



Reviving the Bike Rental Program



Conor O'Neil, Crystal Smith, Landon Doyle
SUNY Potsdam

Background

Cars on average produce ~400g of carbon dioxide per mile driven with an average fuel economy of 22.2 miles per gallon.

By reducing the number of cars driven on and around campus by replacing them with bikes, the amount of green house would decrease.

The result of this change would improve air quality in the targeted area and create less noise pollution.

At SUNY Potsdam

Suny Potsdam is currently not fulfilling the sustainable transportation on the AASHE report Most students who live on campus will chose to drive to their classes when they could walk or ride a bicycle.

There was a previous attempt at a bike rental system on campus that has been shut down due to the cheap bikes breaking all the time and having no plans on staff being delegated to repairs or taking care of them. There is a currently a bike repair program occurring once a year

There are ~15 bike racks currently around campus, mostly away from the residence halls. They are currently located around the library and around some campus buildings.

There are currently 1,873 cars registered with parking passes on SUNY Potsdam Campus, including contractor passes, vending passes, commuter passes, and residential passes.

Models for success

Suny Plattsburgh has a bike rental system already established and has similar weather.

Suny Cortland also has a bike rental system

These systems made sure there are rules put on the bikes.

- Times of return
- Location of return
- Fines if lost or damaged
- Sign out number that allows for accountability
- Reasonable renting costs
- Harsh weather storage



Bike Rental Program. (2025). State University of New York (SUNY) College at Plattsburgh.

Our solution

Have a few plans available for renting the bikes

- Single semester plan
- Yearly plan
- Sign out when needed

Running only during times in the semester where there is no snow/ice ie. bad weather conditions

Bikes and accesories need to be ordered, location for bike storage needs to be chosen, rental prices and fines need to be determined.

Students could be staffed for the repairs and can be relagated by Venture outdoors



Energy Conservation Posters Silhouettes Illustrations, Royalty-Free Vector Graphics & Clip Art - iStock. (2024). Istockphoto.com.

Budget

\$6-7000 for 10 new bikes

Bike rack with 4 bike capacity ~\$359

Bike rack with 8 bike capacity ~\$429

The average bike helmet cost is \$20-30

Bike locks ~\$7-10 each

7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

Basic repairs ~\$90

Yearly service ~\$150



The relative cost needed to start this program would be around \$7,350 without any new bike racks or \$7,780 for 8 extra bike capacity

The current budget plans would need to go through for any of the rental systems.

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