



Photos by Ana Exterovich

**By Anthony Rafael Casagrande,
Mobile Bike Repair Manager**

2025 saw the Bike Fed conduct a 12th consecutive year of Mobile Bike Repair in Milwaukee, using a cargo bike and training teen mechanics to pop up temporary full-service bike shops in areas without access to traditional bike repair. We continued our strong partnership with Milwaukee Recreation to host 7 of our 8 core weeks of programming at local playfields, with over a dozen more days hosted by various other organizations and community partners. This resulted in over 575 fixed bikes for free across 30 locations at a total of 50 pop-up bike repair events between June and September, providing safe and reliable options for transportation and recreation to residents across the city!

This represents a large increase in the number of bikes repaired as compared to last

year, without greatly increasing our number of sites or events. Most of this can be accounted for by our increased involvement in a single event: 2025's Sixteenth Street Bike Day. Each summer for the past 14 years, Sixteenth Street Community Health Centers on the south side of Milwaukee has hosted a large summer bike giveaway and resource fair. This year's event at Kosciuszko Park saw over 400 bikes given away, most of which were collected at the Lake Express Ferry's annual Earth Day bike drive. Prior years had seen various bike shops and organizations handle repairs on the donated bikes, and this year the Bike Fed's Milwaukee Mobile Bike Repair team took the lead. With a mix of paid staff and several additional volunteers, we fixed well over 200 bikes at this event alone. Given the success, we hope to continue our involvement in such large scale bike events in future years!

575+
BIKES FIXED

230+
BIKES GIVEN AWAY

50+ | **30+**
EVENTS | LOCATIONS

STORIES

Students who participated in our programs at the high school level were once again an integral part of our paid repair team. When the time came for job applications in the spring, Bike Fed staff distributed information to all Milwaukee area high school sites where we had taught classes in the previous year. Arpri Johnson was a graduate from Project STAY, an MPS alternative school, and she had taken a two week long course facilitated by the Bike Fed that included on-bike safety lessons, supervised neighborhood rides, and basic bike mechanic training. After earning a bike from the class, she continued to use it to commute to school, and she was excited to apply for the paid mechanic position when it became available.

Another of our mechanics, Eric Arriola, first participated in a module the Bike Fed taught as a part of Escuela Verde's service learning week in 2021. Each year, students at EV gain skills to apply to various volunteer projects, and that year, the project included several days of bike mechanic training which was then applied to host free repairs for their classmates, families, and neighbors, in addition to tuning up EV's own bike fleet. Soon thereafter, Eric became certified through the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Milwaukee's BIKE SHOP program, which included 2 more months of mechanic training followed by 2 month paid internships at both the Bublr bike share and not-for-profit local bike shop Dreambikes. Fast forward to 2024, and Eric graduated from EV and was hired to assist Alora Correa, our Milwaukee High School Programs Manager, with bike education and maintenance. The following summer, he proceeded to spend dozens of days with our 2025 MKEMBR team learning how to prepare for and conduct successful community repairs, including organizing materials and transporting them on the Bike Fed's second cargo bike.

We have not had two simultaneous sites running since 2019, before the COVID-19 pandemic disrupted programming, when that second cargo bike supported a full second bike repair team. We hope that mechanics like Eric and Arpri whom we have impacted through our elementary and high school programming in the area will enable us to once again expand our reach to serve a broader swath of the Milwaukee community.



At each playfield site, we also piloted a new coordinated effort with MilWALKee Walks, the Bike Fed's pedestrian education and outreach program in Milwaukee County. Staff provided free activities for young people relating to imagining and building safer and more vibrant transportation networks, as well as additional engagement opportunities for families to learn about the City of Milwaukee's Vision Zero Initiative to eliminate deaths from traffic violence. We spoke to people of all ages regarding their concerns about biking and walking near the playfields, answering questions and distributing information about new and upcoming infrastructure, and suggesting safer routes between home, school, parks, and other places of interest around the city.

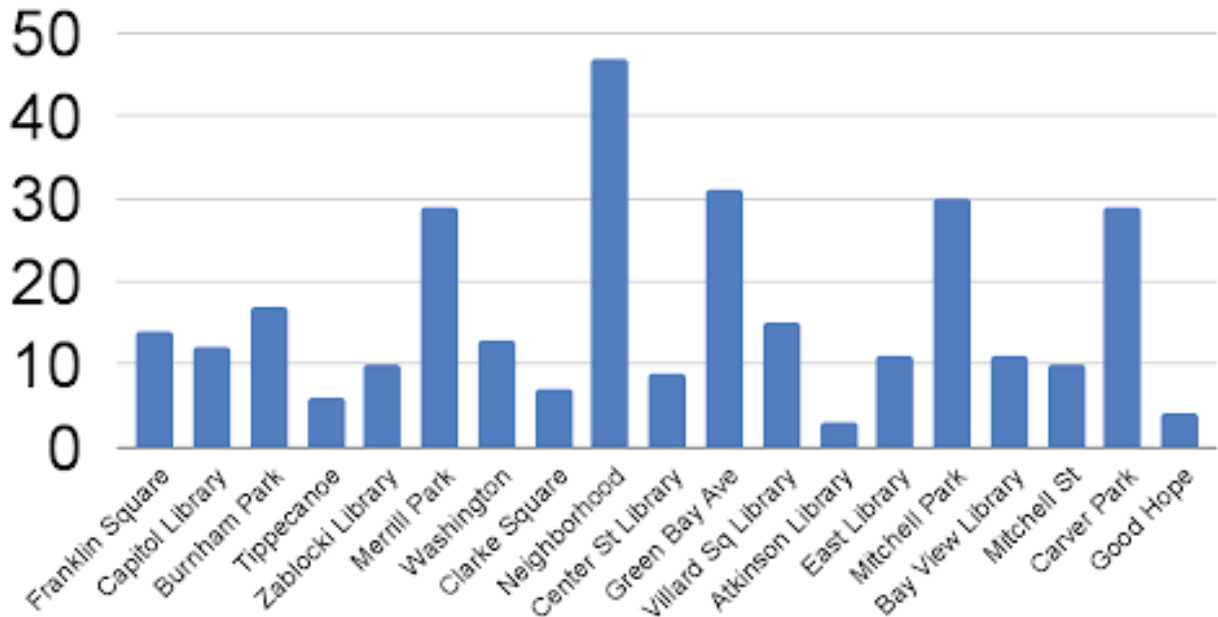
All of these connections support a stronger and safer future for the city, starting with its young people. By providing opportunities to learn skills, help their communities, and become engaged with improving their built environments, Mobile Bike Repair is truly cultivating the next generation of Milwaukeeans to make it a better place to live and bike!

Thanks to all who made this possible by providing their material support and time: Fleckenstein Foundation, Milwaukee Recreation, Milwaukee Public Library, Neighborhood House of Milwaukee, Colliers Milwaukee, Happy eBikes, Rebel Converting, Lake Express Ferry, City of Milwaukee, City of Glendale, Village of Elm Grove, Village of Whitefish Bay, Urban Ecology Center, Truly Spoken Cycles, Dreambikes Milwaukee, Vulture Space, and so many other individual donors, supporters, partners, and volunteers.

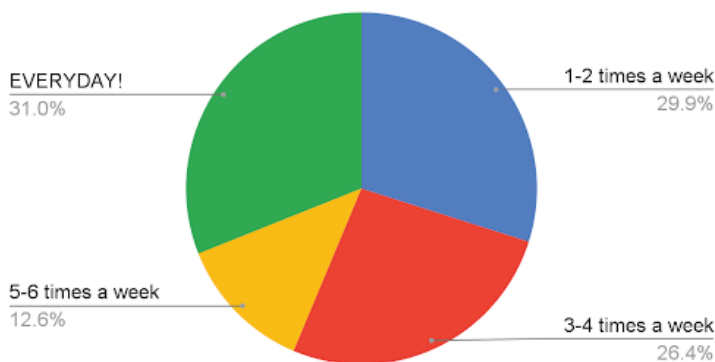


2025 MBR SURVEY RESULTS

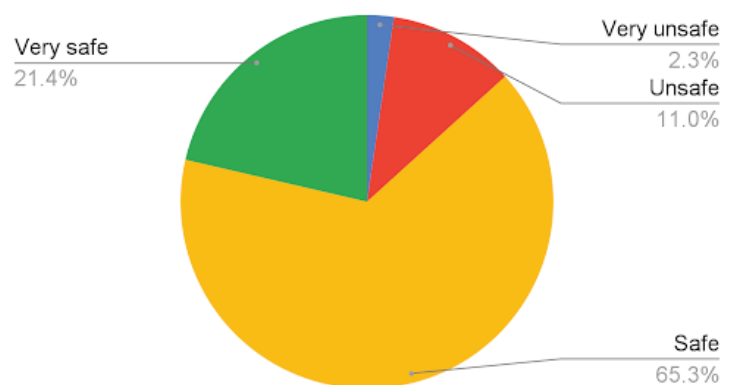
BIKES FIXED AT EACH SITE



HOW OFTEN DO YOU RIDE YOUR BIKE?

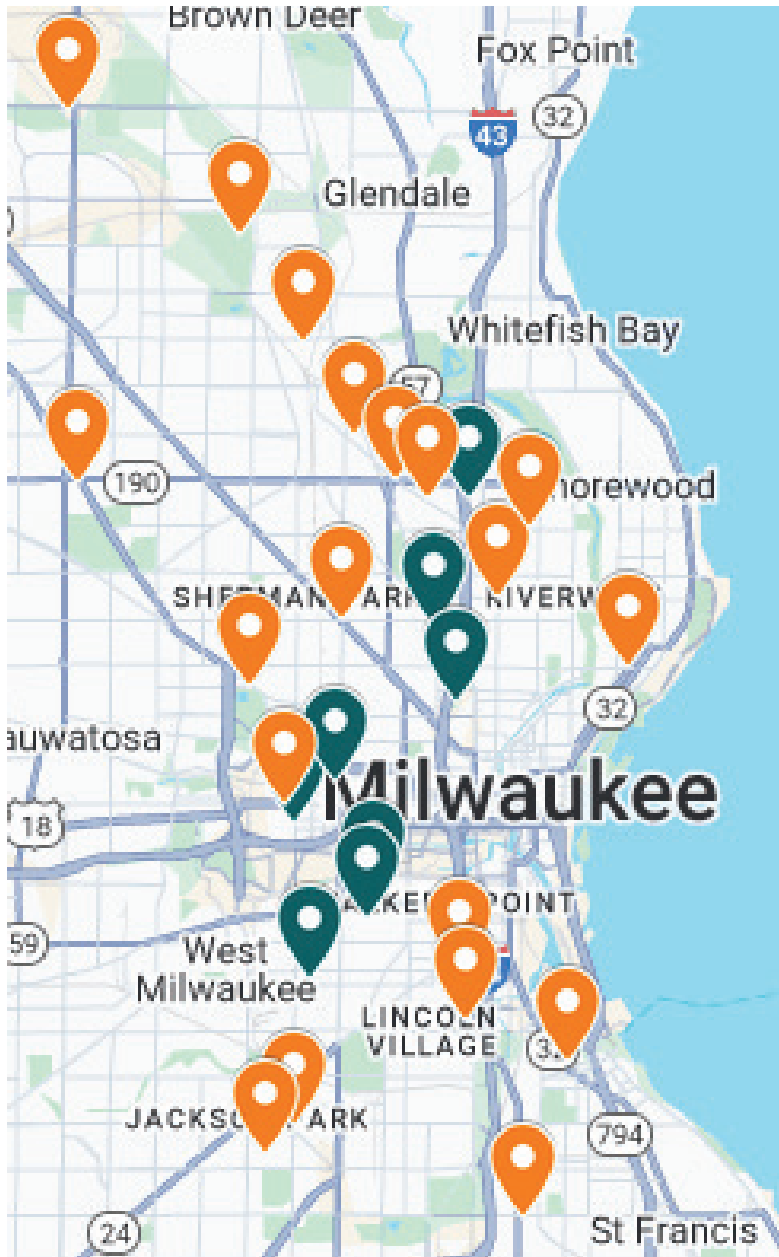


HOW SAFE DO YOU FEEL RIDING A BIKE IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD?



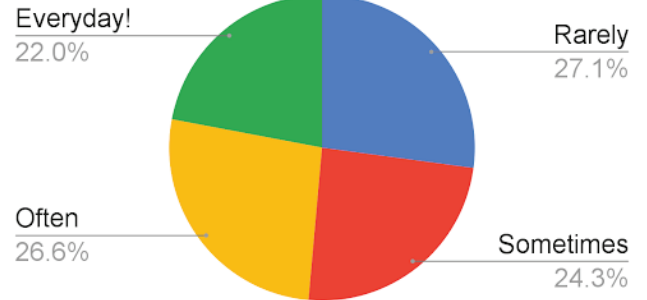
2025 MBR SURVEY RESULTS

2025 SITE MAP

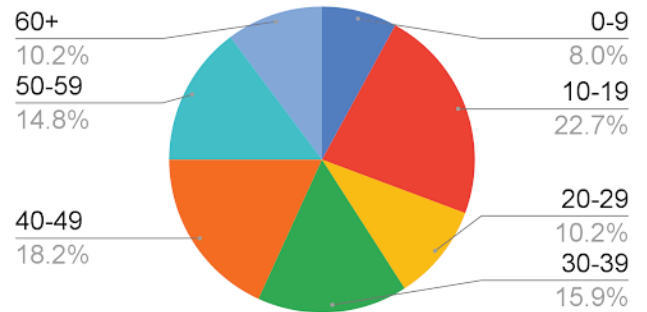


ORANGE- One Day Sites
DARK BLUE - Multi Day Sites

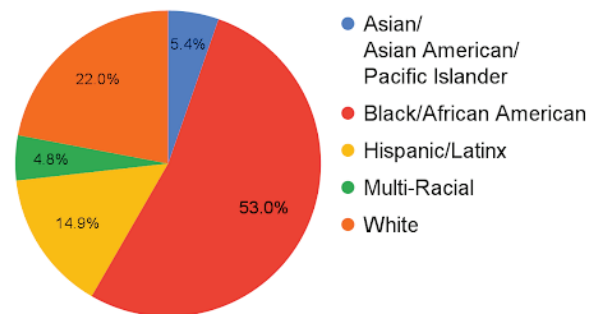
HOW OFTEN DO YOU VISIT THIS SITE?



AGE



RACE/ETHNICITY



Program Manager - Jake Newborn

Program Coordinator - Anthony Rafael Casagrande

Mechanics - Eric Arriola, Phoebe Combs, Arpri Johnson, Jeff Sodowsky