

THIS BIKE WILL MOVE YOU

THINGS YOU CAN HAUL BY BIKE: KIDS, GROCERIES, CAMPING gear. But a sofa? *Huh?* That was the reaction of Silicon Valley Bike Coalition employees last fall when its executive director, Corrine Winter, suggested they relocate their office across town by bicycle. Yet when moving day came, the staff and 25 volunteers cruised through San Jose's Willow Glen neighborhood with desks, chairs and other office supplies—including two couches—strapped onto racks and trailers. The group rode 3.4 miles to its new digs downtown, then turned around and made a second trip to finish the job. "It ended up being easy," says Winter. "We could load 25 bikes at a time instead of one van, and we could pull up to the front door, so there was less carrying." Here are the group's tips for staging your own bike move.

- **Consider your route** Hills can be an issue with heavy loads, and less traffic always makes for a more enjoyable ride.
- **Get creative** During the SVBC move, a rider pulled an animal crate



stuffed with paper, pens and mugs; one volunteer flipped a bookcase on its back and filled the shelves with boxes; another tied a dolly to his trailer to tow beer. Not feeling so inventive? Check out the cargo bikes reviewed on page 86.

- **Prep your equipment** Pump tires, tighten brakes, check all bolts and test your knots and bungee cords; you don't want a sofa taking off on its own down a hill.
- **Pack small** Little boxes fit better under chairs, in panniers and between children.
- **Feed your riders** And don't forget the beer.—Michelle Hamilton

Hot List

*RICHMOND, VA, put in a bid to host the World Road Cycling Championships in 2015. If successful, the River City would be the first in this country to host the event in 25 years. richmond2015.com



*The film *BIKE RACE*—in which two friends stage a competition to determine the best rider of all time, Lance or Eddy—was screened at the Sundance Film Festival in January.

*Phil Liggett, Paul Sherwen and Bob Roll will return to the West Coast May 15 to 22 to provide live coverage of the TOUR OF CALIFORNIA for Versus. Also, stage highlights will air each night at 11 p.m. EDT.

SCARY SAFE

GO AHEAD, PONY UP FOR THAT SANTA CRUZ BLUR: Opting for a pricier mountain bike might prevent your next ride from ending with a trip to the emergency room. So concludes a recent study by the Center for Injury Research and Policy in Columbus, Ohio. Researchers analyzed data from 100 hospitals across the country to track mountain-bike injuries. Despite the growth of gravity-fueled riding at ski areas and other seemingly hazardous offshoots of the sport, trips to the ER by mountain bikers decreased by 45 percent between 1994 and 2007.

While the study's authors attribute some of the decrease to a slight downturn in the number of riders hitting the trails, they also theorize that technologically advanced bikes with disc brakes, stronger frames and rear suspension have reduced the risk of riding.—Lou Mazzante

Jersey of the Month

TWIN SIX ARGYLE

If you've decided to join the tribe of people who dress to match their bike—probably some combination of red, black and white if you bought yours in the past few years—you might as well do it with star power. Made in the U.S. S-XXXL (men), S-XXL (women); \$75; twinsix.com

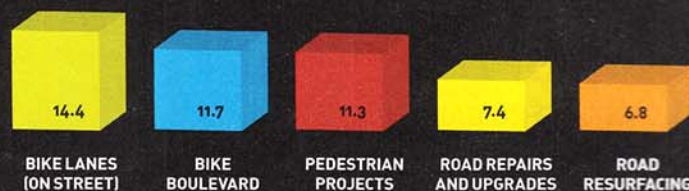


SHARE THE LOVE

AN INNOVATIVE BIKE-SHARING PROGRAM COULD MAKE renting more convenient than ever. New York City-based Social Bicycles (socialbicycles.com) is developing a GPS-enabled locking system that would allow a rider to dock a bike at any rack he finds instead of having to return it at a special kiosk. For around \$10 a month, SoBi says members will be able to locate bikes using an iPhone or Android app and unlock them by entering a code at the lock box. The company built and tested its prototype devices in New York City last winter, and plans to launch a pilot program at Indiana University, in Bloomington, this fall.—Mary O'Reilly

TO WORK, WE RIDE

Besides leading to decreased pollution, new research indicates bike lanes can help reduce unemployment. Here's how many new jobs transportation projects in Baltimore generated per \$1 million spent.



Source: "Estimating the Employment Impacts of Pedestrian, Bicycle, and Road Infrastructure," by Heidi Garrett-Peltier of the University of Massachusetts, Dec. 2010