

Building a Bicycle Transportation Partnership in District 2

Project Summary

Based on increasing interest in bicycling as a mode of transportation in northeastern California, MIG is assisting Caltrans District 2 with the organization of a public/private partnership to promote bicycling in the region. To date, District 2 has held two identical workshops, in Susanville and Redding, to bring stakeholders together, inform them about the issues and opportunities, and assess the level of support for organizing a partnership.



Outreach Methods

- Workshop announcement postcards
- Stakeholder outreach (public agencies, bicycle groups, bicycle shop owners, health interest, colleges, etc.)



Public Involvement Tools

Stakeholder Workshops

Prior to the workshops, MIG trained Caltrans staff to be small group facilitators at the workshops. The agenda included presentations made by experts, including the California Bicycle Coalition and Caltrans staff, followed by small group conversations that used a discussion questionnaire, with trained facilitators and recorders marking commentary on flipcharts.

Graphic Recording

Graphic recording is a hallmark of MIG meeting facilitation in which workshop comments are recorded with colored markers on a large sheet of paper. This method allows participants to see that their comments have been noted, it serves as a useful tool to guide the conversation, and it provides a formal record of the meeting.

Discussion Questionnaire

A questionnaire was designed for small group discussion that included space for participants to write individual comments. These were collected at the end of the meeting and incorporated into the workshop report along with the notes taken on flip charts and the graphic recording.

Environmental Justice Community Involvement

While the initial meetings have involved bicycle stakeholders, project staff solicited ideas about other potential partners. This list will be used to recruit others for the follow-up workshop to take place in January 2009. Organizations on the list include schools, large employers, religious organizations, and health agencies, all of which can be expected to be sensitive to environmental justice issues. A key result of the meeting was the conclusion that the bicycle system must be responsive to all users regardless of age, ability, or socio-economic status.



Results

The two August 2008 workshops will be followed by a third workshop, scheduled for January 2009 in Redding. At this workshop, Caltrans will present the results of the August workshops and present a draft plan for organizing a bicycle partnership that will be the responsibility of the membership as a whole.

Copies of the District 2 Bike Guide (Project 2929.13) were provided to all participants.



Deliverables

Informational Workshop Binder
Workshop Summary Reports
Final Project Report