



WE Bike NYC 2020 Annual Report

The year 2020 brought unexpected changes for the world and for WE Bike NYC. When the Covid-19 pandemic arrived in New York City in March, WE Bike NYC canceled all of our planned in-person events. WE ultimately made the decision to suspend all in-person rides and events for the entire year to help keep our volunteers and community safe.

The pandemic did not prevent us from continuing our efforts to build community, however. Virtual programming and social media have allowed us to keep our community engaged and educated while reaching a wider audience. In 2020 our Facebook forum flourished and grew, we held monthly online happy hours attracting a range of new and returning faces, and we tried out new projects and programs.

WE Ride

Although WE did not hold any group rides this year, our community continued to ride bikes. In September, WE participated in the National Bike Challenge Cycle September event. **25** people joined team WE Bike NYC and biked a total of **6,438 miles** over the course of the month.

WE Learn

WE organized one in-person new workshop before the pandemic began: bike commuting in all seasons. In the fall, this workshop was repeated online. The online version attracted **40** attendees and included a lively Q&A.

WE Socialize

WE kept up our tradition of hosting a Happy Hour on the third Thursday of every month, and pivoted to virtual when the pandemic began. **Over 75** people joined our happy hours this year.

WE Partner

This year we continued our partnerships with **Citi Bike** by distributing free Citi Bike day passes to our community. **Thirty** passes have been distributed to date.

WE also partnered with **DOT** to distribute free bike helmets. Our volunteers fitted and distributed **41** helmets to adults and kids in a safe, socially-distant manner in Long Island City in partnership with **Recycle-a-Bicycle**. Additionally, one of our volunteers helped to coordinate other distribution events in Prospect Lefferts Gardens, Bensonhurst, Park Slope, Woodside, Jamaica, Far Rockaway. Almost **1500** helmets were distributed.

WE rekindled our relationship with **Mujeres en Movimiento** and hope to host some bilingual events in the coming year.

WE Connect

Our online community has grown significantly this year. Our Facebook forum, the **Female Bike Forum**, has grown by approximately **600 members** and has been very active, with many new cyclists asking questions and connecting with other riders. Our monthly newsletter reach has continued to grow, and we've included a new **Bike Tip of the Month** feature.

WE Advocate

Over the summer, protests against police brutality spread throughout the city, with many protesters bringing their bikes. In response, WE Bike NYC put together a detailed guide on how to use your bike as a protest tool. This guide was later published in the **Cyclista Zine**. WE also put out a statement in support of **Black Lives Matter**.

In October, in honor of breast cancer month and metastatic breast cancer awareness day, WE held a fundraiser led by a volunteer survivor. WE raised **\$865** for metastatic breast cancer research.

WE signed on to support **Transportation Alternatives'** Open Streets letter and **CityRise** to support the safe, equitable transformation of streets as NYC recovers from the pandemic.

WE Parent on Two Wheels

Our **Moms on Wheels** Facebook forum has continued to grow and provide a valuable resource for parents with questions about biking with their kids.

WE Lead

WE have continued our participation on the **Lyft/DOT Equity Advisory Board** to guide Citi Bike's expansion in an equitable way.

WE were interviewed by the ***New York Times***

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/08/18/realestate/new-york-bike-storage-headache.html>

Quotes

To date, WE Bike NYC has distributed 30 codes to eager riders responding to a promotion we posted on August 24, 2020 in our Female Bike Forum. The responses came from a wide range of people with a wide range of needs and intended uses. It was a pleasure to know that the codes were meaningful to them—as essential workers, as students, as friends helping friends, as New Yorkers in need of exercise, as potential bike commuters looking at options.

Below, some of our favorite heartfelt requests:

I'm an essential worker and I'll be using it to commute from Port Authority to work and then back from work to Port Authority. - Christine

As a college student I would use it to ride around the city on a day when I don't have any classes. - Karen

Please send me a code...I have a friend who would use it. - Alison

I need it for another rider who's bikeless. - Lisa

I'd like to add biking to my daily long walks. - Gisela

I'll have one if they're still available... wanna take a friend out on the bikes!! - Daniela

I'm going to be going back to work soon and would like to see if commuting by Citi Bike is for me! - Monica

*My roommate and I want to go on a bike ride for her birthday and her bike is in the shop!
- Lucy*

Financial Statement

As an all-volunteer nonprofit, WE Bike NYC organizes all of our programs on a shoestring budget. Here are our numbers from 2020:

Total funds raised: \$5,223

Total expenses: \$1,278

Imagine what we could do with a larger budget! To support the work of WE Bike NYC, visit <http://webikenyc.org/support-us>.

WE Thank

In July, 2020 Colorado-based journalist and cyclist [Micah Ling](#) rode 100 miles on a Citi Bike to support organizations helping to grow an inclusive bike community. Ling's [Citi Bike Century](#) fundraising ride raised \$1100 for WE Bike NYC, which was matched by Citi Bike. WE thank Micah Ling and Citi Bike for their support of WE Bike NYC's mission.

WE Bike NYC Board of Directors:

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