

Student Sustainability Committee Funding Application Step I

Funding Criteria

A. General Rules

- 1. Students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to submit requests for funding. Student-led projects require a faculty or staff sponsor in order to have funds awarded.
- 2. Funding can only go to university-affiliated projects from students, faculty, staff, and departments.
- 3. All SSC projects must make a substantial impact on students. All SSC funding is 100% from student campus green fees, the projects funded by the students must benefit them.
- 4. SSC, iSEE (Institute for Sustainability, Energy, Environment), and F&S (Facilities and Services) reserve the right to deny a project if it is deemed not feasible.

B. Things SSC Can Fund, On A Case-By-Case Basis

- 1. SSC can fund feasibility studies and design work; however, it must work toward ultimately addressing a sustainability need on campus.
- 2. SSC can fund staff positions that are related to improving campus sustainability. Strong preference will be given to proposals receiving matching funding from departments and/or plans for maintaining the continuity of the position after the end of the initial grant.
- 3. SSC can fund outreach events with a central theme of sustainability, provided their primary audience is the general campus community.
- 4. SSC discourages requests for food and prizes but will consider proposals on a case-by-case basis.
- 5. SSC can fund repairs and improvements to existing building systems as long as it works toward the goal of improving campus sustainability.

C. Things SSC Will Not Fund:

- 1. SSC will not fund projects with a primary end goal of generating revenue for non-University entities.
- 2. SSC will not fund any travel expenses, including personal lodging, food and beverage, rental vehicles, and mileage reimbursement.

3. SSC will not fund tuition or other forms of personal financial assistance

Instructions:

Please adhere to the session word counts. Project leads must attend one SSC working group meeting post step 1 application submission. If you have any questions about the application process, please contact the SSC at <u>Sustainability-Committee@illinois.edu</u>.

1. Project Name: *

Shipping Containers for Bike Storage

2. Total Funding Requested From the SSC. *

\$85,000

3. Project Lead Full Name: *

Tushar Kokitkar

4. Project Abstract: (In less than 100 words, briefly describe the project.) *

This proposal requests the purchase of 6 to 7 shipping containers, which can store up to 350 bikes. These containers will be located by the Abbott Power Plant and the Illinois Human Resources building close to the intersection of Gregory Dr and Oak St. The location is ideal for bike storage as it offers easy accessibility by bus and is situated across the Campus Bike Center. These storage units will serve the purpose of storing abandoned bikes and provide seasonal storage for bikes during breaks for students who do not have access to covered bike parking. The total estimated cost for the project is \$85,000.

- 5. Project Category *
 - Education & Justice

Energy

Food & Waste

Land, Air & Water

Transportation & Infrastructure

Project Team Member List (student projects must include their faculty/staff advisors info)

Project Lead

6. Full Name: *

Tushar Tanaji Kokitkar

7. RSO/Department *

Department of Urban and Regional Planning

8. University Email Address: *

tushark3@illinois.edu

9. Do you have a faculty/staff advisor? *





Project Team Member List (student projects must include their faculty/staff advisors info)

Faculty or Staff Advisor

10. Full Name: *

Sarthak Prasad

11. RSO/Department *

F&S

12. University Email Address: *

sprasad9@illinois.edu

13. Do you have additional members? *



🔵 No

Project Team Member List (student projects must include their faculty/staff advisors info)

Additional Member

14. Full Name:

Hrushikesh Chavan

15. RSO/Department

School of Architecture

16. University Email Address:

hchavan2@illinois.edu

17. Do you have additional Members? *

Yes

No

Project Questionnaire:

18. Please see attached file, fill out the detailed budget and timeline Excel sheet, and submit it below.

https://studentengagement.illinois.edu/student-sustainability/ssc/docs/SSC-Supplemental-Budget-Timeline.xlsx

(Non-anonymous question⁽ⁱ⁾) *



Shipping containers for bike storage-SSC-Supp.xlsx

19. Are you aware that the SSC requires all projects to attend one working group meeting to present their project? *



No

20. Is this project student led? *



No

- 21. If applicable, have you received approval from Facilities & Services and/or site manager?
 *
 - Yes
 - 🔵 No
 - 🔵 N/A
- 22. Do you have a plan for ongoing funding beyond SSC? (SSC cannot guarantee ongoing financial support)

Yes		Yes	
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No

- 23. Beyond SSC, do you have sources contributing funding or support (ex. staff time, external grants, etc.) to this project?
 - Yes

) No

- 24. Have you applied for SSC funding previously?
 - 🔵 Yes

*

- 🔵 No
- 25. Project Timeline:

(SSC funding agreements remain active for two years. List your project's

timeline and/or milestones.)

*

Architecture review committee site approval - 31-10-2023 Install rock bed at the site - Start of spring - 31-03-2024 Requesting quotes to purchase shipping containers - 2 weeks from award - 15-01-2024 Get a purchase order - 3- 4 weeks from quote - 15-02-2024 Receiving the shipping containers - 4- 6 weeks from purchase order - 31-03-2024 Installing bike hooks in the bike storage - 2- 3 weeks after receiving shipping containers - 21-04-2024 Installing bike storage on the approved site location - 2 weeks after installing bike hooks in the storage - 04-05-2024

26. Project Description:

(In 250 words or less, describe your project. What does your project hope to accomplish? What are your project's deliverables?)

In summer 2023, approximately 250 bicycles were found abandoned and impounded on campus, of which, 24 bicycles were reclaimed by students. The abandoned bicycles were stored temporarily at Round Barns on St Mary's Rd. The remaining 224 bikes have been donated to the Campus Bike Center and The Bike Project of Urbana-Campaign. However, the Round Barns will not be available for bike storage next year necessitating the need for an alternative bike storage solution.

This proposal requests the purchase of 6 to 7 shipping containers, which can store up to 350 bikes. These containers will be located by the Abbott Power Plant and the Illinois Human Resources building close to the intersection of Gregory Dr and Oak St.

The location is ideal for bike storage as it offers easy accessibility by bus and is situated across the Campus Bike Center, very conveniently on campus. These storage units will serve the purpose of storing abandoned bikes and provide seasonal storage for bikes during breaks for students who do not have access to covered bike parking.

The funding will cover the construction of a rock bed, the purchase and installation of 6 to 7 shipping containers, and the installation of bike hooks within these containers. This will provide a long-term solution to store abandoned bikes over the summer and a seasonal storage for bicycles on campus, preventing cluttering of bikes on campus during summer, deterioration of bikes, and help keep our campus clean. This project will contribute towards reducing bike waste on campus and provides a sustainable approach by donating bikes for reuse.

This project directly aligns with the iCAP Objective 3.4.2. Implement Campus Bike Plan to provide seasonal storage for bicycles and encourage the use of bicycles as a sustainable mode of transport.

The total estimated cost for the project is \$85,000 of which the estimated cost for the purchase and installation of shipping containers is \$40,000, the cost for installation of bike hooks is \$20,000 and the remaining \$25,000 is estimated to be the cost for the installation of rock bed.

27. Environmental Impact:

(In 200 words or less, how does your project increase environmental

stewardship at UIUC? If applicable, what is the carbon, water, waste, and/or energy savings?)

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In 2022 and 2023, approximately 500 and 250 bikes, respectively, were found abandoned on campus over the summer breaks. Students, faculty, and staff are not allowed to leave their bicycles on campus over the summer. So providing a summer storage will help with reduction in bicycles left on campus. The abandoned bicycles deteriorate by rust rendering them unusable for the subsequent terms. This contributes to an increase in the campus waste.

The proposed bike storage located near the Campus Bike Center aims to preserve these abandoned bikes until they are reclaimed by students next term or donated to the Campus bike center and The Bike Project of Urbana-Champaign. This initiative not only helps maintain but also encourages bicycling on campus, as most students utilizing the storage facility will have a bike available for the next term.

The storage facility will help reduce waste on campus generated by abandoned bikes that deteriorate due to long exposure to weather and require disposal.

The unclaimed bicycles are donated to the Campus Bike Center and the Bike Project of Urbana-Champaign, where they are refurbished and sold. Some bicycles are used for their Build-a-Bike program. Some bicycles cannot be fixed for reuse, so their parts are recycled and/or reused in other bicycles.

28. iCAP Objective Correspondence:

(In 200 words or less, does your project aim to advance one or more of the Illinois Climate Action Plan's (iCAP) objectives? If so, how?)

A full list can be found here: <u>https://icap.sustainability.illinois.edu/objectives</u>

The project aligns with the iCAP 2020 objective 3.4.2 Implement Campus Bike Plan. It also adheres to the Campus Bike Plan objective to provide seasonal storage for bicycles and encourage the use of bicycles as a sustainable mode of transport.

29. Student Impact:

(In 200 words or less, how will this project benefit students? How will students be involved with this project? What educational components are in your project?)

*

In the fall of 2023, more than 56,000 students enrolled at the University of Illinois. The proposed bike storage facility will provide these students a convenient and safe space to store their bikes during seasonal breaks and ensure they can use them in the subsequent terms.

Any remaining abandoned bikes that are collected will be donated to the campus bike center, located across the proposed bike storage, which in turn refurbish bikes if required and sell them to students.

The strategic location of the bike storage within the campus and across the Campus Bike Center,

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serves the purpose of accommodating student-owned bikes, hence maintaining the bike ridership on campus. This initiative not only supports current bike riders but also encourages new students to use bikes as a means of commuting for classes and work. As a master's student, I benefit from the educational experience of working on a grant-writing process and on-site experience by learning about the construction and implementation process of this project, if funded. This experience would help me launch my career in the field of active transportation.

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