



BICYCLE COALITION OF MAINE



A Note From Andrew:

Dear Friends,

What a remarkable September it has been for the Bicycle Coalition of Maine. Just a couple of days ago, we gathered with many of you at the Appalachian Mountain Club's beautiful Medawisla Lodge for this year's Maine Woods Rambler. Together, we pedaled through crisp autumn air, spotted moose along quiet roads, and celebrated the beauty of Maine's North Woods. Events like this remind us not only of the joy of riding but also of the vital role our work plays in protecting and expanding safe, accessible opportunities to bike in every corner of our state.

And the momentum continues—on October 18th, BCM will return to Rockland with the reimaged [Lobster Roll Mini Ride](#). This ride is more than a celebration of Maine's coast; it's a homecoming for one of BCM's most beloved traditions. I hope you'll join us for a scenic ride and a community gathering that highlights the very best of what bicycling in Maine has to offer.

Earlier this month, we also came together at our Annual Meeting on to reflect on the year behind us and to look ahead. I want to sincerely thank our outgoing board members for their years of leadership and service, and to warmly welcome the new members joining us. The passion, perspective, and dedication of our board are a powerful source of strength for BCM's future.

Looking ahead to this fall, our work doesn't slow down. We're preparing for Maine's short legislative session, where we'll continue advocating for policies that make our roads safer and our communities healthier. Recruitment is underway for our next class of Community Spokes, the local leaders who champion better biking and walking in towns across Maine. And as always, there are many ways for you to volunteer with BCM, from supporting events to lending a hand in our education programs. Your involvement is what makes this movement strong.

But the path ahead will be difficult.

Just days ago bike lanes were considered "no longer in the public interest" according to the Federal Department of Transportation. Meanwhile, as of today in 2025, Maine has seen 177 pedestrian-involved crashes, resulting in 17 deaths, along with 166 bicycle-involved crashes, including 3 fatalities. These numbers are not just data points. They represent lives lost, families devastated, and communities in mourning.

As always, I ask you to join us. [Give what you can to support our work](#), for our work will continue.

As the seasons shift, I'm filled with gratitude for all of you who ride beside us, in every sense of the word. Together, we're building not just safer streets and stronger communities, but a hopeful vision of a Maine where biking is for everyone, everywhere.

In Solidarity,

Andrew



Rides & Events

WEEK WITHOUT DRIVING



Bike-In Movie
Enjoy a free outdoor screening of *The Muppets* at sunset.

Free Bike Valet
Ride your bike and we'll park it safely while you watch the movie.

Fix-A-Bike Station
Quick tune-ups, safety checks, and winterizing tips from our mechanics.

OCT. 2, 2025
6 PM

Week Without Driving celebrates access, equity, and sustainability. Come walk, roll, or bike — and imagine a Maine built for everyone.



LEARN MORE

CONGRESS SQ PARK PORTLAND



As part of *Week Without Driving*, join us Thursday, October 2 from 6:00 to 8:30 pm for a free, family-friendly **Bike-In Movie Night in Congress Square Park**. We'll kick off with our Fix-A-Bike Station (free tune-ups, safety checks, and winter riding tips) and offer a free bike valet so you can relax and enjoy the evening without worry. As dusk falls, we'll screen *The Muppets* under the stars. Snacks and drinks will be available (while supplies last)—come early, bring your bike, and celebrate life beyond the car with your community. Shout out to our partners Friends of Congress Square Park and Portland Downtown.

The Lobster Roll - October 18

We heard you loud & clear, Midcoast! This year's Lobster Roll is a lighter, scaled-down version of the beloved Lobster Ride—a fun, community-focused event designed to test the waters after hearing strong interest in bringing it back; if the response is strong, we look forward to reviving the full ride in 2026.



[REGISTER HERE](#)

[VOLUNTEER HERE](#)

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS



Education



September was a whirlwind month for our education team—we hit the road with our e-bike demos in Kennebunk, Kennebec Valley, South Portland, Patten, Farmington, Winthrop, Oakfield, Ellsworth, Portland, Hiram, Brunswick, Windsor, Sidney, Wells, Greenville, and Lewiston! Now that school is back in

session, we're shifting gears and bringing Bike Rodeos back to communities across Maine, teaching kids the skills and confidence they need to ride safely.

Earn-a-Bike — BCM's Earn-a-Bike program continues to support low-income Mainers in need of reliable transportation. We host workshops in the Bangor region 1-2 times/month where students learn how to conduct a bicycle tune-up and ride responsibly. Graduates 'earn' a donor bike, helmet, high-vis vest, lights, and lock. A special thank you to all who have donated bikes, made donations, and to our business supporters: [Orono Brewing Company](#), [Acadia Bike](#), and [Elliotsville Foundation Inc.](#)



With school back in session we are seeing an uptick in requests for in-school safety presentations, bicycle rodeos, and Fix-a-Bike events. If your school, university/college, or workplace is interested in hosting a class then please reach out!

And as always, check our [Events Calendar](#) for the latest public education offerings near you — and feel free to add your own.

REQUEST E-BIKE DEMO



Fix-A-Bike & Bike Rodeos

In addition to safety education and rodeos, the BCM offers “Fix a Bike” classes where riders can learn how to repair and maintain their rigs. These are hands-on classes where we provide the tools and guidance so you can work on your



own bike. We also support regional Repair Cafes where you can drop in for repair help on bikes. Check out these upcoming classes!

[Check out our calendar](#) and sign up for a Fix-A-Bike or Bike Rodeo near you!

ON THE GO



On The Go Radio Show

In July, Andrew Zarro and Dan Bassett launched BCM's new radio show on WMPG, the local radio station of the University of Southern Maine. While broadcast reaches the greater Portland area over the airwaves, the show can be heard online via live stream or anytime through their show archive.

In September, we had two amazing shows:

This month on *On The Go*, we had 2 awesome shows where we sat down with Dakota Hewlett from MaineDOT to talk about the state's vision for safer, more connected transportation, and welcomed Jon and Jamie from Portland Trails to share how local trail networks are shaping healthier, more vibrant communities. Tune in to hear how state and local leaders are working to make Maine a better place to walk, bike, and roll.

[Check Out The Archives Here](#)



Advocacy

If you haven't heard, bike lanes are “no longer in the public interest” according to the Department of Transportation.

Secretary Duffy and his agency are sending cancellation notices to communities all across the country, eliminating hundreds of millions of dollars in grants that had been awarded to build bicycling trails, safer sidewalks, and other important transportation safety infrastructure.

Congress must fight back. Tell Senator King and Senator Collins to stand up for safety projects for everyone whether they bike, walk, roll, take transit or drive.

Last week, Secretary Duffy's Transportation Department began sending official notification to communities canceling their grants, stopping some trail projects before they could be completed.

The reason? The **projects were deemed “hostile to cars.”** State and local governments applied for these grants based on the needs and wants of their communities – and they were awarded this funding under the Biden Administration. Now, they are losing those investments, in addition to the economic development and safety improvements they would have funded.

[Contact Senator King](#)

[Contact Senator Collins](#)

Let's be clear about this. Bike lanes save lives.

STATE: The short legislative session in Augusta is just around the corner, and BCM is preparing to re-engage on key carry-over bills while keeping a close watch on new proposals that could help—or hinder—active transportation in Maine.

Our advocacy depends on a strong, informed community, and you can be part of it. **Sign up** to join our Community Spokes network and lend your voice to making Maine's streets safer and more accessible. Together, we can keep the momentum moving forward.

LOCAL: There are local elections coming up next month. Have you checked out who is running for your Council, Selectboard, or School Board and asked them how they intend to support active transportation in your community?

Here are some BCM Approved Questions to Ask Local Candidates:

- *What will you do to make our streets safer for people walking, biking, and rolling?*
- *Do you support investing in sidewalks, bike lanes, and trail connections in our community?*
- *How will you ensure that transportation decisions reflect the needs of all road users—not just cars?*

Safe Streets for All Survey

This summer, Portland, Saco, and South Portland rolled out three temporary road safety projects with support from the U.S. Department of Transportation. Thornton Academy Crossing (Main St., Saco)
Washington Ave. (Ocean Ave. → Veranda St., Portland)
Westbrook St./MacArthur Circle (South Portland)

These installations will remain in place until mid-November 2025 to test how simple, low-cost design changes can make our streets safer for everyone—whether you're walking, biking, taking transit, or driving.

Why it matters: These pilots let us measure real-world impact and gather community feedback **before investing in permanent improvements.**

Take the survey [HERE](#)

Volunteer with Us!

Check out the [Volunteer Page](#) on our website and get involved.

The BCM is looking to re-engage past volunteers and welcome in new friends. Sign up as a general volunteer, volunteer to help at a ride or valet bike parking. You'll also find links to other bike volunteer opportunities around the state. This page will be growing and expanding, so check back often!

The next needed volunteer opportunity is BCMs Lobster Roll!

BECOME A VOLUNTEER



Partner Spotlights



Established in 1999, [Slipping Gears Cycling](#) was the brainchild of Jason Neal. He brought together a group of cycling enthusiasts to form a local cycling team. Corey Odermann started his bike shop career in 2002. Acquaintances for 20 years, becoming good friends along the way, Jason and Corey talked about a dream and a business was born. Opening our doors in April of 2016, Slipping Gears Cycling provides bicycle sales and bicycle service for all types of bikes. Fast forward to Spring of 2018 and it was apparent that another employee was necessary. Eric Bronson stepped up and joined the team! Jump ahead to late 2021 and Matt Cote joined our staff to help us with our continued growth. From full suspension mountain bikes to road bikes and everything in between, Slipping Gears does it all!

We guarantee everything we do! Whether it's a new bike purchase, suspension overhaul on your full suspension mountain bike, new wheel build, hydraulic brake service, or just getting a flat repaired, we stand behind everything we do. We not only guarantee your satisfaction, we guarantee you'll love everything about your Slipping Gears experience!

Welcome New Business Members

Welcome [Kennebec Savings Bank](#)!



Thank You Returning Business Members

Thank you for your continued support [Kelly, Remmel & Zimmerman](#)! KRZ has been a steadfast supporter of BCM and active transportation in Maine, helping countless Mainers. Learn more about their important work [here](#).



KELLY, REMMEL & ZIMMERMAN

Membership Benefits



BCM Membership Perks

- 10% Ride w/ GPS Subscription (Basic or Premium)
- 10% Off at Woods + Waters Gear Exchange
- 20% Off Gear Rentals at Maine Gear Share
- 25% Off Bern Helmets
- FREE Bicycle Benefits Sticker



The Bicycle Coalition of Maine supports better riding, walking, and rolling in Maine through education, advocacy, outreach, and events. As a membership-based organization, the BCM is powered by individual and business donors. Please consider joining as a member or giving an additional donation. Together, we can make Maine better for pedestrians and people with bikes!

Become a Member Today!





Try email marketing for free today!