# ANNUAL REPORT APRIL 2023 - MARCH 2024





Fiscal year '24 was a significant year for the Bicycle Coalition. The organization has continued to thrive and make positive impacts throughout the Philadelphia region. Notably, after years of dedicated service, our long-time Executive Director, Sarah Clark Stuart transitioned to a role with the City of Philadelphia. The Board enthusiastically appointed Chris Gale as her successor to lead our mission to make every bicycle ride safe, to empower youth and adults to ride, and to foster a ridership that reflects the diversity of the region.

Our advocacy in Harrisburg was instrumental in making automated speed enforcement permanent on Roosevelt Boulevard in a life-saving win for users. We hosted our largest Vision Zero conference in March and continue to advocate for better transit funding and a better transit experience for riders throughout the region. Read on to learn about the impressive progress achieved by our policy team.

Our education programs have flourished with Learn to Ride lessons, the Better Bike Share Partnership with the City of Philadelphia, and our group rides are seeing some of the highest level of participation yet. Our Bicycle Coalition Youth Cycling program saw over 140 youth participate in at least 11 different schools and sites throughout the city, approaching pre-Covid levels.

We are extremely grateful to our members, donors, sponsors, and philanthropic and community partners who help us ensure we continue to interact with and for people who want better designed streets that allow all of us to get to our destination safely. As we look back on the year that was and forward to the years ahead, we thank you for your ongoing support.

Chris Gale Executive Director

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Ed Chang Board Chair

# MORE PROTECTED BIKE LANES FOR PHL RIDERS

Through our ongoing advocacy, the city reported 9.8 new miles of separated bike lanes, cycletracks, and sidepaths making a total of 28.4 miles out of their 40 mile goal. We look forward to seeing what the city builds in 2024 and 2025.

New bike lanes include: Walnut Street (*parking protected*), 13th Street (*post protected*), Germantown Avenue (*raised cycletrack*), Race Street (*post protected*), Henry Avenue (*sidepath*), South Broad/Navy Yard (*raised cycletrack*), Lindbergh Boulevard (*sidepath*), Strawberry Mansion Drive (*post separated*) Lansdowne Avenue (*post protected northbound*), and Sweetbriar Drive (*post protected*).

# RECORD TURNOUT AT FLAGSHIP EVENTS

It was a year of record turnout at our flagship events: Holiday Lights Ride, the Vision Zero PHL conference, Ride of Silence, and Bike to Work & Wherever Day all drew larger audiences than ever before. In total, these four events reached over 1,000 people!

## 8 NEW MILES OF TRAILS ADDED TO THE CIRCUIT

In 2023, 8.24 miles were added to the Circuit Trails network in Greater Philadelphia. The Circuit Trails network now totals 411 miles completed with nearly 45 miles that are fully funded and in the works. Only 60 miles left to reach the goal of 500 miles by 2025!

# FAMILIES FOR SAFE STREETS INVITED TO THE WHITE HOUSE

Latanya Byrd, Co-Founder of Families for Safe Streets Greater Philadelphia and new Bicycle Coalition Board member, was invited to speak on a panel at the White House Convening on Equity on February 14, 2024 and invited Chris Gale, Executive Director, to join her. The event held by senior-level officials from the Biden-Harris Administration showcased the administration's equity agenda and impact. 2023 & 2024 HIGHLIGHTS



Walnut Street: Parking Protected Bike Lane



Bike to Work & Wherever Day, May 2023



Chester Valley Trail Extension East



Latanya Byrd and Chris Gale at the White House



Mayor Parker signs Vision Zero Executive Order March 2024





New protected bike lane, Washington Ave, East of Broad Street



Mayor Kenney stands with Board member and Families for Safe Streets Greater Philadelphia co-founder Latanya Byrd at the 2023 Vision Zero Conference.

# MAYOR PARKER SIGNS VISION ZERO EXECUTIVE ORDER

Mayor Cherelle Parker spoke at the Vision Zero preconference reception and reaffirmed the City's goal of eliminating traffic fatalities by 2050 by signing her **fourth executive order.** The 2024 Vision Zero PHL Conference was the most well attended with over 300 guests, 55 speakers, and 39 sponsors.

# STREETS DEPARTMENT SPLITS INTO STREETS AND SANITATION

On February 5th, Mayor Parker announced that she will request a charter change to separate the current Streets Department into Streets and Sanitation. This decision comes out of a year of advocacy from environmental, transit, and quality-of-life focused groups as the top priority of our **Better Mobility Platform.** 

**ADVOCACY** SUCCESSES

# CITY RELEASES NEW TRAFFIC CALMING REQUEST PORTAL

In February, the City of Philadelphia's office of Transportation, Infrastructure, and Sustainability (OTIS) released their updated traffic calming request process. For almost a year, OTIS and the Streets department worked to make the existing request process more transparent and focused on communities where traffic calming is most needed, an issue we advocated for throughout the Kenney administration.

# RECORD FUNDING FOR VISION ZERO

Each year the Bicycle Coalition analyzes both proposed and approved Capital budgets to track Vision Zero investments and to make budget proposals to City Council. As part of the Livable Communities Coalition, led by AARP PA, we made a series of budget requests starting during the FY22 budget hearing cycle. The work of this coalition has led to a steady **increase of \$1M to \$2.5M** in FY2024 in the City's Vision Zero budget contribution.

# AUTOMATED SPEED ENFORCEMENT MAKES PHILADELPHIA SAFER

HB 1284 passed in December of 2023 with an expansion of the existing Roosevelt Boulevard program to 5 additional permanent corridors and 5 school zone pilots set to expire in 5 years. On January 29th, we joined our partners and Governor Josh Shapiro for a ceremonial signing of the legislation in Harrisburg.

This decision significantly advances safety, builds on the success of the Roosevelt Boulevard program and will allow the City and Commonwealth to save more lives and protect highway workers on state roads.

The bill includes:

1

Making the existing Automated Work Zone Speed Enforcement program and Roosevelt Boulevard program permanent

Adding driver protections to those programs and the School Bus Arm Encroachment

3

Adding 5 more permanent corridors to the Roosevelt Boulevard program

Families for Safe Streets and Bicycle Coalition Lobby Day June 2023





Allowing the City of Philadelphia to create School Zone Speed Camera pilots in 5 locations for at least 5 years

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The amendment also triggers a study to be completed by the Local Government Commission two years after the bill's passage that would look into expanding the program in other municipalities across the state

We look forward to working with City Council, the Mayor's office, and the office of Transportation and Infrastructure Systems to implement the new corridors.

Governor Josh Shapiro signing HB 1284 on January 29, 2024

# CIRCUIT FUNDING GROWS FOR FUTURE TRAIL SEGMENTS

In 2023 and 2024, the Circuit Trails network was awarded nearly \$55 million in federal, state and local funding for 30 trail projects throughout the Greater Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey areas. These key connections pave the way to reaching 500 miles by 2025 and future projects on the Circuit.

Thanks to advocates who worked tirelessly to accelerate the development of the Circuit Trails network in their community, elected officials in Southeast Pennsylvania and their partners, we took a major step forward over the past year. The Circuit Network helped to secure \$102 million in Carbon Reduction Program funds as well as \$100 million in funding from other sources for the development of several trail projects including the Spring Garden Connector in Philadelphia, the Chester Valley Trail in Chester County, the Industrial Heritage Trail in Delaware County and the Cross County Trail in Montgomery County.

# **TRANSIT FORWARD PHILADELPHIA** COALITION EXPANDS SIZE AND IMPACT

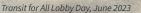
As a program of BCGP, Transit Forward Philadelphia is a coalition of community-based organizations. Together, we fight to improve public transit in Southeast Pennsylvania, to create a region connected by a safe, accessible, and sustainable transit network that allows people, communities, and businesses to thrive.

Over the past year, Transit Forward Philadelphia:

CIRCLE: Explore the Circuit Ride on Chester Val

- Won Philadelphia's first **low-income, zero-fare program** offering free transit to those at or below the federal poverty line.
- Passed **camera-assisted bus lane and stop enforcement** on key Philly streets to help buses and trolleys be more accessible and reliable.
- Added five new members to the Transit Forward coalition, representing environmental justice, young professionals, interfaith groups, immigrants, and neighborhood community development organizations.





Transi For All PA



BCYC at Philly Bike Ride, October 2023

In 2023, The Bicycle Coalition Youth Cycling Program engaged **more than 140 youth** from our **11 partner schools and community sites.** 

BCYC held its **annual Criterium Race & Fun Day Scavenger Hunt**, which was an amazing introduction for youth to bike racing and an opportunity to network with each other. For the summer and fall, **BCYC All Stars joined the Race and Mountain Bike Team**.

The highlight of the fall season was the **Philly Bike Ride, where youth enjoyed 20 miles of car-free roads** and joined thousands of cyclists who visited Philadelphia for the event. Some of our fall All Stars were also able to participate in a PICL/NICA Mountain Bike Race in Elkton, MD.

2023 also marked the **8th year of our BCYC Scholarship Program.** In June BCYC awarded \$30,000 in college scholarships to 2 graduating seniors that exemplify the core tenets of the program (healthy habits, independence and leadership): Nailah Beach, attending Thomas Jefferson University, and Jose Pichardo, attending Universal Technical Institute.

BCYC All Star Youth Athletes at PICL/NICA Mountain Bike Race in Elkton, MD.



BBSP Learn to Ride Class with the Black Doctors Consortium



Kids ride balance bikes at Bartram's Garden Bike Hub



Beginner Group Ride on the Bartram's Mile Trail



Child rides at the Lil' Philly Safety Village in Hunting Park

# Over 1,200 people participated in Bicycle Coalition Education Programs in 2023

# RIDES AND CLASSES WITH 24 COMMUNITY PARTNERS

**QUITY & ACCESS** 

DUCATION

In 2023, through The Better Bike Share Partnership (BBSP), the Bicycle Coalition offered rides and classes engaging over **258 participants and 24 community partners** including Philadelphia elected officials and community organizations from North, West, Southwest, South, and Northwest Philadelphia. For the past 9 years, the Bicycle Coalition has supported BBSP's mission to increase the use of Indego for all people, with particular attention to people who are BIPOC and people facing economic challenges.

# **BARTRAM'S GARDEN BIKE HUB**

Over **700 people visited** the Bartram's Garden Bike Hub that was open 2 days a week from April-November, including 75 kids and adults who attended Learn to Ride Classes. At the Bike Hub, participants rented bikes for free or participated in group rides or classes for kids and adults.

# INCREASED ACCESS TO SAFE BIKING AND PLAY IN HUNTING PARK

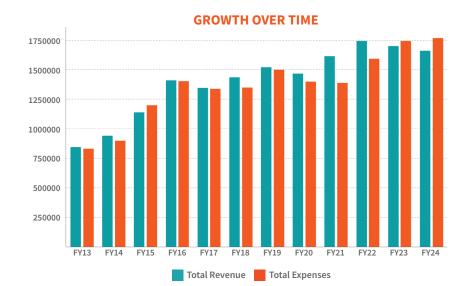
In 2023, through the Play Ambassador Program a the Lil' Philly Safety Village, we **engaged over 100 young people,** increasing the number of kids who embrace physical activity as a healthy habit and associate bicycles as a fun mode of transportation. Our community partnership with Kaboom! and Fab Youth Philly made this work possible.

#### FY24 EXPENSES \$1,770,729



## FY24 UNRESTRICTED REVENUE \$1,663,084





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#### ANNUAL REPORT DESIGNER

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#### \$100,000 +

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#### \$50,000 +

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