

Bike share in Corvallis Oregon

Pedal Corvallis

Bikeshare in Corvallis

Summer 2016 was an eventful time for the bikeshare industry in Oregon. Before *BikeTown* launched in Portland in July, Corvallis became the second community in Oregon to launch a public bikeshare system. Jackson County started its program in 2015.

Corvallis' bikeshare program, *Pedal Corvallis*, rolled into town on June 30 thanks to a collaboration between several community partners, including the region's Medicaid provider – the InterCommunity Health Network Coordinated Care Organization (IHN-CCO) – and the Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments (OCWCOG), a regional planning and service-delivery agency that covers Benton, Lincoln, and Linn Counties.

Other community partners who helped bring *Pedal Corvallis* to fruition include the City of Corvallis, Benton County, the Corvallis 509J School District, and Oregon State Credit Union. Financial sponsors include Samaritan Health Services / SamFit, Linn-Benton Community College, NuScale Power, First Alternative Co-op, the City of Corvallis Transportation Program, the Corvallis Area Metropolitan Planning Organization, and Woodstock's Pizza.

What is Bikeshare?

Bikesharing promotes community health, connectivity, and livability. Bike sharing involves a network of bicycles and stations, where a member or renter can check out a bike from a station and return it to any other station within the network. Bike sharing is ideal for short-distance, point-to-point trips. These systems provide users the ability to pick up a bicycle at any self-serve bike station and return it to any other bike station located within the service area. It is an innovative way to reduce health disparities by facilitating active transportation choices for work and play. Biking just 30 minutes per day can reduce the risk of heart disease by 82% and the risk of diabetes by up to 58%.

OCWCOG staff are actively promoting the program to the Corvallis community through public groups and events, direct mail, and other targeted efforts. Spanish-language materials also are available. Staff also is continuing to recruit sponsors to help sustain and grow the system.





Where Can I Bikeshare?

There are 6 stations and 35 bikes throughout town. Station locations are:

- Downtown Transit Center, 5th Street and Monroe Avenue
- Oregon State Credit Union, 1980 NW 9th Street
- Lincoln Health Center, 121 SE Viewmont Avenue
- Benton County Health Department, 530 NW 27th St.
- Osborn Aquatic Center, 1940 NW Highland Drive
- SamFit / Samaritan Square, 777 NW 9th Street #310



The bikes are equipped with front and rear lights, a basket, and a U-lock. Helmets are being provided free to a limited number of IHN-CCO members. The system also includes 2 trikes, to accommodate loads such as groceries or laundry, as well as for the benefit of participants who may have balance challenges. All *Pedal Corvallis* stations are located within two blocks of a Corvallis Transit System stop or closer.

How Much Does It Cost? Where Can I Learn More?

An annual *Pedal Corvallis* membership costs \$25, a month pass costs \$10, and a 3-day pass costs \$5. Trips up to 2 hours are free at all membership levels. The program is open to anyone age 18 and older, and membership is free for IHN-CCO members. The program website is <http://www.OCWCOG.org/Pedal>; registration is available via the program website and <https://bike.zagster.com/pedalcorvallis/> as well as via the Zagster mobile app.

At the end of the program's first month, 30% of active participants were IHN-CCO members.

"We want to be purposeful in reaching Medicaid members with this program," said Phil Warnock, Community and Economic Development Director, OCWCOG. "IHN-CCO recognizes the social determinants of health that go beyond access to doctors, and we want to make sure we support their efforts."

