

BIKE-BORROW PROGRAM



Discover the freedom and benefits of biking without the cost of ownership! The **Bike-Borrow Program** gives community members an opportunity to borrow a bicycle for free, much like borrowing a book from a library. Hosted by community-based organizations, such as libraries, these programs lower transportation costs, support short trips, and make biking accessible for all. They promote active transportation and help advance local mobility, equity, and sustainability.

HOW IT WORKS!

- **WHAT:** Free, short-term loans for anyone in the community
- **WHERE:** At community-based organizations (e.g. local libraries)
- **WHO:** Anyone over the age of 18 after signing an agreement waiver
- **DURATION:** 2 weeks or less (typically)

WHY BIKE-BORROW?

- **Replaces** short car trips, reduces traffic and emissions
- **Improve** air quality
- **Encourages** exercise and boosts health
- **Save** money on bike ownership by borrowing

READY TO START A BIKE-BORROW PROGRAM?

NYSDOT's Statewide Mobility Services Program provides planning resources and technical assistance through mobility specialists with experience creating bike-borrow programs and facilitated connections to local non-profit organizations.

STEP 1: PROGRAM DESIGN & PARAMETERS

Define the bike-borrow model, including loan duration, eligibility, waiver agreements, and included equipment (helmets, locks, accessories).

STEP 2: BICYCLE & EQUIPMENT DEVELOPMENT

Procure bicycles through partner organizations or donations and establish plans for storage, inventory management, and routine maintenance.

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STEP 3: OPERATIONAL SETUP & POLICIES

Develop standardized checkout procedures, liability and damage policies, and staff guidance to ensure consistent program administration.

STEP 4: PROGRAM LAUNCH & OUTREACH

Support program rollout through coordinated outreach, signage, and partner engagement to drive participation.

STEP 5: PERFORMANCE TRACKING & SUSTAINABILITY

Collect basic usage metrics, document outcomes, and identify opportunities for program refinement, funding, and expansion.

BIKE-BORROW PROGRAM SUCCESS STORIES

Multiple New York communities have had success with **Bike-Borrow Programs** including:

- Spin the Yard Bike-Borrow Program in Wyandanch, NY
- Peninsula Public Library Bike-Borrow Program in Lawrence, NY
- Comsewogue Public Library Bike-Borrow Program in Port Jefferson, NY



CONTACT US!

We're here to help! Please connect with us if you're interested in setting up a program or for more information.



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511nyrideshare.org/bike-borrow