



Annual Report

2022





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Mission

MassBike advocates statewide for policies that encourage and support community wellness, equity, and inclusion, enable sustainable growth, drive economic vitality, and tackle climate change.

Vision

We see a future of healthy, resilient communities embracing lifestyles consistent with safe and rewarding environments. We do this through MassBike's bicycling advocacy to create integrated human-centered communities, policies, culture, and infrastructure.

Letter from Galen Mook, Executive Director

In 2022 MassBike celebrated 45 years as an organization, and I'm proud to say we are stronger than ever before. This past year we expanded programming and reached more riders through our classes and events. We passed legislation that has been in the works for over a decade. We bolstered our ranks to add team members focused on increasing access to bicycling for under served populations. And our finances are robust to allow us to plan for long term sustained and strategic growth.

In April, the League of American Bicyclists ranked **Massachusetts the #1 Bike Friendly State in the U.S.**, a title MassBike especially appreciates as the statewide advocacy organization. We know how hard it can be to reach riders in all 351 cities and towns in the commonwealth and the importance that state policies have on local communities where they need it the most. While it is an honor to have this recognition, we still have work to do as we seek to ensure that everyone in Massachusetts can access bicycling's benefits.

We are grateful to be heading into 2023 with strong tailwinds and powerful partnerships. I hope you'll read this annual report with an appreciation for the collaboration that goes into every aspect of our work. Of course, we do none of this alone, and MassBike depends on our funders, partner organizations, policy-makers, and individuals across the state to be our wheels on the ground.

With so much potential ahead of us, we ask you to engage, to bring MassBike into your community with rides, events, classes, advocacy, and more. Together, we can create a legacy for the next 45 years that secures bicycling as a way to bring about a better world.

Sincerely,



Galen Mook



Education

MassBike is a leader in cycling education, believing the best way to impact current and future generations is to expand knowledge and bring people together and share experiences. Throughout 2022, MassBike instructors facilitated bicycle safety trainings and bike rodeos to over 1,500 students in public schools spanning from North Adams to the Cape with the Safe Routes to Schools program.



In Cambridge, after years of virtual classes, we were back in-person with our 6th grade on-bike training, reaching all 400+ students in the upper schools throughout the city. Not limiting our work to just youth, we also led older adult programs in Cambridge's Healthy Aging series where we incorporated on-the-bike skills sessions and rides on trails, pathways, and bike lanes in an urban setting.

In Worcester, an AARP Community Challenge Grant supported our five-month intergenerational bicycling program. We brought together riders of all ages through a series of bicycling workshops and group rides. More than 40 participants joined our community events, co-hosted by a variety of Worcester partners including Worcester Earn-A-Bike, 508 BikeLife, the Major Taylor Association, and Seven Hills Wheelmen. Riders in our Worcester E-Bike Program also participated in the events, which allowed them to network with local bicyclists.



"This was my very first group ride. It was so nice to see people from all different age groups coming together to be passionate about something we all share in common. The love of adventure, meeting new people but mostly, the love of riding. I had a great time can't wait for the next ride!"
-Worcester Group Ride Participant



Worcester E-Bike Program

In 2022, we began our Worcester E-Bike Pilot Program, supported by the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center's new Accelerating Clean Transportation for All Program. Over two years, MassBike will provide 100 electric-assist bicycles to low-income residents who live and/or work in the City of Worcester. We're tracking riders' miles and trips to measure how much greenhouse gas emissions are reduced by participants choosing bicycling for their everyday trips.



As of December 2022, we had 89 e-bikes out on the roads of Worcester, with the remaining 11 e-bikes to be distributed in Spring 2023. As part of this initiative, MassBike is hosting educational community programming focused on helping participants overcome barriers to biking such as traffic safety, basic maintenance, and tips for better routes in and around Worcester.

Between the months of August and October, our e-bikers took more than 3,000 trips and biked over 13,000 miles– the equivalent of traveling more than half-way around the world! We're also watching the trends: most trips in August were for recreational use, and by October the majority of e-bike trips were for commuting to work. We're encouraged by the early data that show participants using their e-bikes as a reliable transportation option, and we're sharing the data with policy makers as well as city and regional planners.

Learn more about the Worcester E-Bike Program at www.massbike.org/ebikeworcester.

Rider Testimonial - Obdulio Jesus Lopez

'Gracias por tomarse el tiempo de llamarme para invitarme a cada paseo. Mis sobrinos y yo los disfrutamos mucho' No se mucho Ingles pero se nota que todos ustedes que están envueltos en este programa se esfuerzan en hacer cosas para que la gente ande más en bicicleta aquí en Worcester y que lo hagamos de una manera segura!'

Translation

"Thank you for calling me every time to let me know that there is another ride coming up. My nephews and I enjoy them immensely. I don't know a lot of English, but it shows that all of you who are involved in this program are doing a lot so people can ride more and in safe way in Worcester."



Legislation

The 192nd Massachusetts General Court was a session marked by big legislative wins for bicycling and we're thrilled that MassBike's three priority bills were signed into law!

Learn more about our advocacy at www.massbike.org/legislation.

Traffic Safety

For the past 10 years, MassBike has been advocating to define *vulnerable users* on our roads with "An Act to Reduce Traffic Fatalities." On January 2, 2023, the bill was signed into law, two days before Governor Baker left office, demonstrating the shared importance felt by all branches of state government to get this key safety legislation done. We're proud to have worked closely with organizations in the Vision Zero Coalition and state lawmakers Sen. Brownsberger, Rep. Moran, Rep. Straus, and leaders on Beacon Hill. These new laws bring both immediate and long-term changes to how we all behave on our roads, with the goal to keep people alive and eliminate fatal crashes.

An Act to Reduce Traffic Fatalities:

- Defines "Vulnerable Road Users" to include people walking and biking; roadside workers; people using wheelchairs, scooters, skateboards, roller skates, etc.; equestrians and horse drawn carriages; farm equipment
- Requires "safe passing distance" to be 4 feet for drivers giving clearance to Vulnerable Road Users
- Requires state owned and contracted trucks to be equipped with lateral side-guards, mirrors, and backup cameras
- Clarifies the process for municipalities to lower speed limits on both municipal and state-controlled roads
- Develops a statewide standardized analysis tool to be used to report crashes and incidents involving Vulnerable Road Users
- Requires bicyclists to use rear red lights at night, but the absence of a light is not cause for an officer to stop a bicyclist



**Motorists must give
4 feet to pass
It's the law!**



Legislation

E-Bike Definition & Rebate Bills

The session was also strong for e-bikes, and MassBike's two key priorities were included in the transportation bond bill. Thanks to legislation sponsored by Sen. DiDomenico, Rep. Fernandes, Rep. Owens, and Rep. Blais, Massachusetts now defines electric bicycles as their own devices, distinct from "motorized bicycles" (ie. gas powered mopeds), and \$1 million in funding is available for the Department of Energy Resources (DOER) to offer point-of-sale rebates for electric bicycles purchases for low and moderate income residents.



MassBike conducted on-the-ground advocacy for these e-bike bills in 2022 by hosting e-bike demo days and educational webinars for legislative partners and municipal advocates. By bringing e-bikes out to policymakers and providing behind-the-handlebars understanding, we gave advocates an opportunity to share how they use e-bikes in their day-to-day lives.

These bills are just the first step. Now that we have established e-bikes as part of the bicycling ecosystem, we'll continue to work on educational campaigns about safe riding behavior, integrate their use into the design of bike lanes and pathways, and ensure the rebates make their way to those low-income individuals who will benefit from the cost-savings.

E-Bike Classifications

CLASS 1: Bicycle equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling, and that ceases to provide assistance when the e-bike reaches 20 mph.

CLASS 2: Bicycle equipped with a throttle-actuated motor that ceases to provide assistance when the e-bike reaches 20 mph.

Note: MassBike will continue to advocate for a Class 3 definition in order to match MA law with federal definitions

Learn more at www.massbike.org/ebikes.



Advocacy

All of our work is done collectively with our coalition partners, and in 2022 we were reminded of our strength when we work together. In March, MassBike organized our annual Lobby Day for the Massachusetts delegation at the National Bike Summit, with nineteen advocates attending meetings with every congressional office in the state. In May, Bay State Bike Month celebrated bicycling across the commonwealth. Our Bike Month calendar featured over 160 events organized by bike-friendly advocates in more than 40 municipalities across the state. We kicked off Bay State Bike Month by hosting a group ride in beautiful New Bedford with the Buzzards Bay Coalition, the South Coast Bikeway Alliance, and the New Bedford Star Chasers. Riding along the hurricane barriers was a wonderful way to begin a month filled with #BikeJoy. Bay State Bike Month returns this May, learn more at www.baystatebikemonth.org.



MassBike participated in a variety of conferences in 2022 to share our knowledge. We joined panel discussions at the MassDOT Transportation Innovation Conference in May and the Moving Together and MassTrails Conferences in November, presenting on our Worcester e-bike program and sharing our lessons learned. These inspiring convenings were part of MassBike's role in our seat on the MA Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Board, which is a collaborative effort between agencies and advocates to bring better bicycling to everyone across the state.



MassBike also hosted several community group rides, including the first annual Kittie Knox ride in the Boston area, which highlights key historical sites from the late 1800s that tell the story of Kittie, a Black woman cyclist and barrier breaker in her era. We supported the bicycling community through bike valet events and Lights Brigade distributions, meeting people where they're at while providing essential services to make it easier to go by bike. By getting riders together, especially those who may not have otherwise reason to meet, we're growing our community each time we get out on two wheels.



Meet Our Team

Staff



Galen Mook
Executive Director



Alex Salcedo
Worcester Program Manager

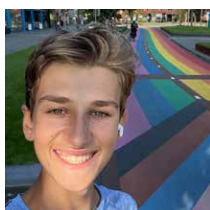


Jes Slavin
Communications Coordinator



Chrystal Walsh
Development Coordinator
2020-2022

Intern



Petru Sofio
Design Review & Advocacy Intern

Bicycling Instructors

Tina Chan
Aaron Charlwood
SuSi Ecker
Lanita Foley
Laura J. Gray

Irene Lutts
Laura Smeaton
Peter Perlmutter
PQ
Anna Scalera

2022 Board



Allison Burson



Doug Cornelius
Chair



Vidhee Garg
Vice Chair



Katherine Jansen



Jack Faer



George Lester



Vance Perry



James Pierre



Eric Poch
Treasurer



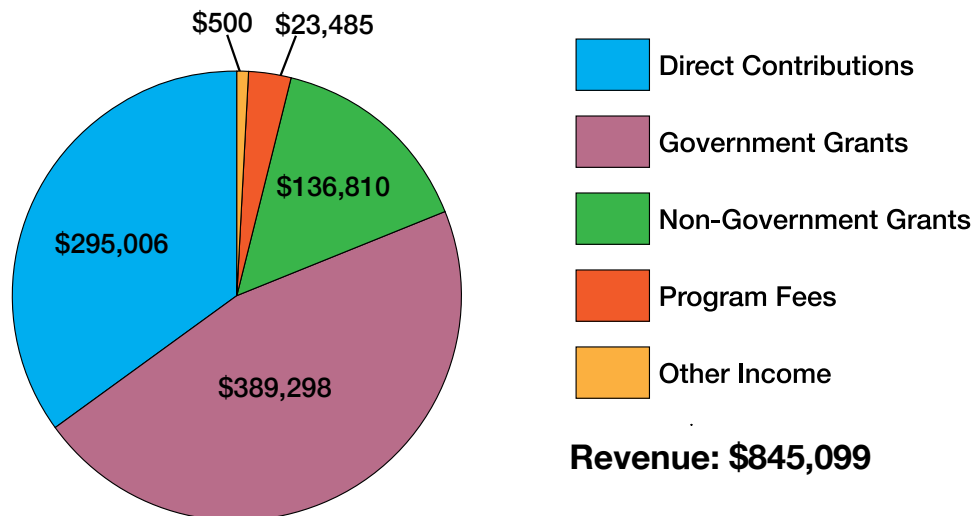
Martin Hayes



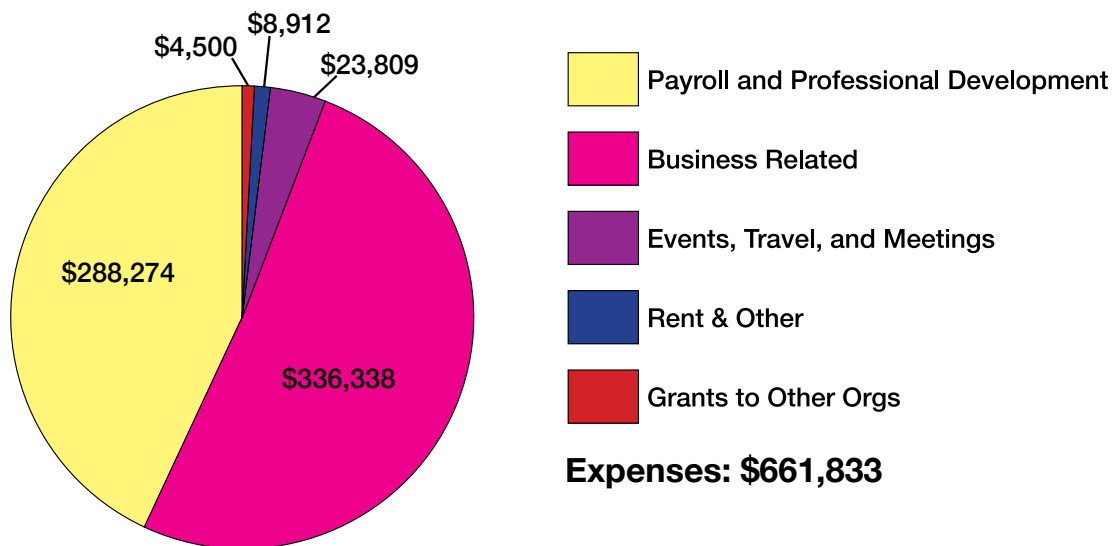
Kristen Sykes

2022 Finances

Revenue



Expenses



Support MassBike

MassBike encourages gifts of all sizes from donors across the commonwealth (and beyond). Additionally, we accept gifts of stock, retirement plan contributions, and have a Legacy Society for planned gifts. For further information on how to support MassBike and our programming, email bikeinfo@massbike.org.

Thank you to all our donors for keeping MassBike rolling!



WSDEVELOPMENT

290 Revolution • Charles River Wheelers • IMEG • Wheelworks
North Shore Cyclists • Plus, almost 50 individual donors giving \$500+



Charlie Proctor Memorial Ride



For Pete's Sake Ride

In 2022, MassBike hosted the inaugural Charlie Proctor Memorial ride in May and the second annual For Pete's Sake ride in honor of Peter Del Sette, Jr. in September. Thank you to the families who helped organize these impactful events and to all the riders who joined to raise funds for MassBike's roadway safety efforts. These events will return in 2023, learn more at massbike.org/events.

Thank you to all the volunteers and supporters who helped at events, bike valets and Lights Brigades, contacted elected officials, joined one of our rides, or contributed financially!

Coming in 2023



Legislation

The start of the 193rd legislative session in 2023 dovetails with an incoming Healey Administration. We look forward to continuing the successes of statewide policies with new leadership as MassDOT, the EOEEA, and the Department of Conservation and Recreation, specifically the continuation of MassTrails and the investments in communities through municipal grants. We're working with an emerging Trails Caucus on Beacon Hill and pursuing new legislation to bring safer roads, expanded infrastructure, and greater incentives for riding bikes. We will work to combat the climate crisis, and address the equity, housing and development challenges we all face across the state.

Education

Our education programming is engaging in robust campaigns related to new traffic laws to reach drivers across the state about the need to operate safely around vulnerable users. In order to grow and diversify our MassBike instructor team, we're hosting a certification course in Worcester this spring, to help us meet the demand for clinics and classes statewide. We're continuing to craft professional training for bus drivers and fleet operators in municipalities and transit systems to promote safe driving around vulnerable road users.

Advocacy

MassBike will stay engaged on bicycling issues from your local neighborhood up to the major federal projects (and everywhere in between), because we know that's where you ride. Our focus on e-bikes in Worcester is evolving into a citywide focus on surveying bicyclists of all backgrounds to better inform policy-makers on how to build a safe, inclusive, and sustainable bicycling community for all residents. We ask you to keep in touch with us as local projects develop and events are scheduled, so MassBike can provide support and resources targeted to your community.

Join the Coalition!

Subscribe to our mailing list at www.massbike.org/get_updates

Find upcoming MassBike events at www.massbike.org/events

