# STUDENT SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

# **Semesterly Report**

Thank you for your commitment to green initiatives at the University of Illinois. One of the ongoing requirements listed in the terms of the funding agreement for your project is the submission of semesterly reports with key information about your project. In addition to this form, please provide additional financial documentation and/or progress photos if available.

Please be as accurate as possible in describing the project (including possible setbacks or challenges in meeting the initial goals of the project). Not fully meeting your project's goals will not disqualify you from making future funding requests as long as your reports are as complete and accurate as possible. If you have any questions, please contact the Student Sustainability Committee, at <u>sustainability-committee@illinois.edu</u>.

Project Name: Bike Registration Signs 2.0

Date of Report Submission: Please select the date of submission for this report.

#### **Project Purpose:**

This project is a part of the iCAP initiative to reduce emissions in the transportation sector of campus sustainability and to implement the 2014 Campus Bicycle Master Plan. One objective in the 2014 Campus Bike Plan is to increase bicycle registration. With the increased thefts of bicycles on and around campus, new students are more reluctant to bring a bicycle to campus, and thus they rely more on less sustainable modes of transportations. By registering your bicycles in the University of Illinois' system, the user receives a Registration Tag (529 Shield), which increases the chances of recovery in case of theft. This project aims to educate students, faculty, and staff on the other benefits of bike registration and create a larger database to increase the chances of bicycle recovery and help the campus plan for future bicycle infrastructure. This project's current aim is to create signs/posters to place around campus, mainly near bike racks, to increase this awareness.

#### **Detailed Accounting of Expenditures to Date:**

SSC had awarded \$1,200 in the spring 2021 to create and install bike registration signs to the Priority 1 high traffic bike parking locations on-campus. The installation cost for these signs was much higher than anticipated, due to which we have incurred a deficit of nearly \$3600.

This is part of the new SSC Funding Request to install signs to the Priority 2 locations and to cover the deficit from the previous funding cycle. The funding for this project report was a total of \$4,732.

**Commented [PS1]:** This Semesterly Report is only for the new funding that we have received. The Funding letter call this project "Bike Registration Signs 2.0." The previous one was called "Bike registration Signs".

Commented [PS2]: The date you will send it to the SSC

We are still awaiting estimates for the signs and labor costs., We have balanced the account for the first round of funding that went to our previous project (Bike Registration Signs). We are using the remaining funds to cover the costs or the remaining priority two locations.

We will install new bike registration signs to the FAR, PAR, and two other priority 2 high traffic bike parking areas in fall 2022.

### **Project Progress to Date:**

The project's progress and environmental outcomes will be monitored through my own timeline. When I applied for funding, we were in a deficit of \$3,600. This funding will cover the deficits and provide funding for Priority 2 signs.

I already researched campus hot spots and locations to promote bike registration. By late January 2021, I finalized the design of the signs. By early August, we got Housing's support and approval for placing most of our signs by the residence halls. And, by late August, we had confirmation that we could put up signs at all the locations we had listed and we provided instruction on which way the signs will face, and the exact location they will go. Sign production and placement was delayed a bit, but, by November 29<sup>th</sup> we had 15 signs and posts up at all our Priority 1 locations. We still have about 8 approved locations to fabricate and install these signs.

With this funding, we are making sure all Priority 1, and some of Priority 2, locations are installed by the end of Fall 2022.

We are tracking the number of students who end up registering their bikes—in which we already see an increase. During the last month of 2021, we recieved 12 bike registrations, which a significant increase for our winter months. We will continue to track these numbers.

#### Student Involvement and Outreach to Date:

This project aims to educate students on the benefits of bike registration and their impact on the environment. But more importantly, they will get the benefits of registering their bikes like life-long and nationwide protection, easy retrieval after theft, and immediate notification from campus police and related departments of any information on their bikes. They will also be in the database to receive important bicycle-related announcements from the University. Students will receive all this information from the signs/posters and during their one-time registration process.

Personally, I have learned a lot from this project. This was my first time working on a project of this scale, which meant it was also my first time requesting funding from an organization. I got to interact with a lot of different departments on campus while getting approval and following the steps in my timeline. The experience was invaluable, especially as student who usually doesn't usually get to parttake in all the innerworkings of getting a project of this scale to work.

#### Marketing and Promotion Efforts to Date:

In early February of 2021, we were able to get the iSEE Newsletter to dedicate a page to Bicycle Registration on campus, and we planned on getting more newsletters on campus to include our flier too. On October 12<sup>th</sup>, we had a booth set up at SSC's Green Quad Day. We got students to register their bikes and showcased our initiative. On November 29<sup>th</sup>, the iCAP Portal detailed the end product of 15 of our bike registration signs being installed at our Priority 1 locations. The portal also showcased our flier and a detailed page dedicated to the entire project (seen in this link: <u>Bicycle Registration (Ongoing) | iCAP Portal | University of Illinois</u>). The Bike At Illinois website also displays the focus of our project, and easy-to-follow steps on how to register your bike. With these promotion efforts, we hope to see a rise in overall bike registrations on campus.

# Additional Comments:

As mentioned earlier in this report, we have Priority 1 and Priority 2 locations where we want to place these signs. I have already requested extra funding to complete all the Priority 2 locations (including Priority 1 locations of FAR and PAR that we missed) and cover the deficit costs. The two Priority 2 locations that currently have signs are the ARC and the Illini Union (North and South side bike parking areas). I have provided our Priority 1 and 2 lists below:

#### First Priority:

- 1. Snyder Hall (Bike Rack ID 50 + 51) between these two bike rack areas by the sidewalk
- 2. Weston Hall (Bike Rack ID 54) at the East end of the bike parking area
- 3. Bike Shelter (new) by Flagg Hall near the West entrance
- 4. Nugent Hall (398) North of the Bike rack parking area (east of the south entrance)
- 5. Hopkins Hall (435) On the existing (load bearing) post covered bike parking
- 6. Bousfield Hall (135) On the existing (load bearing) post covered bike parking
- 7. South of Wassaja Hall (45) On the existing (load bearing) post covered bike parking
- 8. Busey Evans (157) Closer to Goodwin Ave by NW side of the bike rack closer to the North entrance
- 9. Allen Hall (168) At the bike rack area exit closest to the entrance to Allen Hall
- 10. LAR (166) High traffic area, closest to the north entrance
- 11. ISR (new bike racks on North side) Closer to the bike parking area exit closer to the North side entrance
- 12. ISR (409) At the entrance to the bike parking area (64 bike racks here)
- 13. Illini Union South (394) close to the back entrance to the Illini Union
- 14. FAR (missed)
- 15. PAR (missed)

# Second Priority:

- 1. Illini Union North (new bike racks) Place the sign at the intersection of the two racks. closest to the entrance to Illini Union
- 2. ARC (1) Place the sign close to the entrance to ARC
- 3. Grainger Library
- 4. South Quad
- 5. Transit Plaza/Bookstore

- 6. Armory
- 7. Main Library (South)
- 8. Main Library (North)

Finally, I want to extend a huge thanks to SSC for funding this project and seeing the benefits of it. I hope to submit a Final Report once we install signs to all Priority 1 and Priority 2 locations detailing all the progress we have made since the beginning of this project.