Organization: Bike Ventura County
Project Name: Youth Summer of Safety at Oxnard Bike Hub
Community: Oxnard, Port Hueneme, Nyeland Acres, El Rio
County: Ventura
Reach: 1,848
Award Amount: $39,999.72
Bike Ventura County staff and trusted volunteers offered daily bike repair education and safety education. Community members, especially middle school and high school students, who depend on bicycles for commuting to school and essential services, were the primary education participants at the Oxnard Bike Hub. Our team hosted easily accessible education workshops, often tailored to on-the-spot maintenance needs. Fueled by our Do-It-Together ethos, the maintenance assistance provided ensured bikes operated safely and instilled safe riding strategies among participants as well. Through a strong group mentality, the Oxnard Hub strengthened our community of riders by creating a space where young folks and adults alike felt a sense of belonging and encouraged each other to use their bikes safely while providing added health benefits. Additionally, we were able to implement a culture of safety within the group, by stressing the importance of rider responsibilities and rights. These ideals were learned and adhered to, simply because attendees held each other accountable to be good stewards of bicycling. Key traffic safety highlights and accomplishments include:

**Delivered Bicycle Maintenance Education:** The project engaged 72 individuals through in-house mini workshops, which were given to young community members, fostering a sense of ownership and responsibility for creating safer streets.

**Safer Commuting Practices:** Our bike repair education and discussions about safe ridership promoted responsible behaviors, such as proper helmet use, signaling, and obeying traffic laws, enhancing the safety of this group.

**Community Engagement:** Our attendees were encouraged to take part in brief surveys that asked questions about bicycling needs and preferences. The survey was the starting point for new conversations and actions that our attendees can work on going forward.

**Inclusive Outreach:** The project encouraged our youth cohort to utilize the Oxnard Bike Hub over the summer months, providing this often-neglected group a sense of belonging and stability. Young people from various socioeconomic backgrounds equipped themselves with new skills and confidence and worked to support each other. Through this empowering atmosphere, the Bike Hub enabled its participants to make their own decisions about transportation needs, reducing their reliance on potentially unsafe or costly alternatives.

“Many young participants got the chance to voice opinions about bicycle infrastructure and ways that their community could be improved. For many, this was the first time they had been asked their opinions about community needs.”

- Bike Ventura County
BIKE LA

Organization: Bike LA
Project Name: BikeLA Safety Through Education and Distribution Program
Community: Central Los Angeles and Glendale
County: Los Angeles
Reach: 78,551
Award Amount: $16,948.5
Bike LA hosted five (5) Operation Elephant safety materials distribution events along the high injury network and the Los Angeles River Bike path. We distributed 400 bike horns, giving bicyclists who ride in traffic a device that will allow them to be heard by motorists. All horn recipients completed a survey, and most respondents shared that they will feel safer biking around vehicles with their new horn than they did before without a horn. We engaged with hundreds of bicyclists, all of whom were excited about their free bike horn and therefore very inclined to give us their time to discuss bike safety, advocacy efforts, and the new California Omnibike law through Assembly Bill 1909. The distribution of bicycle safety equipment, especially something as unique as a digital bike horn, creating strategic opportunities to discuss bike safety, such as road rules, bike safety equipment, helmet best practices, and the newly passed Assembly Bill 1909.

Walk Bike Glendale (WBG) achieved its desired outcomes for the Summertime Series of empowering Glendaliens to confidently use their streets, learn how cities are designed with different uses and priorities in mind, and advocate for change in their city. Summertime Series participants gained firsthand experience with riding conditions and received education on the City’s government legislative process. WBG distributed safety equipment and taught safety skills to hundreds of people. At the Mayor’s Ride on July 22, WBG distributed 50 helmets alongside safety education information and proper helmet fitting, 49 sets of bike lights, and our partner organization Walk N’ Rollers serviced 25 bicycles that needed repairs and adjustments. Additionally, at the Skills Course on August 6, WBG distributed 50 sets of bike lights and helmets, Walk N’ Rollers serviced over 30 bicycles and taught safety and proper riding techniques in a hands-on skills course to approximately 100 kids.

The WBG team was glad to see that over 90% of our attendees who completed the Summertime Series survey reported that they reside in Glendale, and the majority were attending WBG events for the first time. WBG believes that by engaging with new Glendaliens and building our audience, we will be able to advance the implementation of safe streets and improve the organization’s overall effectiveness.

“The mission behind Operation Elephant – to give bicyclists who ride with traffic a device that will allow them to be heard by motorists during an emergency – was a worthwhile effort.”

- Bike LA
HIGHLANDERS BOXING CLUB

Organization: Highlands Boxing Club
Project Name: Highlands Boxing Club: Go Human Community Hub
Community: Highland and San Bernardino
County: San Bernardino
Reach: 1,000
Award Amount: $39,999.65
Highlanders Boxing Club Community Hub reached over 1,000 children and adolescents ages 8-19 through ten Traffic Safety Trainings, 12 Traffic Rodeos/Safety Clinics, and five Saturday Advocacy Events. We used the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) curriculum and the NHTSA Child Pedestrian Safety curriculum to raise awareness about youth pedestrian injuries and fatalities and its link to trauma—making trauma a health and safety pedestrian issue.

To ensure that the young people in the project clearly understood the traffic safety program, the project combined narrative therapy and self-regulation techniques to help young people get ready to learn. Over 210 children and adolescents were trained to self-regulate to get their mind out of a hypervigilant state and into a more calming condition for learning. Many parents also joined in the group sessions.

According to results from a pre and post survey administered to 83 youth on Critical Thinking and Attitudes toward Traffic Safety, project outcomes include:

- Increased skills in traffic/pedestrian safety by 90% [Source: Self-Reported].
- Increased capacity to learn pedestrian/traffic safety as a result of improved self-regulation skills for learning [Source: Self-Reported].
- Increased community knowledge by 90% regarding youth pedestrian injuries and fatalities, highlighting the link to trauma and making it a health and safety pedestrian issue [Source: Self-Reported].
- Critical Thinking Skills-Related Indicators improved by 34%, and Attitude Toward Traffic Safety improved by 40% [Source: Self-reported].

We conducted a focused public health campaign on the topic of emotional trauma that required strong support from a government entity. Publicly acknowledging that our youth, within our community, are at high risk for injuries and fatalities in traffic (whether walking or riding their bikes) due to emotional trauma is a challenging topic to discuss openly. This difficulty is because, in many cases, emotional trauma among youth of color from marginalized communities such as West Highland and San Bernardino is caused by several factors in the community, including police brutality, systemic and structural racism, school suspension, and more.

Impacts beyond traffic safety and trauma affect youth with lived experience who feel voiceless or powerless and believe their perspective is not valuable. Through this project, many of our young participants helped facilitate the project and participated in youth & community engagement efforts, contributing to the success of the project. In our community, like many other communities of color, there is a critical need to empower and train young people of color to be leaders.

“Systems typically see problems with our youth—running in front of speeding cars—as a youth problem, when in fact, this is a systemic and environmental problem. Having SCAG support our efforts, raises credibility in our public health and adverse youth developmental claims and why this is a critical topic that impacts [...]

- Highlanders Boxing Club
Organization: Koreatown Youth and Community Center
Project Name: Koreatown Walk Audits
Community: Koreatown
County: Los Angeles
Reach: 70,744
Award Amount: $37,988.01
Koreatown Youth and Community Center (KYCC) successfully generated community interest and heightened awareness of traffic safety through a combination of three walk audits, collecting 148 surveys, social media posts, and multiple Korean-language media coverage. We reached residents and business owners who may not have been informed of the audit/survey endeavors via canvassing. This effort was informed by assessing foot traffic and active hubs in Koreatown.

Key traffic safety highlights collected from the audits and survey include:

- Sidewalks in disrepair
- Limited pedestrian lighting within residential areas
- Lack of pedestrian crossings
- Prevalent trash and debris along sidewalks
- Bicyclists/scooters on sidewalks
- Transit (bus) stops with inadequate shading and cover
- Transit (bus) stops with poor signage

Survey respondents were able to express the safety conditions that they felt were most important to them when moving around Koreatown by walking or using public transit. Through the audits, we were able to educate residents about safety and walking infrastructure issues. We collected resident testimonies and insights about how they view traffic safety in Koreatown and encouraged community participation and engagement.

“KYCC is now better positioned to pursue additional mobility related funding to expand on the work started with the Go Human project.”

- Koreatown Youth and Community Center
Latino Health Access

Organization: Latino Health Access
Project Name: Ride, Walk, & Roll Orange County! 2023
Community: Santa Ana
County: Orange
Reach: 17,396
Award Amount: $40,000
Through the Ride, Walk, & Roll Orange County! 2023 project, we reached families living in disinvested neighborhoods who primarily depend on walking, biking, or riding public transportation to get to their destinations. We relied on our Latino Health Access (LHA) promoters (Community Health Workers), who also live in neighborhoods impacted by inequities, to promote the activities. They promoted our activities at different events and motivated participants who were active in diabetes self-management, exercise, and asthma classes to attend activities. Youth and parents who are currently active in our Children and Youth Engagement department were champions for promoting the activities in their neighborhoods and with their families. We have a very large database of people who live in communities that were our focus for this project, to whom we sent texts and made calls to invite them to our activities. We also engaged our community partners, such as Family Resource Centers, community-based organizations, and churches, among others. We were able to engage a total of 17,396 working-class families of color from the central and northern Orange County areas.

Participants:

- Learned safer walking, biking, and driving behaviors.
- Practiced proper bike signals and learned how to navigate new traffic infrastructure, such as roundabouts.
- Increased their understanding of rules of the road and the importance of visibility and predictability when riding the bus, a bicycle, or walking in Santa Ana or other cities.
- Received educational materials and helmets.

We were able to recruit and develop the capacity of 35 youth who were engaged throughout the project as Safety Ambassadors working with LHA staff to plan, film, and edit educational videos, and were also responsible for designing and painting a mural.

Families had the opportunity to use public transportation to get to a park. They learned safety tips when riding the bus and learned that they do not need a car to get to open spaces where they can have fun family activities. Many people had not taken the bus in years because they mainly used their cars. A total of 110 people participated, and everyone really enjoyed it.

During our Virtual Hangout, the community shared their concerns regarding the roundabouts installed throughout the City of Santa Ana in the past few years. Many people were very confused about the purpose of the roundabouts and did not support the design. For this reason, we decided to incorporate educational information and the purpose of roundabouts into our activities. People asked questions and were receptive to the information. They learned the purpose of roundabouts and how to behave in a safer way when encountering them.

“In a very popular and simple way, the community had the opportunity to reflect and learn about their behaviors when walking, driving, biking or riding the bus.”

- Latino Health Access
NYELAND PROMISE

Organization: Nyeland Promise
Project Name: Safe Travels/Viajes Seguros en Nyeland Acres
Community: Nyeland Acres
County: Ventura
Reach: 3,200
Award Amount: $16,817.59
In just three months, Nyeland Promise educated the residents of Nyeland Acres, raising awareness about the ongoing community activity centered on the Safe Travels program. Our outreach coordinator developed a multilingual (English, Spanish, and Mixteco) educational outreach campaign that raised awareness about bike and pedestrian safety, heightened community awareness, educated children on bicycle safety skills by hosting a Bike Rodeo activity, and reminded motorists to slow down. Children had the opportunity to attend a bicycle safety skills workshop hosted by the Oxnard Bike Hub, followed by a bike ride to practice newly learned safety skills.

The Nyeland Promise team conducted a walking audit in Nyeland Acres with a group of concerned mothers and grandmothers, all of whom reported poor walkability in the area. The result in Nyeland Acres has been significant because we now see residents walking cautiously on streets that lack sidewalks, as well as children wearing their helmets and riding with the flow of traffic.

Our project prioritized outcomes for those most harmed by traffic injuries and fatalities, including children, underrepresented populations, indigenous communities, and senior citizens. Given 46% of Nyeland Acres residents do not have health insurance (California Healthy Places Index, 2023), safety is paramount. Thanks to our program, we have seen an increase in children riding their bikes around our neighborhood while practicing bike safety.

“Parents reported experiencing less anxiety when allowing their children to go out to ride their bikes.”

- Nyeland Promise
PEOPLE FOR 
MOBILITY JUSTICE

Organization: People for Mobility Justice
Project Name: South LA Quick Build Community Planning
Community: South Los Angeles
County: Los Angeles
Reach: 17,742
Award Amount: $33,926.02
Through our project we were able to engage thousands of residents for the South LA Quick Build project. We were able to leverage a large-scale event like CicLAvia to engage with hundreds of residents on the project by hosting street charrettes on three of the proposed project corridors: 39th Street, 48th Street, and 54th Street. The charrettes gave an opportunity for the community to prioritize corridors and inform the design by interacting with a project map and utilizing stickers to voice their opinions. We were also able to distribute 800 helmets during our CicLAvia charrettes alongside traffic safety education and helmet safety and fitting information. The helmets are much needed safety equipment for South LA families and served as an entry point to engaging with the charrette.

We helped to produce a 5-minute video to promote the online survey. The video featured footage from the CicLAvia charrettes and was used exclusively for a 2-week social media campaign to promote the South LA Quick Build survey. The survey identified priority corridors, intersections residents avoid because of safety hazards, intersections where they or someone they know experienced a near miss, and intersections where they or someone they know was hit by a car while walking or biking. Survey results are currently being analysis and will inform improvements in South LA. The video was also emailed out to our People for Mobility Justice (PMJ) listserve for South LA.

Lastly, we organized 2 bike audits for the project area. Approximately, fifteen participants participated in the 3-hour bike rides through which we rode each of the proposed corridors in their entirety to identify traffic safety facilities needed to improve the experience of bicyclists in the area. Each ride covered approximately fifteen miles and required several stops in order for participants to capture their audit of the corridor. The first bike audit covered 30th Street, 39th Street, and 42nd Street from Crenshaw Blvd. to Vermont Blvd. The second audit covered 48th Street, 54th Street, 60th Street, and 67th Street from Crenshaw Blvd. to Central Ave.

“By being engaged, South LA residents are able to feel more ownership of projects coming to their community through communication and transparency from the public agencies.”

- People for Mobility Justice
Organization: Reach Out
Project Name: Jurupa Valley Community Hub
Community: Jurupa Valley
County: San Bernardino
Reach: 22,258
Award Amount: $32,595.62
Healthy Jurupa Valley’s (HJV) Safety and Readiness Action Team hosted Skate Thru Summer 2023 on July 12th at the Jurupa Valley Skate Park. This event was planned with the help from HJV community members, local partners, and businesses. The event promoted drug prevention and traffic safety among local youth while providing a space for families to connect with resources from various organizations. A total of 400 attendees joined the event and received free backpacks, helmets alongside traffic safety education, first aid kits, free food, and participated in engaging activities.

Twenty organizations and bike/skating groups participated. These organizations provided the community with not only information about their programs but with free bikes, scooters, safety training, and a bike parade around the park to close out the event. Community members expressed excitement with the event and appreciated the various giveaways that were offered.

Additionally, to help promote traffic safety, our team utilized Go Human’s Kit of Parts Lending Library of safety materials to install an artistic crosswalk and a separated bike lane demonstration onsite. Community members interacted with the demonstrations and learned about their importance. The separated bike lane had significance during the closing bike parade. The Riverside Electric Bike Parade led local youth on a bike ride around the park and demonstrated how to use the bike lane effectively as they returned to the event.

On August 25, 2023, our team hosted a free film screening at the Jurupa Mountains Discovery Center where 39 community members joined us to watch the Big Hero 6 movie. Before the film screening, the HJV team provided traffic safety information to the community members through Office of Traffic Safety (OTS)-created videos. Additionally, our team provided free bike helmets and bike lights to attendees, alongside traffic safety education and helmet fitting guidance. This event allowed us to introduce the community to one of Jurupa Valley’s hidden gems, the Jurupa Mountains Discovery Center, and provide them a free family-friendly event to enjoy. After the event, there was interest from community members in having more free movie nights across the city. Moving forward, our team could potentially work with local organizations to host similar events.

“With this project, on an individual level, we were able to connect residents with local bike safety educators, safety tools, and messaging. On a community level, we were able to educate and showcase environmental changes that can promote traffic safety in

- Reach Out
Organization: The Bicycle Tree  
Project Name: TWIGY Bikey Summer  
Community: Santa Ana  
County: Orange  
Reach: 457  
Award Amount: $37,550.17
TWIGY Bikey Summer aimed to reach people who identify as Trans, Women, Intersex, and/or Gender-nonconforming +(TWIG), who are often underrepresented or excluded in many cycling communities. In creating an inclusive safe space for TWIG individuals, we hosted 2 bike rides, 2 learn-to-ride classes, 1 basic bike safety class, 1 class on the basics of drivetrain, hosted 4 “wrenching hours” sessions, and distributed 26 helmets.

The bike rides allowed participants to engage with various traffic scenarios while riding through bike lanes, residential streets, arterial streets, and commercial downtown streets. Participants had a range of prior experience with bike riding in the street, ranging from beginner to very experienced riders. We complemented our bike rides with a bike safety class, discussing a variety of issues relevant to safe navigation of our streets.

Learning bicycle maintenance skills prepared participants to address mechanical issues they may encounter while riding their bikes for commuting or recreational purposes. In addition to the mechanical skills taught during our monthly wrench hours, we held a class on the basics of drivetrains to promote deeper understanding of these relatively complex systems. These bike riding and maintenance lessons represent an important accomplishment for participants, many of whom may not have affordable access to these lessons within an inclusive safe space.

We partnered with Santa Ana Active Streets (SAAS) to host 2 learn-to-ride bike classes for participants who had not ridden a bike before. Students learned how to balance a bike by walking a bike, standing over a bike, gaining confidence with the pedals, and ultimately learning how to ride a bike. Three of the four students learned to ride a bike the day of the class, with one student making significant progress toward riding independently.

“The TWIG inclusive and safe space is creating a long-lasting community within Santa Ana that connects participants with the joy of bicycling.”

- The Bicycle Tree
How Four Black Advocates Are Charting a Path to a More Inclusive Bike Community

Streetsblog talked to four Black bike advocates in Atlanta, Los Angeles, and the Twin Cities to get a snapshot of how they’re fighting to overcome challenges and expand the vision for what a Black cycling community could look like.

12:51 AM EDT on August 17, 2023

YOLANDA DAVIS-OVERSTREET
CONSULTING STREETS

Organization: Yolanda Davis-Overstreet Consulting
Project Name: REIMAGINE BIKING WHILE BLACK: A ROADMAP TO JUSTICE AND JOY – Advocacy Guide
Community: South Los Angeles and communities of color in its entirety
County: Los Angeles
Reach: 2500
Award Amount: $36,478.75
The REIMAGINE BIKING WHILE BLACK: Roadmap to Justice and Joy Guide expands upon the Biking While Black film’s cast members’ mobility justice work. The guide not only provides vital education, data, and resources, but connects the dots on what it takes to make our streets and spaces in communities of color safer and more sustainable. The culturally driven Guide covers:

- Key conflicts facing black and brown advocates;
- Actions being taken to address mobility justice inequities;
- How advocates incorporate joy in their work; and
- Proposed next steps for the guide’s users.

We set out to gather perspectives and invaluable feedback from BIPOC individuals to inform our Guide, Reimagine Bike While Black: Roadmap to Justice and Joy, using a survey designed to gather lived experience input from BIPOC participants. The Reimagine Biking While Black team conducted the survey that was distributed through various channels, including email invitations and social media platforms, ensuring broad accessibility and inclusivity. Coinciding with the survey development and outreach, we started the process of the design and development of the Guide with a team from the Otis College of Art and Design.

The project was a collaborative work, incorporating the talents and expertise of many partners, including: Lena Williams (biking education and navigation; design process advisor); Anne Phillips (survey formatting, outreach; BWB film information and support; social media campaign management and launch); Emily at Otis and team (design and development, review and approvals, proofs and printing coordination; creation of the digital guide; creation of spoke cards); John Yi (legislation and policy; information creation); Stephanie Ramirez (research and support of the organizations and sustainable resources presented, Native American and Indigenous resources, review and discussion of future curriculum topics and processes), and Madeline Brozen and Tamika Butler.

The Guide will be distributed to key community-based organizations, the City of Los Angeles Transportation Committee, transportation equity leaders, and similar stakeholders. Our approach is to facilitate access to the Guide while gathering data and contact information of all those interested in the Guide – so that we can keep all updated on future events and engagements.

“SCAG promoting local organizations’ projects is phenomenal; you are sharing 15+ organizations’ work when you support this project.”

- Yolanda Davis-Overstreet Consulting
YOUTH LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

Organization: Youth Leadership Institute
Project Name: ECV Transportation Equity Allied Leadership (ECV TEAL)
Community: Eastern Coachella Valley
County: Riverside
Reach: 1,213
Award Amount: $34,781.51
Youth Leadership Institute’s Summer 2023 Walking Audit series expanded youth and community knowledge regarding present issues with infrastructure, transportation and pedestrian safety, especially in rural and unincorporated areas. The walking audit and important discussions highlighted the neglect in infrastructure development and maintenance of pedestrian routes in the communities of Mecca and North Shore. Since the Walking Audits series was conducted during the summertime, extreme heat and climate change discussions were also a part of the conversation, emphasizing how fundamental it is for community members to have access to multiple transportation options to safely reach cooling centers, shade, water, and other essentials. Youth participants continued to identify additional solutions to improve pedestrian safety such as crosswalks, shade, benches, crosswalks, and trees to provide needed shade.

Through this project, we reached out to different youth from across the Eastern Coachella Valley (ECV) and key community stakeholders. The insight gained will inform future youth involvement in public meetings with local agencies and governments, to uplift youth voice and influence policies. In addition, youth who participated in the walking audit series also developed and printed a zine. In this zine publication, they included their walking audit series key findings for both the communities of Mecca and North Shore. The zine also included local community resources such as a list of nearby cooling centers, extreme heat infographics, family-friendly activities to do in the ECV, and fun puzzles. This zine was published in both English and Spanish, serving as an effective way to reach more people and inform them about our walking audit series. With the zine, we have been able to reach additional youth who live in the ECV and local organizations. We will distribute the zine to stakeholders and local decision makers who play a key role in the infrastructure and transportation departments.

“Given that many community members in the ECV lack accessible or reliable Wifi, having physical printed copies is a great way to share about our walking audits to increase awareness about our efforts, uplift pedestrian safety and infrastructure issues, and it also serves as an outreach opportunity for other youth to join our work.”

- Youth Leadership Institute