

THE EQUITABLE COMMUTE PROJECT



A COMPREHENSIVE E-BIKE EQUITY PROGRAM

THE PROBLEM. Commute time is the single strongest factor in the odds of escaping poverty: the longer an average commute, the worse the chances of low-income families moving up the economic ladder. Though NYC has a comprehensive public transit network, many New Yorkers live in areas underserved by transit and face long, complex commutes, creating barriers to employment and harming overall wellbeing.

E-BIKES ARE AN EQUITABLE CLIMATE SOLUTION. Electric bicycles (e-bikes) are emerging globally as an attractive sustainable transportation option for trips under five miles-- which makes up more than 60% of trips in New York. In NYC, almost two-thirds of all car trips are under five miles, making the potential for modeshift especially high. More convenient and less polluting than a car and cost-competitive with transit, e-bikes appeal to a range of users: according to ECP surveying in the Bronx, 82% of people said they would be interested in trying an e-bike for commuting.

THE EQUITABLE COMMUTE PROJECT. The ECP aims to support access to e-bikes for under-resourced communities in NYC by overcoming the financial, social, and logistical barriers to e-bike purchase and upkeep. **ECP Access** administers a low-interest e-bike loan, available to individuals with poor credit and allows them to grow their credit history. **ECP Green Jobs** offers workforce training to ensure underserved New Yorkers are first in line for jobs in the \$500B micromobility industry. And **ECP Accelerator** champions sustainable micromobility through advocacy, education, and outreach, serving as a resource center for micromobility best practices and expansion across the globe.

KEY METRICS

E-BIKE POTENTIAL

- **1 MILLION TRIPS PER DAY.** THE # OF DAILY BIKE TRIPS WE'D SEE IN NYC IF E-BIKES WERE EASIER TO ACCESS
- **82% OF PEOPLE SURVEYED SAID THEY'D BE INTERESTED IN TRYING AN E-BIKE FOR COMMUTING**
- **1 MILLION BARRELS OF OIL IS DISPLACED EACH DAY DUE TO TRIPS ON 2/3 WHEEL VEHICLES (GLOBALLY)**
- **12% OF TRANSPORT EMISSIONS COULD BE REDUCED IF WE SHIFTED JUST 15% OF CAR TRIPS TO E-BIKES**

ECP IMPACT

- **\$100 MILLION** IN GOVERNMENT SUBSIDIES CATALYZED
- **125 HOURS SAVED** IN COMMUTING PER PERSON PER YEAR
- **2,500 LBS CARBON EMISSIONS REDUCED** PER PERSON
- **15,000+ NEW E-BIKE COMMUTERS** INSPIRED
- **10 NEW E-BIKE EQUITY PROGRAMS** LAUNCHED WITH GUIDANCE FROM ECP TEAM

THE ECP IS LED BY





NYC CAN REDUCE FIRE RISK EQUITABLY

Dozens of lithium-ion battery fires have raised fears about the safety of e-bike storage and charging in NYC. The NY City Council is considering a bill to require UL certification for all e-bikes and batteries sold in the city, but these bikes are expensive, costing upward of \$2,500.

In order to stop the fires without impacting the livelihoods of 65k working cyclists, the city must create an e-bike fund to make UL-certified bikes financially accessible. The **ECP and its partners stand ready to support a trade-in program to allow workers to upgrade to safe, street-legal e-bikes.** Such a program would provide a discounted UL-certified e-bike in exchange for trading in a non-compliant model. Bikes could be purchased through approved NYC-owned stores, and old batteries could be recycled with [Call2Recycle](#). Accessible financing is available through ECP partner [Spring Bank](#) to cover the remaining cost.

Contact melinda@brightside.city to learn more.