Bikes Belong is a coalition of more than 350 bicycle manufacturers, suppliers, and retailers working together to put more people on bicycles more often. Through national leadership, grassroots grants, and promotion, we work to make bicycling safe, convenient, and fun.

Nearly all of our funding is provided by the U.S. bicycle industry. Thanks to support from our members, we achieved several significant goals in 2005, setting the stage for important work in 2006. Look inside for details.

For more information, visit bikesbelong.org.

Message from the Executive Director

Dear Bikes Belong Member,

Bicycling is on a roll! Americans are discovering more good reasons to ride than ever. The federal government will spend a record $1 billion per year through 2009 to build new bike paths, trails, and lanes and support Safe Routes to School. Key members of the national media and an increasing number of business and community leaders are focusing on bicycling because they recognize the benefits and, in fact, many are avid riders.

The U.S. bicycle industry has a big opportunity to grow during the next few years. Your steady support for Bikes Belong has already played a central role in securing new government support, assisting grassroots bike projects, and promoting bicycling’s many benefits. Now, by recognizing that we have the power to make a difference by working together, we can make sure that bicycling keeps moving forward. Our kids, our families, our communities, our businesses, and our nation will benefit.

Thanks so much for your continuing support. Best wishes for great success in 2006.

Tim Blumenthal
Executive Director
By providing major financial support for lobbying and national bicycling programs, Bikes Belong is creating better opportunities for bicycling coast to coast.

**AMERICA BIKES**

Bikes Belong members invested $1 million in America Bikes’ successful multi-year lobbying campaign. This helped gain $4.5 billion for bicycling and walking through 2009 in the new federal transportation law passed in August 2005.

**BICYCLE FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES**

Bikes Belong continued as lead sponsor of this League of American Bicyclists program that recognizes cities that support bicycling and works to replicate their successes. 52: Bicycle Friendly Communities designated so far by the League of American Bicyclists

**Platinum:** Davis, California

**Gold:** Boulder, Colorado

Corvallis and Portland, Oregon

Palo Alto, California

Plus 12 silver and 35 bronze.
Boosting bicycling through grassroots grants

The Bikes Belong Grants Program improves bicycle facilities and gets more people riding bikes. In 2005, we awarded 20 cash grants in 16 states, distributing $169,450 to grassroots bicycling projects that will build new places to ride, lead education programs, and support advocacy efforts.

SINCE 1999, WE’VE:
• Awarded 111 grants, totaling almost $1 million.
• Leveraged more than $442 million of other funding.
• Helped build 1,310 miles of trail.
• Helped connect 5,184 miles of trail.

Promoting cycling in America

To increase bicycling across the country, we must actively promote cycling as safe, convenient, and fun. Our nationwide promotion efforts include producing our own publications, as well as working with the media to increase bicycling coverage.

NATIONAL BIKE SUMMIT
We were the lead sponsor of this annual bicycle lobbying effort on Capitol Hill.

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL NATIONAL PARTNERSHIP
We sponsored the inaugural Safe Routes to School National Partnership to boost the first national Safe Routes to School program.

BICYCLE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE
We provided financial assistance to this gathering of bicycle industry leaders.

BIKESPAC
Through BikesPAC, the bicycle industry’s political action committee, we collected $30,000 in individual donations and contributed the money to the campaigns of members of Congress who support bicycling.

SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
We provided a grant to help South Carolina implement a statewide Complete Streets policy.

TONGOUR SIMPSON HOLSCLAW
We retained this lobbying firm to help us increase the bike industry’s clout in Washington, DC.

TRAILS TO SALES STUDY
We initiated a University of Wisconsin study to determine the connection between bike trails and bicycle equipment sales.

NATIONWIDE MEDIA COVERAGE
Bikes Belong is a key media source for cycling information. In 2005, we contributed to stories in dozens of major city dailies (including USA Today, The New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Barron’s, Houston Chronicle, LA Times, and Rocky Mountain News) as well as national wire service articles and network television affiliate reports.

Nearly 20 million The number of Bikes Belong newspaper media impressions in 2005
A look ahead to 2006

Bikes Belong is already rolling towards another successful year. Building on recent accomplishments, we’ve developed a solid plan to improve bicycling in America and put more people on bicycles more often. In 2006, we will:

- Help ensure that the $4.5 billion in new federal funding for bicycling and walking is spent effectively.
- Award $160,000 in cash grants for grassroots efforts, focusing on projects that leverage federal funding.
- Expand our relationships with newspaper and magazine editors to increase nationwide media coverage of bicycling as a healthy, safe, convenient, and fun activity.
- Provide financial and logistical leadership for the Safe Routes to School National Partnership.
- Continue our sponsorship of the Bicycle Friendly Communities program, the National Bike Summit, and the Bicycle Leadership Conference.
- Create a bicycling statistics booklet to better convey bicycling’s significance to the economy, public health, and the environment.
- Seek new, effective ways to support our industry and put more people on bicycles more often.

Bikes Belong is great for bicycling and great for your business. Join or renew at bikesbelong.org.