



March 11, 2024

RE: Support for E-Bike Voucher and Mobility Wallet Program

Ms. Anna Roach
Atlanta Regional Commission
229 Peachtree Street NE, Suite 100
Atlanta, GA 30303

Dear Ms. Roach,

I am writing to express Georgia Bikes' commitment as an engagement partner for the coalition application with the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) for a statewide E-Bike Voucher and Mobility Wallet Program under the United States Environmental Protection Agency's Climate Pollution Reduction Grant. We firmly believe in the significance of implementing sustainable transportation solutions throughout Georgia and look forward to partnering with ARC on this innovative new opportunity.

Together with fellow engagement partner organizations Partnership for Southern Equity and Propel ATL, Georgia Bikes has worked with ARC to design a program that involves residents of low-income and disadvantaged communities in decisions about how it will be implemented. This will include upfront collaboration and events with communities before the allocation of e-bikes and/or mobility wallets; training for participants; and support for advocacy to create more opportunities to use the e-bikes.

About Georgia Bikes

Georgia Bikes advances safe, equitable, and sustainable transportation and recreation as vital components of a thriving, livable Georgia. We envision a Georgia where biking, walking, and rolling are safe, enjoyable, and accessible for everyone. Inclusive infrastructure, community-driven planning, and a thriving bike/walk/roll culture create vibrant places that provide diverse transportation and recreation choices. Equitable mobility achieved through broad transportation and land use reform results in improved public health, significant progress on climate change, and a better, more livable Georgia.

Along with planning and advocacy work, Georgia Bikes offers a variety of safety education opportunities. Our classes provide participants the opportunity to learn how to keep themselves safe on the road whether they are walking or cycling. Additionally, we offer state-certified training programs for law enforcement officers and people-friendly driver programs to improve awareness of bicyclist and pedestrian safety among motor vehicle operators.

Georgia Bikes' Role

As the statewide bicycle and pedestrian safety organization, Georgia Bikes will work throughout the Atlanta Regional Commission's coverage area and beyond into the coalition cities and counties to facilitate safety education programming.

Working in close partnership with Atlanta-based nonprofits the Partnership for Southern Equity and Propel ATL, Georgia Bikes will work throughout the Atlanta Regional Commission's territory to fill gaps and bring programmatic expertise to the outreach program. Atlanta-region initiatives are expected to begin in Cherokee and Forsyth Counties, where Georgia Bikes staff are currently working, and expand to complement the work of the other outreach partners as new operational relationships are developed. Additionally, local support outside of the Atlanta area will be sought to support the program in the jurisdiction of each coalition member.

Georgia Bikes staff members currently manage a robust programming and safety education portfolio. Our staff expects to expand and extend our programmatic expertise by offering the following courses:

- *E-Bike Smart*: the League of American Bicyclists' new e-bike-specific safety course. This new offering adapts the fundamentals of the League's Smart Cycling class to the unique needs of e-bike riders. This is especially important as e-bikes are generally more powerful than standard bicycles, and many new riders will not be experienced with this unique circumstance.
- *Basic Bike Maintenance*: this course will not focus on the maintenance of the bikes' motors or electronic components, but instead on basic on-road and preventative maintenance. Gear and brake adjustments and flat-tire repairs will be included.
- *Law enforcement training*: As many new riders take to the roads, we expect law enforcement officers to be fully trained in bicycle-specific laws.
- *Bicycle-Friendly Driver*: with a large influx of new cyclists on the roads, we want to equip drivers with the knowledge and skills necessary to safely share the roads.

We are eager to collaborate and contribute to realizing a cleaner, greener, more connected Georgia.

Very Truly Yours,



John M. Devine II, AICP
Executive Director