



JUST Bikes Small Grants Initiative Application

The JUST Bikes Coalition invites individuals and organizations that would like to contribute to local, neighborhood-based efforts to support equity in active transportation, with a special focus on safe and comfortable access to bicycling.

JUST Bikes Coalition envisions a community where all people feel safe and empowered using a bicycle regardless of their racial or socioeconomic status. Our mission is to co-conspire and collaborate with communities of color by addressing equity issues through the use of bikes.

The Goals

The Small Grants initiative is intended to have a positive impact on communities of color in Dane County that are eager to join the cycling community and enjoy its multiple opportunities, such as fitness, transportation and recreation, among others. *Specifically:*

- To act as a technical support hub and put all the coalition's resources available for community efforts
- To offer free administrative support to community members or organizations that would like to participate but don't meet all requirements to apply for grants by themselves

Financial Agent

Representing the entire coalition, and agreeing to honor all requirements of this program, the following 501(c)(3) non-profit organization has agreed to act as Financial Agent:

Organization Name: Bike Fitchburg, Inc., 2995 Sub-Zero Pkwy, Fitchburg, WI 53719

Contact person: Steve Arnold, Treasurer, (608) 239-3900 <steve.arnold@fitchburg.wi.us>

Use of Funds

The Financial Agent, on behalf of the JUST Bikes Coalition, will receive, hold, and disperse grant funds for project expenses. For the initial grant cycle, up to \$5,000 from the Dane County Bicycle Association and \$750 from Madison Bikes, a total of \$5,750, will be awarded. All funds will be spent on community project expenses. No funds will be used for administrative purposes. JUST Bikes Coalition organizational and individual members are not eligible for these grants.

Methodology

The JUST Bikes Coalition is announcing an application process for the community members to apply for small grants. If applications exceed the available funds, all applicants will be invited to a virtual meeting,

moderated by a JUST Bikes Coalition member, where they can prioritize funds themselves using rank choice voting.

A single grant cycle has been funded for the spring of 2021, with a total of \$5,750 available.

- Applications due Monday, May 17th or until the available funds for this cycle are exhausted. Selection process on Tuesday, May 18th.
- Results will be available the week of May 24th.
- Implementation runs from May to November of the same year.
- A report is due December 31st of the same year.
- If funding becomes available, there will be another cycle of grants.

Eligibility

In order to be eligible for these funds, projects must meet the following criteria:

- Projects must be led by and benefit People of Color and/or people from Tribes/Native Nations.
- The project goal must align with “supporting biking at a local/neighborhood level”.
- Submit a single paragraph describing your project: dream big, but start small. Tell us how this project will impact your community in the long term.
- Include a rough budget to explain your use of the requested funds.
- Funds can be used for organizing events, purchasing goods, and paying stipends.
- Prioritize positive impact on communities of color: empower and include the community members. Their input and work must be compensated as part of the plan.
- Aim for sustainability: will you be able to sustain these efforts in the following years? Tell us about it.
- Project proposals must comply with current public health requirements.
- Successful applicants will be asked for a report at the end of the year. The purpose is to understand the impact the project made and what things could go better next time. There will be no micromanagement during the year.
- Each applicant can only be granted funds once per funding cycle.
- JUST Bikes will consider one small grant of up to \$2,500. Additional grants this spring cycle may request up to \$1,000.

Examples of possible projects

Any and all community projects that involve bicycling will be considered. Need some help choosing a project idea? See below for a list of possible projects and feel free to build yours around one of these concepts. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we are open to receive remote and virtual project proposals and other public-health-compliant events.

- Neighborhood bike-ability audit
- Themed community bike ride
- Bike rodeo (bicycle safety skills workshop for kids)
- Learn-to-Ride event for children, youth, or adults
- Bike to work, bike to the park, bike to (other place) campaign
- Basic bike repair workshops
- Possible start-ups: cargo bikes use, bike-sharing programs
- Advocate training
- Bike parking for your community
- Almost anything else you can imagine!

Contact us if you want input, guidance, or support.

Contact Point

To apply, and for any questions that may arise during the process, please contact Pepe Barros, (414) 242-7064 <pepe@downwithbikes.org>.

Thank you so much for your consideration.

Very truly yours,
JUST Bikes Coalition

Coalition members

Wisconsin Bike Fed, Greater Madison MPO, Bike Fitchburg, BikEquity Inc., Down with Bikes, FB4K Madison, the Healthy Kids Collaborative, the Madison Community Schools, the Boys and Girls Club of Dane County, Wheels for Winners, Tri 4 Schools, Dream Bikes, City of Madison, Madison Bikes, the Latino Academy for Workforce Development, Padres e Hijos en Acción, and other interested individuals.