



**NEWS EVENT**  
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## **CYCLISTS JOIN NANCY PELOSI, MARK LENO AND NATIONAL COALITION TO CALL FOR A WORD-CLASS TRANSPORTATION**

**San Francisco Hosts One of Ten Events Across The Country; Cycling Advocates, Business and Community Leaders Call On The Presidential Candidates to Build the Economy through Better Transportation;**

**Bicyclists Set-Up Voter Registration next to bike lanes on night of debate.**

(SAN FRANCISCO, CA) — On the heels of the Wall Street bailout and hours before the final presidential debate, the San Francisco Bicycle Coalition (SFBC) has joined a national coalition, *Transportation 4 America (T4)*, along with Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi and Assemblyman Mark Leno, to call on the Presidential Candidates and Congress to strengthen our economy by building a 21st Century transportation system.

"It is clear that with gas prices on the rise, a growing number of people are choosing more sustainable transportation options," says Leah Shahum, Executive Director of the 9,500-member SFBC. "Bicycle ridership in San Francisco has grown 15-30% in the past year alone and we support the Complete Streets investment that will make the Bay Area and the nation safer for the increasing numbers of people who are choosing bicycling due to rising gas prices and a worsening economy."

The U.S. already spends \$70 billion a year on its transportation infrastructure (the 6th largest federal expenditure), and the T4 Coalition is calling on Congress to invest this money in smart, sustainable projects that will stimulate economic recovery and create green jobs, but warns that simply using this money to build highway projects conceived in the last century will likely not help the economy.

As part of the nationwide campaign to influence the next federal transportation bill, San Francisco will host one of 10 nationwide events at the downtown San Francisco Caltrain Station at 4th and King, Wednesday Oct. 15 at 10:00am. The event will highlight "Build for America: A Five-Point Plan to Get Our Economy Moving" which calls for re-thinking neighborhoods so that they are less car-dependent and more affordable by reducing oil consumption through biking, walking and world-class transit infrastructure. Changes which would create green jobs could save Americans thousands of dollars a year.

Later in the day, the SFBC will shift gears with a rush hour voter registration effort. The SFBC will

be joined by the Children's Council of San Francisco to register commuters on their way home to watch the presidential debates. A registration booth and team of volunteers will be set up next to the bike lane on Market St. at Larkin on Wednesday between 5–7pm to register voters, pass out bike-friendly slate cards and give away new "I Bike! I Vote!" buttons.

**What:** "Build for America: A Five-Point Plan to Get Our Economy Moving"

**When:** Wednesday Oct. 15 10:00 am

**Where:** San Francisco Caltrain Station at 4th and King

**Who:** Melanie Nutter, the Deputy District Director for Speaker Nancy Pelosi; Amanda Brown-Stevens from Greenbelt Alliance; Emily Rusch of CALPIRG; Kate Gordon from the Apollo Alliance; Judith Bell from PolicyLink; and a representative of State Assemblyman Mark Leno.

**What:** "Bike The Vote" Bicycle Service Station & Voter Registration

**When:** Wednesday Oct. 15 5:00-7:00 pm

**Where:** Fox Plaza, Market at Larkin

**Who:** San Francisco Bicycle Coalition (SFBC) and Children's Council of San Francisco

To learn more about the SFBC's endorsements and election activities, visit [www.sfbike.org/vote](http://www.sfbike.org/vote). For more on the Transportation for America Campaign visit [www.t4america.org](http://www.t4america.org).

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