



"By getting out and taking a bike ride, we can learn to enjoy more of Maryland's natural treasures, help reduce the impact on the land, improve our fitness and well-being, and enhance our quality of life."

- Martin O'Malley, Governor



**MARYLAND
BIKESHARE
PROGRAM**

Funding Short Trips by Bike



For more information please contact
MDBikeshare@mdot.maryland.gov
www.cycle.maryland.gov



Martin O'Malley
Governor

Anthony G. Brown
Lt. Governor

Beverly K. Swaim-Staley
Secretary





Funding Short Trips by Bike

The Maryland Bikeshare Program is a Cycle Maryland initiative to provide reimbursable grant funding to Maryland communities to establish or to expand bikesharing programs. The objective of this program is to facilitate travel by bicycle in Maryland, by allowing travelers to take advantage of bicycles for short journeys.

What is Bikesharing?

Bikesharing is a system in which bicycles are available for shared use between established stations. Bikesharing systems provide an affordable option for short-distance trips as an alternative to public transportation, driving in a car or walking. Bikesharing can help solve the “last mile” problem, connecting public transportation riders to their final destinations. Bikesharing is not a substitute for private bike rental services, but rather it provides an option for short-distance trips.

What is the Bikeshare Program?

The Maryland Bikeshare Program is a grant program to support the planning for and establishment of local bikesharing programs. The Bikeshare Program will provide grant support for a feasibility study or for capital expenses to implement a bikesharing program. Examples of eligible reimbursable capital expenditures include:

- Bicycles;
- Docking Stations;
- Support Amenities (terminals, technical platforms, spare parts, supplies, etc.); and
- Shipping and Installation.

Some program expenditures for marketing may be eligible and may count toward a grant recipient's required 20% funding match, which will be determined during the application process.

How Does the Bikeshare Program Help Maryland?

The Maryland Bikeshare Program presents a unique opportunity to support Maryland's economy, a cleaner environment and a better quality of life. The Maryland Department of Transportation and our local partners are working to provide an affordable, convenient transportation option that also maximizes the use of our transit system by improving access to more destinations. In addition, this program supports the Governor's Cycle Maryland initiative to promote biking as a fun, healthy, transportation alternative that is great for our environment.

How Does the Maryland Bikeshare Program Work?

Local jurisdictions interested in grant funding must apply to the Maryland Bikeshare Program, either for a feasibility study or for implementation assistance. Applicants for implementation funding for capital expenditures must be ready to implement the bikeshare elements during the fiscal year for which the funding is awarded. Funding will be provided through the federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Improvement Program so projects must be CMAQ eligible and must follow all federal rules and regulations for this program. Interested local jurisdictions must be prepared to provide at least 20% of the total cost to match available federal funding. Project sponsors must provide upfront payment to contractors/vendors and will be reimbursed once all documentation and requirements are met.

How Do I Apply?

Local jurisdictions interested in grant funding must apply for a feasibility study or for implementation assistance. Application packages are available on the Maryland Bikeshare website and must be submitted to the Maryland Department of Transportation by December 15th each year. Note that the applications require a complete description for the type of assistance requested, a plan for funding, a demonstrated commitment for a 20% match, and a description of the steps that have been taken to advance bikesharing in the applicant's community.

How Do I Find More Information on the Bikeshare Program?

Further information regarding Maryland's Bikeshare Program will be available on the Program website: www.cycle.maryland.gov. For more information, please contact the MDOT Office of Planning and Capital Programming by email at MDBikeshare@mdot.maryland.gov or phone at 410-865-1277.

