

Comments in letters to Mayor Michael Nutter supporting Bike Sharing in Philadelphia

January 1, 2010 to June 1, 2010

The text of the letter:

Dear Mayor Nutter:

The Philadelphia Bike Share Concept Study completed for your Office of Transportation and Utilities says "YES" to bike sharing. The Saturday March 6, 2010 Philadelphia Inquirer Editorial says "YES" to bike sharing. It is now time for you to say "Yes" and make bike sharing happen in Philadelphia in 2010! You have stated repeatedly your commitment to make Philadelphia the "Most Sustainable City in America." Your Greenworks Philadelphia plan demonstrates this commitment. I believe that Public Use Bicycling (bike sharing) is the most publicly visible initiative you can start to strengthen this commitment. Everyone will recognize a shared bike and know our streets are less congested, pollution is reduced and our citizens are getting more exercise.

Now that the Philadelphia Bikeshare Concept Study says "Yes," the Inquirer says "Yes," and these other US Mayors: Fenty, Menino, Hickenlooper, Rybak, Newson and Bower say "Yes" It is your turn to say "Yes" and accelerate your timetable for bike share this year.

With just paint, you and your Department of Transportation can start tomorrow to make new bicycle lanes and create bicycle boulevards, to make it easier for bike sharers and bike sharing tourist to safely and quickly move throughout our city.

Take this opportunity to quickly advance these steps to start the best Public Use Bicycle Program for America's most sustainable city.

Philly could really differentiate ourselves by being THE "Bike City". Very hip concept and not hard to make it happen. Will attract lots of smart young talent to the city and that is what we need.

kp 19147

This is a great initiative if you are truly serious about making Philadelphia the "Greenest City in America." Please take this important step.

tg 19128

Pine Street looks great! Hope you can get going soon with a Public Use Bicycle Sharing Program. Let's make it mandatory for both bicycle riders and motorcycle riders to wear helmets. If it is already on the books let's enforce it. Precious human lives are at stake!

lh 19440

We would definitely use the Bike Share program when we take the train into Philadelphia. We often go to the Queen Street Branch of the Settlement Music School, which is sort of diagonally placed from the Market Street East station. That means that taking public transit requires 2 connections. A bike would be much more convenient.

rh 19422

Dear Mayor Nutter: You have stated your commitment to make Philadelphia the "Most Sustainable City in America." Your Greenworks Philadelphia plan Accelerate your timetable for starting a bike share program in Philadelphia demonstrates this commitment. I believe that Public Use Bicycling (bike sharing) is the most publicly visible initiative you can start to strengthen this commitment. Everyone will recognize a shared bike and know our streets are less congested, pollution is reduced and our citizens are getting more exercise. You will join these other US Mayors: Fenty, Menino, Hickenlooper, Rybak, Newson and Bower who have realised the importance of this initiative for their citizenry and are instituting bike share programs this year.

jc 19125

Thanks for your efforts so far... please continue to keep biking and alternate transportation a priority in the coming years!!

rlm 19130

Bring us in from the near suburbs

lg 19081

A bike sharing program would clearly designate Philadelphia as a sustainability leader among big cities in the United States. It is an inexpensive and innovative way to address multiple issues at once. Bike sharing would decrease traffic, reduce carbon emissions, increase public transit use and improve public health by encouraging Philadelphians to exercise. In other words, a win-win-win-win. What are you waiting for?! Thanks very much for your time and consideration of this initiative.

cr 19125

Thanks for the east/west routes on Pine and Spruce. Now we need a north/south route to keep bicycles off the sidewalk, here at 7th street.

elg 19147

Dear Mayor Nutter: I travel to Paris and other European cities as well as to most American cities. PLEASE, do not let Philadelphia be the last large city to have bike sharing. If you need further information about the bike sharing program in Paris or Brussels, Belgium, please have one of your people call me. I will get it for you to review. If it can be done and succeed in Paris and Brussels, it can be done and succeed here in Philadelphia. Thank you for your time and efforts.

mk 19103

A bike sharing program is an important part of our overall efforts to make Philly more sustainable by lowering the barrier to biking. It'll shift more short trips to bicycle. In conjunction with other efforts like the wonderful Spruce/Pine bike lanes that make riding feel safer our city is poised to make great progress. Think big!

gk 19104

Dear Mayor Nutter, I'm a 64-year old resident of Queen Village. I and my husband have cycled for many years - to work, for recreation, to get around quickly in the city, and to get exercise and have an activity that strengthens our bonds to each other and to the city. We very much support your and City Council's efforts to make Philadelphia a safe and bike-friendly city, and hope the various initiatives will come to pass - and long before we're in a nursing home!

mh 19147

Bike sharing would help solve so many of Philadelphia's problems, e.g., overcrowded streets, pollution, a fat unhealthy citizenry, overuse of gasoline and oil, noise. Bikes are the wave of the future for our city.

rm 19146

Though I don't own a bicycle (no place to store one), it's great to see the bike lanes on Spruce and Pine Streets. Now--what about some north-south streets? Perhaps in the center lanes of Broad Street?

cd 19147

Bike sharing would be great for the city - for residents and tourists alike.

pz 19146

Advocate for BIKE Usage in the city! It's a no-brainer!!

ms 19147

Any action that will encourage more bicycle use as opposed to automobile use will certainly be an improvement to Philadelphia and a model for the entire area.

jjk 19444

Yes, please do it! It will be awesome!

ij 19063

Dear Mayor Nutter, Please help to make Bike Sharing in Philadelphia a reality in 2010.

clw 19147

Bicycles are essential to the health, well being, and economic growth of this city; make it happen!

ds 19128

A bicycle sharing program would be a fantastic addition to our growing bicycle-friendly city. While it may be a bit of money up front, it will reduce traffic congestion, causing less delays and making it less of a hassle to work in the city (and NOT in the suburbs!).

mde 19123

Dear Mayor Nutter, I hope you will support the Bike Sharing program in Philadelphia.

mde 19102

Dear Mayor Nutter, I am one of those occasional middle-aged bike commuters who will greatly increase my bike travels in Center City because of the new east west dedicated bike lanes. I used them several times this past fall and was absolutely delighted. Traveling on the lanes (despite the bumps) felt incredibly safe, in addition to being so convenient. Please continue in your support for biking as a sustainable, inexpensive means of transportation in Philadelphia. We need to expand the dedicated bike lanes in all directions. This is the time to act!

cp 19147

Dear Mayor Nutter, Don't you think that Pollution that is covering your windshield every day on the ride too work, is disgusting!! Don't you want the air too be cleaner, and fresh! Don't you want too see more people on bikes riding around Philly, well than make Bike Share a priority! Go for it! Make Philly the best it can be!! Not the Worst city in America, I mean we are already the fastest City in America!! Please direct

your attention towards the Bike Share program in Philadelphia!! I think that the Bike Share program in Philadelphia would work just fine!! I think it is a great idea, for every metropolitan city in the United States too have!! I think if it is done right, and secure, there should be no major problems at all!! You might consider going to Italy and checking out their bike share program, because I was just over there, and they have the system down.. So, please bring Bike Share into Philly, speaking from a guy that does not drive, or take public transportation at all. Thank you Mayor Nutter for making my transit to work a lot better with the best bike lanes in the U.S., but I think that we might have to make this possible and safe!!

amc 19147

Great cities do things like this.

jm 19123

Thanks for adding more bike lanes to Center City.

jn 19103

PLEASE Mayor Nutter, stop sweating the small budgetary hardship of bike sharing and do what you KNOW is the right thing to do to make Philadelphia the greenest city in America, THIS YEAR.

mk 19103

Get on board with sustainable transportation planning.

db 19128

Dear Mayor Nutter: You have stated your commitment to make Philadelphia the "Most Sustainable City in America." Your Greenworks Philadelphia plan demonstrates this commitment. I believe that Public Use Bicycling (bike sharing) is the most publicly visible initiative you can start to strengthen this commitment. Everyone will recognize a shared bike and know our streets are less congested, pollution is reduced and our citizens are getting more exercise. You will join these other US Mayors: Fenty, Menino, Hickenlooper, Rybak, Newsom and Bower who have realized the importance of this initiative for their citizenry and are instituting bike share programs this year. Accelerate your timetable for starting a bike share program in Philadelphia. With just paint, you and your Department of Transportation can start tomorrow to make new bicycle lanes and create bicycle boulevards, to make it easier for bike sharers and bike sharing tourists to safely and quickly move through the streets of our city. You can direct new economic stimulus funds into a program to make separated bike lanes on our larger more important streets such as the Benjamin Franklin Parkway, Broad Street, Market Street, Roosevelt Boulevard, Girard Avenue and Aramingo Avenue. Your Spruce-Pine bike lane pilot program is a success, now is the time to expand it. Take this opportunity to quickly advance these steps and start the best Public Use Bicycle Program for America's most sustainable city.

clw 19147

Say yes to bike Feasibility study I vote by all the time

Janet Lynch 19144

Also, if we are to become the greenest city in the US--your idea--we need to start greening and quickly.

mk 19103

Bike Sharing would be wonderful to have in Philadelphia. Philly CarShare and ZipCar have shown that Philadelphia is ready for the concept of sharing vehicles, and a bike share would be a great next step. Thanks!

pz 19146

Dear Mayor Nutter: Please reduce car traffic in the city. I love to come in by train to meetings and visits. Bicycles are not allowed on PEAK train times. It would be great to be able to share a bike in the city and leave it there when I return. Let's make Phila. a safer, cleaner, greener place to work and play! Please support Bike Share!

cl 19446

Philly has the greatest number of bicyclists per capita of any big city in the US, and this statistic is attracting more people to move here every day. Please put Philly on the map as a truly bicyclist-friendly city by starting a bike share program here so that we can continue to grow as a city and attract these new residents!

cr 19125

Why not call on the many organizations that see improving Philly life through commitments such as the Bike Share to provide the labor? Community service and prisoners. And businesses such as Home Depot to chip in with the materials? As soon as the snow melts, the Streets Dept ought to gear up for the project with plenty of media coverage. Perhaps in conjunction with this year's Bike race.

gw 19147

Hey Mr. Nutter, The Bike Share program is a definite plus in Philly, Pa, as long as it is done right!! I do believe that the people of our city are asking for a bike share program to be in place by the end of the year! So, if you can please put this through the system faster, that would be great!! You can add your

personal touch too the program, if you so desire!! Just please let it be, a great history of our city, and for our people! The Bike Share program is a definite plus in Philly, Pa, as long as it is done right!! I do believe that the people of our city are asking for a bike share program to be in place by the end of the year! So, if you can please put this through the system faster, that would be great!! You can add your personal touch too the program, if you so desire!! Just please let it be, a great history of our city, and for our people!

amc 19147

Mayor Nutter, Dedicated bike lanes was your best move. Keep it going with Bike Sharing!

do 19103

Philadelphia is lagging behind!

wjc 19107

As a 64-year old resident and long-time cyclist, I heartily support any and all efforts to promote safe, convenient cycling in Philadelphia. I appreciate the efforts and progress that have made so far.

mh 19147

Bike share please! For the environment.

bm 19148

Dear Mayor Nutter, Please continue to support bike sharing and the creation of new bike lanes in Philadelphia. Thank you.

th 19104

A bike share program will make our city much more livable on an individual level and be a boon to visitors as well. Please do everything you can to get bike share in place as soon as possible.

ff 19144

This kind of program has worked in cities all around the world. Lets put Philadelphia at leading edge of transportation, energy conservation, environmental safety and urban pleasure.

jc 19130

Bicycles are the most efficient machine ever created by man. Promote healthy lifestyles and keep the environment clean.

tc 19128

I ride my bike 4 to 6 times a week. I commute, ride for fun, race, train, shop, and anything else I can do on my bike. Philly will be a happier, healthier, and funner place to live with more people on bikes. It makes economic and wellness sense to launch Bike Share in Philly. Over the years of treating thousands of patients, I've noticed that the ones who get better the fastest, are also the ones getting plenty of exercise. So, Bike Share Philly can help people to save money, live healthier, and cut down on CO2 emissions! What's not to love? Let's make it happen!

ds 19128

I look forward to seeing you implement a plan in our wonderful city.

sn 19148

Bikes are good for the air, the health, the economy and ecology of our city.

js 19147

Dear Mayor Nutter: I want to urge you to say "Yes" to bike sharing in Philadelphia and make it a priority in 2010. Bike sharing has proven to be a successful and worthwhile program in many cities across the US and Europe. It is something that smart cities have been doing for quite some time and it is about time that Philadelphia joins these smart cities. If we are striving to be the Most Sustainable City in America, then we must have a bike share program. Bike Sharing makes sense for our City and it is crucial to our environment.

pt 19103

In fact, why not call on representatives from all of Philly's 'green' organizations to have their membership pitch in--under the supervision of the city, naturally--to do whatever it takes to make Bike Share a reality. Spring is coming. Let's get it done!

wg 19147

I know there are a lot of other priorities right now with our faltering economy, but I feel that Philadelphia can be a leader in this for the United States. I believe it will show that we are committed to urban-friendly transportation and encourage the use of green transit within the urban core.

at 19147

This is a great way to move the city forward as one of the most livable urban centers in the country. Just another piece to the puzzle.

ah 19106

Mayor Nutter, This would be a great city service to offer to tourists, residents and commercial customers. Please consider this a great opportunity and a potential source of additional revenue for the city.

lr 19147

Mayor Nutter, This would be a great city service to offer to tourists, residents and commercial customers. Please consider this a great opportunity and a potential source of additional revenue for the city.

cd 18938

Personally, I am very enthusiastic about the possibility for a bike-share in Philadelphia. Together we can make Philadelphia another first: First in Sustainability!

mr 19143

I work downtown and, as a consultant, go to meetings throughout downtown every week. A bike share system would increase worker's productivity by shortening travel times and reduce air pollution and traffic congestion by encouraging people to ride instead of drive. Our city is a great place to live and work thanks to your efforts - let's make it even better!

dm 19087

I ride a great deal and every time we host out of towners they love the idea of a bike tour. This would not only improve quality of life for residents but also be a plus to the city's tourism industry.

jdim 19147

LETS DO THIS!!!!

bg 19139

Come on Mayor Nutter, I voted for you, I think you're a great Mayor. I support the tax on soft drinks, Support the greening and thinning of Philadelphia with bike-sharing. Have your staff look at the bike-sharing shelters in DC-----very cool! Now if you mean what you say, that you want to make Philadelphia the Greenest City in America, please stop dragging your feet.

mk 19103

Please continue to make your commitment to make Philadelphia the "Most Sustainable City in America." Thank you for your efforts!

jv 19123

My entire family ride our bikes to work and or school, rain or shine, hot or cold. We are committed to making philadelphia a little greener!

me 19146

Please consider making the wearing of bike helmets as much an enforceable policy as the law against talking and texting on cell phones while behind the wheel of a vehicle. Thanks!

lh 19146

Please consider the Bike Share Program. Besides being good for the environment, it is great for tourism. I saw people all over Paris renting the bikes.

mas 19102

Bike sharing in Philadelphia would be a great opportunity for college students like me to interact more with the city of Philadelphia. The train can only get us so far and bike sharing would attract me personally

to conduct much more of shopping/general time in the city.

jp 19081

Please make bikesharing reality!

bd 19081

I don't live in Philadelphia, but I do work there. Currently I take Patco to Philly and usually walk the rest of the way to work. Sometimes I use Septa. I've considered riding my bike in Philly, but don't want to deal with the hassle of taking my bike on the train and other issues. I would definitely use the bike sharing program for commuting to work and for exploring the city. Please use your influence as mayor to make bike sharing a reality. Thanks.

gm 08033

My family of four is waiting for bike share. I am a prominent member of a Center City church and a Senior Vice President at a successful communications company in center city. We use car share weekly for work and chores. I, my family, my co-workers and colleagues at church feel it's time to get some national attention for being one of the first large cities to adopt a bike program. Please. Let's do this soon.

ja 19103

Making our city more sustainable was one of your main goals as Mayor of this city. I won't bore you with the numerous reasons why becoming more sustainable is the viable way to a better Philadelphia. The fact is greener businesses and programs like the Bike-Share program will help provide this city with the one thing it needs most, JOBS! The Mayor of Paris, Bertrand Delanoë, who put Bike-Share programs on the map through Vélib' created over 285 full time jobs within the first year of the program. 285 full time jobs, in just one sustainable program alone, a program that has been growing exponentially since year one. Their biggest problem is keeping up with demand! Our roads are packed, and cheap transit like this can help hundreds of people who can't afford transportation the ability to obtain jobs that were previously out of their reach. With over thirty different Colleges and Universities in the area Philadelphia is a college city. We're a powerful demographic and now more than ever do we realize the importance in voting. Please help this city's reputation, climate, air quality, transportation problem, and most importantly, EMPLOYMENT PROBLEM by investing in projects like this. We're all behind you.

rs 19130