Compared to the hundreds of dollars a month investment needed to provide parking spaces for employee vehicles, bicycle parking is a cost-effective and healthy investment in your employees and your company. Currently about 3% of employees bike to work, but this number is growing rapidly.

Evidence shows that biking to work is good for businesses and employees alike. Biking to work can also easily be combined with taking transit, allowing commuters to skip past bottlenecks, dangerous intersections, or allow employees to take faster express busses over slower local busses.

Let’s Celebrate!
The annual Bike Month and Bike Everywhere Day (May) are great ways to begin promoting bicycle programs to your employees and encourage them to try biking to work in a supported, low-stress way.

The essentials of a successful bicycle program include:

- A safe, dry place for employees to lock their bikes
- A place for employees to change clothes and (ideally) shower before getting to work.

People who bike to work are, on average, 15% more productive, and take fewer sick days than employees who drive.
Surrounded by trucks and traffic from the Port of Seattle, the SODO headquarters of Starbucks doesn’t look like an ideal place to bike. This hasn’t stopped Starbucks from providing tremendous support for their dozens of daily bike commuters. Beyond the basics, Starbucks also offers a workbench and tools for employees to use, drying racks for wet clothing, a “bike buddy” program for new and aspiring bike commuters, and either a free membership to their on-site gym or a cash incentive for daily bike commuters.

Future plans to support bike commuters include doubling the number of racks and lockers available and installing a forced-air drying rack in the common area of their new bike facility.

More advanced bicycle programs include:

- Identifying employees who would act as bike team captains, answering questions and addressing concerns of new bike commuters.
- Cash-out options for employees who commit to biking to work.
- Corporate fleet of shared bikes
- Mobile bike mechanics to tune employee bikes while they’re at work.

Company Example
BICYCLE CHECKLIST

☐ Ask your property manager if your location already offers bicycle racks, lockers, and shower facilities. If your building currently offers these basics, be sure to communicate this to your employees.

☐ Promote established bike events like Bike Month and Cascade Bicycle Club’s Ride in the Rain.

☐ Identify employees who would like to act as a bike team captain, answering questions and concerns of new bike commuters.

☐ Provide benefits for bicycle commuters, like cash-out options, lunches or snacks, or federal tax benefits.

☐ Join Seattle’s Bike Friendly Business Network to promote your company.
RESOURCES

Getting Your Program Going

- Bike Month & Beyond Training Slides
- Commute Seattle’s Bike Commuting 101 Webinar
- Bike Friendly Business Network
- Sample Email for Bike to Work Month
- Cascade Bicycle Club

Bike Maps

- King County Bike Map
- City of Seattle Bike Map
- Google Maps Bicycle Layer

Bike Racks

- Request a Public Bike Rack from SDOT
- Sportworks
- Urban Racks
- Dero
- PFL Spaces