

News from Council President Todd Gloria

City of San Diego - District Three

NEWS RELEASE

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Councilmembers Ask: Where Do You Want to Bikeshare?

San Diegans Have 60 Days to Provide Public Input

SAN DIEGO, CA (August 22, 2013) – Council President Todd Gloria and Councilmembers Kevin Faulconer and David Alvarez joined active transportation advocates to solicit participation in the planning of the City's new bikesharing program, asking, "Where do you want to bikeshare?" San Diegans should answer by visiting <u>www.decobikesandiego.com</u>.

"Bikesharing will be a success only if it's useful for San Diegans. I encourage all current and potential bike riders to visit decobikesandiego.com and tell us where bikes would be most beneficial," said Council President Todd Gloria.

The DecoBike San Diego website, <u>www.decobikesandiego.com</u>, will accept input on potential bikesharing station locations through October 14, 2013.

The program is expected to launch in early 2014, and will generate great benefit to the community and will be implemented citywide with 1,800 – 2,200 bikes, 180 – 220 stations, and 3,240 – 3,960 bike docks.

"As an avid cyclist, I am excited to see San Diego's partnership with DecoBike bringing private investment and a great transportation option to our City without using taxpayer funds. I encourage San Diegans to speak up and let us know where bikesharing is most wanted," said Councilmember Faulconer.

The City is working diligently to involve residents, businesses, and community groups who have an interest in bikesharing. In addition to the website, the City will be sending emails to community groups, conducting site visits, and participating in multiple public meetings in mid-September. Groups including Move San Diego, the San Diego County Bicycle Coalition, SANDAG, Civic San Diego, and the Business Improvement District Council have been central to strengthening the regional bike network and are also working to collect input from the community.

On July 9, by a vote of 7-0, the City Council approved a corporate partnership agreement with DecoBike, LLC for the funding, implementation, management, and operation of a self-service bike sharing system for a 10 year term. A significant aspect of the Bikesharing Implementation Plan is the placement of a network of bike stations. Those locations will be decided based on certain logistical criteria, as well as on public input.

Bikesharing has been successfully implemented in several other major U.S. cities, including Denver and Washington D.C. The concept of bikesharing is to provide affordable access to bicycles for short-distance trips as an alternative to motorized public transportation or private vehicles, thereby reducing traffic congestion, noise, and air pollution. Bikesharing has also been cited as a way to solve the "last mile" problem and connect users to public transit networks.

If you have any questions about the DecoBike San Diego program, send an email to: <u>sandiego@decobike.com</u>.