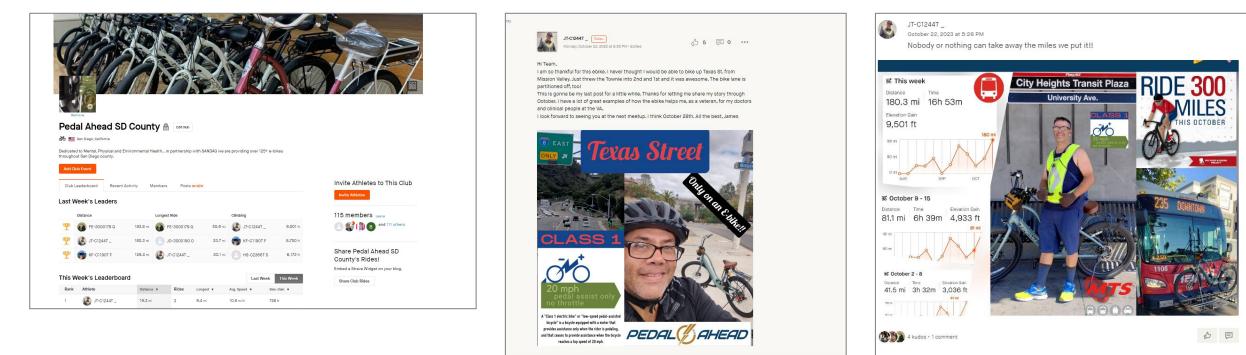
- Age range: 18-75 years old
- Low income: (less then \$50,000 annual income)
- Applicants living in AB-805 Zip code areas
- 15 minute e-bike to transit access shed
- Up to 2 year commitment & data sharing
- Insurance requirement

2. Orientation with Selected Participants

3. Bike Distribution



Building Community on Strava



2 days ago

SN-C0259S N

congratulations! great job!

Participant Testimonials



"[I'm looking forward to riding] around my neighborhood, I have quite a lot of trails that I can ride. I can ride all the way to Mission Valley on some of the trails from where [I live]. They have extended the bikeways and I'm looking forward to checking them out again."

- Crystal B., City of El Cajon



Participant Testimonials & Bike Distributions



"I haven't driven a vehicle for about two years. I commute by bus, I walk, I take the Trolley. I just really felt that this would a be an opportunity to make all of that little bit easier, a little funner. I do see a lot of bike lanes being added to the city streets and I kind of wanted to know what it was about and I wanted to be able to utilize them [...]. I'd like to be able to use [the e-bike] to ride to the Trolley station, from the Trolley I'd like to bike to my work. That would really save me time."

— Heather, City of San Diego



Bike Education & Maintenance Classes



- Bike Commuting 101 & 202 Classes
- E-Bike Safety Class
- Bike Friendly Driver Class
- Bike Maintenance Quick Checks with local bike mechanics



Group Bike Rides

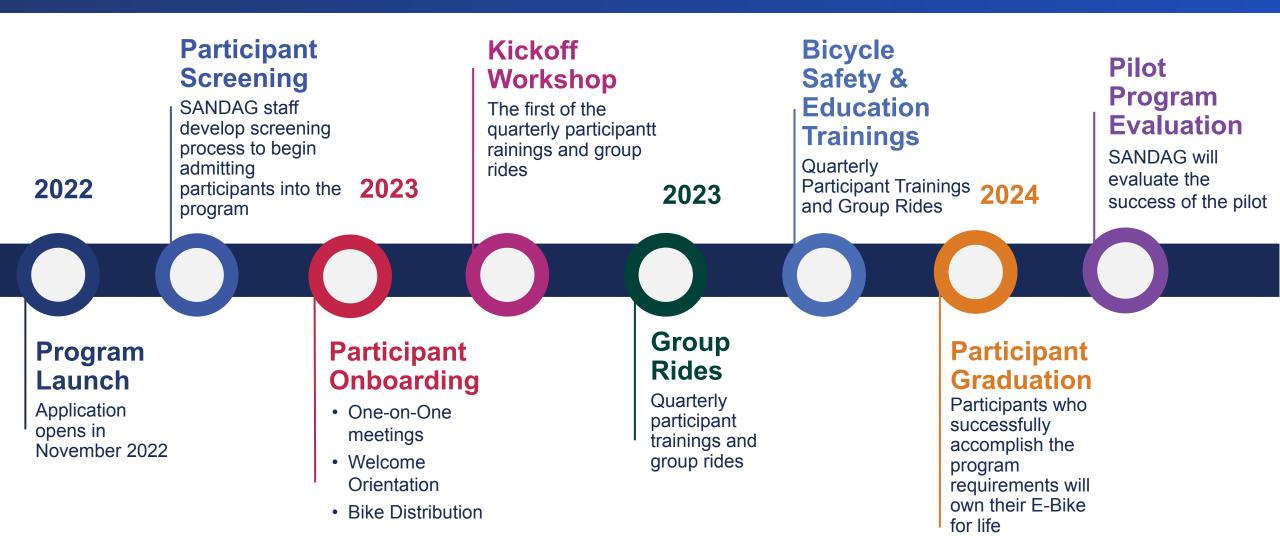








2-Year Program Timeline





Lessons Learned

- Demand for bikes is high; criteria for selection needs to be justifiable and well documented
- Participant enrollment process took longer than expected
- Insurance requirement was a barrier for some participants
- Anticipating bike accommodations for people with special needs
- Obtaining individual Strava data was a challenge because it was not authorized during sign up
- Participants get flat tires a lot, identifying solutions is important
- Helping participants reach their goal and get back on track takes staff time
- Organization & tracking is important to the overall administration of program SANDAG | 25

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