CASE STUDY NO. 17:



TWIN CITIES/SEVEN-COUNTY MINNESOTA METROPOLITAN TRANSIT AREA



PROJECT IN BRIEF

Customer:

Metropolitan Council, Twin Cities, Minnesota

Location:

Along metro stops within seven county area surrounding and including St. Paul and Minneapolis

Product:

64 Cycle Safe lockers Cycle Safe U/2 Racks

Purchase dates:

1992-2006

Bicycle Lockers Enhance Community Sustainability

Bike facilities matter in Minnesota's largest city, and there's a coordinated effort in place to make sure cyclists have the routes, resources and parking options they need. Minneapolis is second in the nation for bicycle mode share, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's 2006 American Community Survey. A key player in this effort is Metro Transit, the transportation system serving the Twin Cities area. As one of the nation's largest transit systems, Metro Transit operates the Hiawatha Light Rail line and 118 bus routes and provides numerous resources for those who carpool, vanpool, walk or bike.

Metro transit has invested in commuters who switch from one mode of transportation to another. "Our job is to provide users with options to help them get to their destination," said Bruce Howard, Metro Transit's Director of Marketing, "We want to do whatever it takes to make it work for the commuter. For bicyclists, Metro Transit is working to enable convenient transitions from bike to train or bus by providing bike racks on trains and buses and by providing secure bicycle parking at or near train stations."

A Coordinated Approach

In order to mitigate lost time, spent fuel, carbon dioxide emissions and traffic congestion, the City of Minneapolis, the Metropolitan Council, Metro Transit, Hennepin County and the Minnesota Department of Transportation work together on programs that are improving bicycle infrastructure and facilities. In addition, a Go Greener initiative, encouraging intermodal travel and reduced emissions, has been in place since April 2007. A master bicycle plan map, a bicycle advisory committee and a bike rack cost-share program serves the city of Minneapolis; the University of Minnesota and many private enterprises avail themselves of the costshare plan. The Minneapolis city's master bicycle map connects with the Hennepin County's bicycle plan, and

> the Federal Highway administration-funded Transit for Livable Communities program, Bike Walk Twin Cities, promotes enhancements to create a more balanced transportation system in the region.



Bikes are a Key Element:

- The state has the most bike trails per capita in the nation
- Increased racks on busses doubled percentage of bikes carried per no. of trips (May 07-Sept 08)
- · About two percent of train rides are inter-modal, with passengers bringing bikes on board
- More than 30 % utilization of racks and lockers for bike parking at or near LRT stations

A Bicycling Public

"Minnesotans love bicycling. The state has more bicycle trails per capita than any state in the nation. Recent census data (2006 American Community Survey) pegs Minnesota's largest city, Minneapolis, at 3.8% mode share for

bicycle commuting which is just a whisker shy of #1 Portland. This is an increase of 49% over the 2005 survey (was 2.4% mode share). But it's important to note that about 1/3 of Minneapolis bicycle commuters use their bicycles year-round and our climate presents different challenges than many like-sized cities," says John Siqveland, Market Development Specialist at Metro Transit.

This means providing reliable and secure storage options. The city of Minneapolis offers bicycle parking near downtown light-rail stations, and the remainder of stations have racks installed and maintained by Metro Transit. In addition, there are 64 bicycle lockers along the line. Racks are highly utilized at the urban locations and lockers are at or near capacity.

It is estimated that nearly 15,000 people within the city of Minneapolis bicycle on an average spring, summer or fall day. Bicycle-related capital projects are implemented quickly and supported by a wide community base. They also boast one of the highest numbers of bicycle parking spaces of any city in the United States.



Lockers help provide connectivity for commuters.

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Caltrain

San Francisco to Gilroy, CA







Hiawatha Lightrail, Minneapolis.

Cycle-Safe's Product Line

CycleSafe promotes sustainable manufacturing with controlled emissions processes, the cleanest fiberglass molding available. CycleSafe products utilize post industrial recycled material and contribute to LEED certification for sustainable sites.



LOCKERS

The ProPark® bicycle locker from Cycle-Safe is an attractive, pad-mounted modular system that's easy to install, requires minimal maintenance, and provides the longest life-cycle product reliability with over 30 years proven security. Refer to specifications for the engineered difference.



WALLRACKS

Released for production in May of 2005, the vertical WALLRACK by Cycle-Safe is an innovative new bike hanger that has a clever wheel cage which allows the user to not only hang the bike vertically in a space efficient design with excellent bike support, but also to lock the front bike tires and frame through the cage with common cyclists' D-lock to deter theft while in storage.



U2 RACKS

Cycle-Safe's "inverted U" type bike racks are the leading edge in technology for bike rack parking and offer the best of short-term cycle parking. The inverted U-rack design for two bicycles is widely regarded as the recommended standard for modern bicycles.



VINTAGE RACKS

Vintage Racks by Cycle-Safe are a novel blend of the old and the new. They capture the charm of traditional ornamental bicycle standards. Vintage Racks were developed in response to urban planners' efforts to recreate historic streetscapes as counterpoints to the hustle and bustle of the modern world.

Resource Information: Twin Cities/seven-county Minnesota Metropolitan Transit Area

- http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/sustainability/bikeways.asp
- Locker locations and qty: http://www.metrotransit.org/serviceInfo/bikeLockers.asp
- Info about Hiawatha line: http://metrotransit.org/rail/facts.asp
- Info about Go Greener: http://metrotransit.org/gogreener/index.asp#carpooling





