



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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# **Library Unveils Walk-Up Repair Service for Cyclists in Downtown San Diego**

**NEW “BIKE KITCHEN” RESOURCE ENCOURAGES CYCLING WITH FREE ACCESS TO TOOLS AND BASIC MAINTENANCE**

SAN DIEGO – Cycling enthusiasts can take advantage of a new resource available to patrons at the Central Library. On Saturday, Oct. 29, library staff and volunteers from the cycling community unveiled the Bike Kitchen, a series of educational programs and monthly walk-up service for basic bicycle repair and maintenance.

The Bike Kitchen is made possible through a grant from the California State Library, which pays for shop-grade bicycle tools, and is supported by volunteers from program partners Hub & Spoke Cycleworks and the San Diego County Bicycle Coalition. As a resource for the entire Downtown community, the Bike Kitchen supports the City of San Diego’s Bicycle Master Plan by encouraging cycling as a viable transportation mode.

**“The traditional role of the library is being redefined every day,” said Misty Jones, Library Director. “The Bike Kitchen program is one example of how we are addressing the needs of our communities and facilitating the flow of information in new and creative ways.”**

As part of the Bike Kitchen program, instructional courses will be held once a month - starting in November 2016 and running through July 2017 - covering a range of topics related to bicycle repair and maintenance. Each two-hour course will include one hour of instruction and a second hour of hands-on practice. During the first session on Saturday, Nov. 5, participants will learn how to change a bicycle tire, fix a flat and apply proper lubrication.

**“We’re excited to welcome this incredible new service to the community,” said Andy Hanshaw, Executive Director of the San Diego County Bicycle Coalition. “Establishing a Bike Kitchen in the Downtown community is something we’ve wanted to provide for several years and we are thankful the library is supporting the local bike movement with this program.”**

The highlight of the Bike Kitchen program is a monthly walk-up service to be held every third Saturday of the month. Library staff will be available to facilitate use of the shop-grade tool set, along with volunteer mechanics from Hub & Spoke Cycleworks, a local company that specializes in fabricating and customizing bicycles of all types.

**“It’s an honor to partner with the San Diego Public Library to promote bicycle maintenance education,” said Kate Cowper, Head Mechanic and Co-Owner of Hub & Spoke Cycleworks. “This program benefits riders of all walks of life and provides resources to keep their pedal-powered machines rolling on our lovely City streets.”**

All of the work done through the Bike Kitchen will be provided free of charge and on a first-come, first-serve basis. For a program schedule and more information, visit [www.sandiego.gov/blog/learn-bicycle-repair-and-maintenance](http://www.sandiego.gov/blog/learn-bicycle-repair-and-maintenance).

#### **About the San Diego Public Library**

San Diego Public Library, which is the largest library system in the region, serves a population of more than 1.3 million people. Its mission is to inspire lifelong learning through connections to knowledge and each other. Learn about other events at the San Diego Central Library @ Joan A Irwin Jacobs Common and 35 community branch libraries, find links to numerous additional resources, or search for materials in the Library’s online catalog at [www.sandiegolibrary.org](http://www.sandiegolibrary.org).

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