

Resolution 42: B.I.K.E.S.H.A.R.E

Abstract: This resolution urges Cornell University to reinforce its commitment to Boosting Integration, Key Environmental Solutions, and Health through Accessible, Reliable, and Eco-friendly transportation (BIKESHARE) by collaborating with Ithaca Bikeshare to establish a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for placing bike docks on campus. The resolution aims to promote sustainable transportation, encourage healthy lifestyles, and advance Cornell's dedication to sustainability goals while expanding access to eco-friendly transportation options for the entire Cornell community.

Sponsored by: Pedro Da Silveira '25, Patrick Kuehl '24, JP Swenson '25, Veronica Lewis '25, William Shullich '25, Nicholas Hernandez-Torre '25, Mikhail Essa '25, Andrew Richmond '26, Brandon Quijada '25

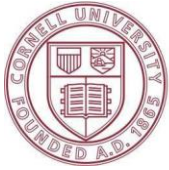
Reviewed by: Executive Committee (5-0-1)

Type of Action: Recommendation

Originally Presented: 4/27/2023

Current Status: *Business of the Day*

- 1
- 2 **Whereas,** Cornell University has established itself as a global leader in sustainability and climate
- 3 change research, teaching, and engagement, consistently earning a platinum sustainability rating
- 4 from the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education for the past
- 5 three years;
- 6
- 7 **Whereas,** Cornell University has made a commitment to reduce its carbon footprint and achieve
- 8 carbon neutrality by 2035, as outlined in its Climate Action Plan;
- 9
- 10 **Whereas,** the use of alternative transportation, such as biking, aligns with Cornell University's
- 11 sustainability goals by reducing greenhouse gas emissions, promoting healthy lifestyles, and
- 12 decreasing reliance on fossil fuels;
- 13
- 14 **Whereas,** Cornell University recognizes the potential for Ithaca Bikeshare to contribute to the
- 15 reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and to promote sustainable transportation options for
- 16 students, faculty, and staff;
- 17
- 18 **Whereas,** Ithaca Bikeshare is a nonprofit, community-owned program that provides cost-
- 19 effective and easy-to-use transportation in the form of electric bikes, aligning with Cornell's



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20 sustainability goals by reducing greenhouse gas emissions, promoting healthy lifestyles, and
21 decreasing reliance on fossil fuels;

22

23 **Whereas**, the use of Ithaca Bikeshare's electric bikes can provide affordable, reliable, and
24 sustainable transportation options for everyone in Ithaca, including Cornell students, staff, and
25 faculty;

26

27 **Whereas**, the Ithaca Bikeshare program offers a convenient and user-friendly mobile application
28 that allows users to locate, rent, and return bikes using their smartphones, reducing the need for
29 personal vehicles and promoting alternative transportation;

30

31 **Whereas**, a reliable bike-sharing service, like Ithaca Bikeshare, would allow members of the
32 Cornell community to easily and conveniently reduce their carbon footprint, contributing to the
33 university's overall commitment to sustainability;

34

35 **Whereas**, a plurality of bikeshare trips end on Cornell's campus indicating the heavy usage of
36 Ithaca Bikeshare's system by Cornell users¹;

37

38 **Whereas**, as of March 21st 2023, 19.8% of Ithaca Bikeshare users were registered with a
39 cornell.edu address, with upwards of greater than 50% of users expected to be cornell students;²

40

41 **Whereas**, the data collected in March indicates that the usage of Ithaca Bikeshare is significantly
42 higher on sunny days, with 924 users on a single sunny day out of a total of 2099 users for the
43 first three weeks of the month, highlighting the popularity of the program as an environmentally
44 sustainable and enjoyable transportation option for the Cornell community³;

45

46 **Whereas**, Ithaca Bikeshare has been providing alternative transportation options to the
47 community since its launch in November 2022, with 13,250 rides provided and 35% of users
48 being confirmed as netids of Cornell students, faculty, and staff;

49

50 **Whereas**, Ithaca Bikeshare has recently acquired parking hubs, which have resulted in a
51 compliance rate of 58% within just 5 days on the Cornell campus;

52

53 **Whereas**, Ithaca Bikeshare is facing a budget shortfall of \$40K in 2023 and relies on donations,
54 grants, and other forms of funding to sustain its operations;

55

¹ Appendix Item A

² Appendix Item B

³ Appendix Item C



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56 **Whereas**, Ithaca Bikeshare has expressed a desire to expand their operations onto the Cornell
57 University campus and has indicated that they have not received financial support from Cornell
58 University;

59

60 **Whereas**, due to the lack of an MOU, Ithaca Bikeshare is not allowed to bring bikes to campus,
61 causing inconvenience to students who have to rely on finding abandoned bikes left by other
62 students;

63

64 **Whereas**, Cornell had previously pledged to provide financial support to Ithaca Bikeshare,
65 indicating the university's recognition of the service as a valuable resource for students;

66

67 **Whereas**, Cornell can promote the availability of Ithaca Bikeshare as a service provided by the
68 university, which aligns with Cornell's goals of reducing carbon emissions and cutting down on
69 the overpopulation of cars on campus;

70

71 **Whereas**, Ithaca Bike Share is an effective means of alternative transportation to engage Cornell
72 students with the community at large;

73

74 **Whereas**, Cornell students currently use and will continue to use Ithaca Bikeshare as a means of
75 transportation between classes and other locations;

76

77 **Whereas**, Transportation options for students need to be broadened to allow for safe and reliable
78 transport between destinations;

79

80 **Be it resolved**, that Cornell University will work with Ithaca Bikeshare to explore the possibility
81 of providing financial support to the organization, either through a direct financial contribution
82 or by assisting in securing grants or donations;

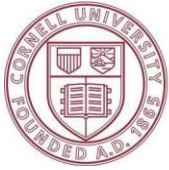
83

84 **Be it further resolved**, that Cornell University will work with Ithaca Bikeshare to explore the
85 possibility of incorporating the service onto the Cornell University campus, including the
86 installation of bike hubs in strategic locations and in front of major residence halls and the
87 promotion of the service as a sustainable transportation option for students and community
88 members;

89

90 **Be it further resolved**, that Cornell University should work collaboratively with the Bike Share
91 initiative to determine the optimal volume of bikes on campus, ensuring safe, efficient, and
92 renewable transportation for students and faculty;

93



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94 **Be it further resolved**, that Cornell University will work with Ithaca Bikeshare to develop an
95 MOU for operations on the Cornell University campus, outlining the responsibilities of both
96 parties and ensuring compliance with all relevant regulations and policies;

97

98 **Be it further resolved**, that Cornell University will actively collaborate with Ithaca Bikeshare to
99 create educational and outreach programs that promote the benefits of bike-sharing and
100 sustainable transportation, targeting the Cornell community and fostering a culture of
101 environmental responsibility and awareness.

Respectfully submitted,

Pedro Da Silveira '25

Representative of the College of Engineering, Student Assembly

Vice-President of Internal Operations, Student Assembly

Patrick Kuehl '24

Undesignated Representative at Large, Student Assembly

Anna Lewis '25

Representative of the Nolan School of Hotel Administration, Student Assembly

Vice President External Affairs, Student Assembly

JP Swenson '25

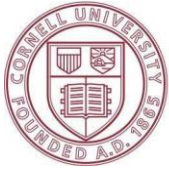
Undesignated Representative at Large, Student Assembly

William Shullich '25

Student Assembly Infrastructure Funding Commission (SAIFC), Student Assembly

Nicholas Hernandez-Torre '25

Student Assembly Infrastructure Funding Commission (SAIFC), Student Assembly



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Mikhail Essa '25

Student Assembly Infrastructure Funding Commission (SAIFC), Student Assembly

Andrew Richmond '26

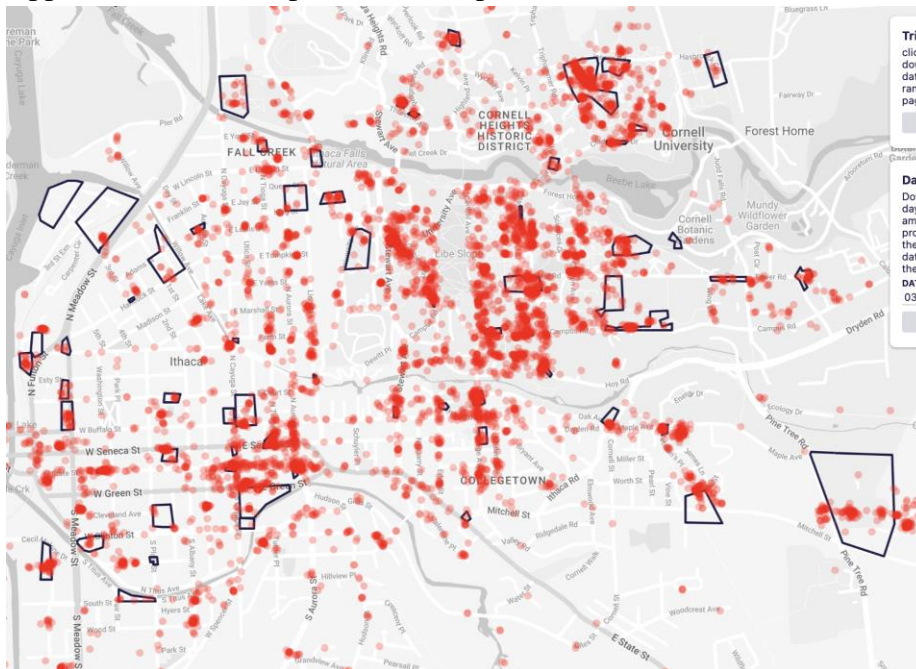
Freshman Representative, Student Assembly

Brandon Quijada '25

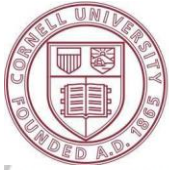
Student Assembly Infrastructure Funding Commission (SAIFC), Student Assembly

Appendix Items

Appendix Item A: Map of last 9K trips as of March 21, 2023.



Appendix Item B: Officially registered data of user registered addresses with Cornell.edu in the search query as of March 21st 2023.



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2487

Total users

493

Found in search query

Appendix Item C: Monthly usage stats as of March 21st 2023:

Month	Trips
November	1,694
December	2,526
January	2007
February	4026
March	2099
March 15th	924
March =	3023
	13,276