



NEWS FROM
PUBLIC WORKS AGENCY
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Free Parking!
for Oakland Bicyclists

Oakland, CA – Thanks to a \$60,000 grant from the Transportation Fund for Clean Air, matched by \$20,000 from the City's Alameda County Transportation Improvement Authority Measure B funds, the City of Oakland's Public Works Agency will be installing free parking . . . for bicycles! Oakland's CityRacks Bicycle Parking Program will install over 150 bicycle parking racks in commercial areas throughout the city, and 16 state-of-the-art bicycle lockers near the 12th Street/City Center and 19th Street BART stations.

The "U" and "wave" style racks are made of recycled, galvanized steel, manufactured locally in Oakland and Emeryville. Racks will be installed on public property only in areas with sufficient clearance for pedestrians and utilities. Christopher Waters, owner of Oakland's popular Nomad Cafe, is effusive about the bike rack program. "We're a certified green business trying to build and support green community. Folks with bicycles gravitate to us, and convenient bicycle parking will attract new customers. I'm thrilled that the City of Oakland has offered to install free bike racks on our corner. They'll be good for our business and good for the planet."

To request a rack in front of a particular shop or business, use the Public Works Agency's online request form at www.oaklandpw.com/bicycling, or contact the Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Coordinator at (510) 238-3983 or bikeped@oaklandnet.com. Racks will be installed in Oakland's commercial districts throughout the coming year.

The new electronic bicycle lockers—aka "eLockers"—will be placed near Oakland's two downtown BART stations. Unlike conventional lockers that are rented by the year to one person only, eLockers can be used by any cyclist with a "Bike Link" card. This wallet-sized card will be pre-purchased like a BART ticket and used to access any unoccupied locker; it will cost 5-10 cents per hour to park a bicycle in an eLocker. An innovative and secure locking technology coupled with the Bike Link card will facilitate around-the-clock use of the lockers by many bicyclists. For more information about the City's eLocker project, go to www.oaklandpw.com/bicycling.

The eLockers have been installed in El Cerrito, Santa Cruz, and Palo Alto. City staff is working with BART to determine the best locations and configurations for locker installation in downtown Oakland. Look for the eLockers near the 12th Street/City Center and 19th Street BART station entrances by the end of 2005.

