



Coalition for  
Appropriate  
Transportation



# 2025 Annual Report

Organizational Highlights from 2024  
Presented at CAT Annual Meeting, March 5, 2025





# Welcome to CAT- Coalition for Appropriate Transportation

## Our Vision

CAT envisions a world where bicycling, walking/ADA accessibility, and public transportation prevail.

## Our Mission

CAT strengthens our Lehigh Valley community and our environment through bicycling, pedestrian accessibility, and public transportation.

CAT–Coalition for Appropriate Transportation works to improve mobility for everyone. Better bicycling, walking/ADA accessibility, and public transit develop a stronger, smarter economy and a higher quality of life. Sustainable transportation reduces traffic congestion, counters climate change, and offer a healthier community for everyone.

CAT serves adults & children of Pennsylvania’s Lehigh & Northampton Counties.



*Bike Day at Bethlehem City Hall, 2024*



# CAT Programs

## Bike Somewhere Today

Empowering, educating, and encouraging people to bicycle more often, for more reasons. From learning how to take care of one’s own bike to honing essential on-bike skills, CAT believes that biking should be fun! CAT offers customized content paired with national-level programs to make transportation transformative!

### **CAT Bicycle Cooperative**

Open 4-5 days per week for direct mentorship and volunteering for individuals and families. CAT’s home for activities and community where no experience is needed to become a mechanic, volunteer, or repair one’s own bike.



### **Bike Mechanics Classes**

Park Tool School Basic Maintenance, Advanced Mechanics, Wheel Building, Women’s Clinics. Classes are held at CAT. Over 697 adult students since 2006.



### **Bike Traffic Skills Classes**

CyclingSavvy (American Bicycling Education Association), Smart Cycling (League of American Bicyclists). Classes on-site at CAT and at partner locations.



### **Bike Basics and Bike2Work Basics**

Offering outreach presentations and workshops supporting bicycling for useful transportation, enjoyment, and health. Single-day workshops and multi-session programs held at CAT or partner locations. Organizing Lehigh Valley Bike to Work Week annually in May, with rides in Allentown, Bethlehem, Easton.

# CAT Programs (cont')

## Youth Bike Education (Bike Smart LV)

Bicycle safety for kids in grades K-8 around the Lehigh Valley. Includes large-scale Bike Day Events (30-150 kids) and small-scale after-school Bike Club events (5-10 kids). Over 26,788 youth participants since 2004.

## Holiday Bikes Program

Refurbishing youth bicycles for families with financial hardship during the winter holidays. 873 children have received bikes since 2017.

## Everybody Rides LV!

Organizing group bike rides around the Lehigh Valley. Includes CAT weekly women's bike rides, weekend bakery rides, Halloween costume rides, Holiday Lights bike rides, bike camping trips, and rides with partnering organizations.

## Bike Transportation Advocacy

Supporting community investment in bike-friendly infrastructure, traffic calming (see below), bike boulevards, short/long-term bike parking, and multi-use trail connectivity with important destinations. Advocating a culture shift that favors people to drive with care.



## Walk/Wheel in Our Community

### Yield-to-Pedestrians Initiative

Walking and rolling (wheelchair), the original form of transportation, are also a fundamental form of exercise. CAT's Yield to Pedestrians Initiative educates drivers about crosswalk laws and encourages them to "Slow Down and Look Around".

### Traffic Calming Advocacy

Noting excessive vehicle speed as one of the biggest factors of crashes, injuries, and deaths. Encouraging municipal, county, and PennDOT projects to incorporate design elements that promote motor vehicle speeds that are safe for pedestrians (and bicyclists), including most importantly the width and number of lanes, and as appropriate: high-visibility crosswalks, curb extensions, and crosswalk lighting. Urging 25mph speed limits to be adopted for city/borough streets where people walk/wheel.

### Speed Studies/Enforcement on local roads

Using CAT-owned radar gun to document driver behavior where traffic calming is needed. Urging equitable enforcement of speed limits to encourage motorists to drive more slowly.





# Explore Local Trails

## 🌳 Promoting THE LINK Trails Network

Helping people discover trails that take them places right here in the Lehigh Valley. Distributing trail maps and having conversations with bicyclists and pedestrians to advise useful trails based on people’s abilities, needs, and goals. Includes trails for transportation and recreation.



## 🌳 Advocating Trail Connectivity

Expanding and maintaining trail connectivity offering users a more robust network of trails that links places where people live, work, and shop.

## 🌳 Encouraging Trail Etiquette

Topics include: Be Alert-Communicate and Cooperate, Slow Down When Passing, E-bike Etiquette, Enjoy every sandwich, and more.

## 🌳 Basic Needs

Urging municipalities and other trail owners to offer year-round public restrooms and drinking water.



# Ride LANTA Bus

## 🚌 Transit Advocacy

Promoting frequent, efficient service, and routes across the Lehigh Valley. Advocating safe, clean, and comfortable bus stops.



## 🚌 Amenities

Requesting landowners to support and maintain bus shelters, benches, and amenities where bus routes pass their property.

## 🚌 Bike-on-Bus

Promoting use of on-bus bike racks.

## 🚌 Transit Triathlon

Seeing every transit rider as a pedestrian or bicyclist.

## 🚌 Outreach

Sharing information about LANTA’s newest upgrades, such as Enhanced Bus Service (EBS) Blue/Green Lines, and Transit App.





# 2024 CAT Highlights

**2024 marked 32 years of CAT’s service to the Lehigh Valley!** From helping families learn what it means to have a safe, working bicycle for their children, to training adults to be awesome bike mechanics so they in turn can help others, to helping individuals obtain and maintain bicycles for essential transportation, CAT is working every day to enhance mobility and community.

In 2024, the CAT Bicycle Cooperative was our hub for rebuilding bikes for all kinds of riders. Our Weekly Women’s Bike Rides went further with a Women’s Bike Overnight to Lake Nockamixon. We promoted the useful trifecta of riding LANTA bus, being a pedestrian, and using on-bus bike racks.

Our partnerships with community groups expanded. Adult clients participating in our Bike2Work Basics program built their bikes at CAT in Bethlehem and joined our course consisting of classroom sessions and rides in the City of Allentown.

We transitioned to a new donor management system which is helping us keep better track of our members, supporters & clients. Our Fundraising/Marketing team have been reaching out for more community support.

## **CAT Volunteers/Leadership/Staff**

- 3,640 board volunteer hours by 14 board members
- 3,428 volunteer hours by 56 CAT Bicycle Cooperative volunteers
- 2,080 paid staff hours and 780 volunteer staff hours
- 300 committee volunteer hours by additional CAT committee members
- 182 staff-hours contributed by CAT Ride Leaders for community group bike rides
- 246 staff-hours of bike education classes taught by CAT Adult Instructors
- 260 staff-hours taught by CAT Youth Education instructors

## **CAT Bicycle Cooperative**

- 2,457 visits served
- Open 51 weeks => 204 days => 900 hours open to the public
- 339 total bikes rebuilt and renewed!
- 150 youth bikes awarded to local children via CAT Holiday Bikes program
- 57 youth bikes refurbished and awarded at schools and events
- 78 adult bikes refurbished by/for low-income residents
- 54 adult bikes refurbished by volunteer mechanics
- 280 tires recycled and 2,400 pounds metal recycled

## **CAT Adult Classes**

- 42 students in 14 Basic Bike Maintenance Classes
- 9 students in 3 Advanced Bike Mechanics Classes
- 11 students in 3 Wheel Building Classes
- 6 students in 1 Smart Cycling Class
- 5 students in 2 Adult Learn2Ride Class





## **CAT Membership**

- 391 total memberships
- 257 memberships meeting or exceeding suggested donation (\$50/year)
- 134 memberships, low-income/low-cost (\$0-49)

## **Adult Bike Programs & Rides**

- 495 participants in 60 group bike rides including CAT Weekly Women's Ride, Bakery Rides, Holiday Lights Bike Ride, CAT Women's Bike Overnight, Jim Thorpe CAT Bike Camping Trip, Bethlehem to Lights in the Parkway, Waterways on Wheels Ride
- 16 clients participated in CAT's Bike2Work Basics program with Bike Build, traffic skills, and ride!
- Lehigh Valley Bike to Work Week Rides with Mayors in Allentown, Bethlehem, Easton
- 12 CAT Ride Leaders with enhanced 10-part training program

## **CAT Youth Education**

- 1,663 youth participants in 42 Bike Education Events
- 347 bicycle helmets fitted for youth
- 10 sessions of CAT Bike Club @William Penn and Thomas Jefferson Elementary Schools
- First year of Bike Day at Marvine Elementary School
- One-on-one family bike education with CAT Holiday Bikes parents and youth
- Education at community partner events: Revolutions for Inclusion, City of Bethlehem Recreation Summer Program, Yosko Park movie night, Bethlehem Rosefest, Northside Alive Block Party, Pedal for the Future (PA State Police), seven City of Allentown movie nights, Youth Climate Summit, Youth Bike Summit with Community Bike Works, Pembroke Choice Neighborhood, Parkridge Community Day, National Night Out in Emmaus, Bethlehem Junior Police Academy

## **Pedestrian**

- "Yield to Pedestrians - Slow Down, Look Around" Initiative
- Public outreach at community events
- Promoting sidewalk maintenance and winter snow clearing on municipal-owned sidewalks
- Yield to Pedestrians car/fridge magnets distributed

## **Trails**

- Advocated future trail connections on bridges across the Lehigh River in Allentown
- Celebrated trail connection between South Bethlehem Greenway and Saucon Rail Trail with City, DCNR & Governor Shapiro
- Advocated future west Bethlehem rail trail from Monocacy Way Trail to American Parkway
- THE LINK Trails Network & Lehigh Valley Greenways participation

## **Transit**

- Supported ongoing redesign of Bethlehem Transportation Center (BTC) at Broad and Guetter
- Participated in public meetings to update LANTA bus routes.



## **CAT Advocacy/Government Relations**

- Fighting for 10' sidewalks and crosswalk improvements in the Hill-to-Hill Bridge rehabilitation project.
- Active Transportation Plan steering committee member in: City of Easton, Palmer Township, South Whitehall Township, City of Allentown
- City of Allentown Safe Streets for All (SS4A) Action Plan (Steering Committee member)
- City of Allentown Bike Ordinance Review with Community Bike Works (begun in 2024)
- City of Allentown Parks Master Plan (Steering Committee member)
- City of Allentown Recompete Grant Support
- Blue Zones Allentown, Bethlehem, Easton (Steering Committee member)
- Supporting City of Bethlehem Broad Street traffic-calming improvements
- City of Bethlehem Citizens Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC) bi-monthly meetings



*Muhlenberg College Students and Community Ambassadors Take a Ride in Allentown, August 2024*

CAT helps people walk/roll, use bikes, and public transit for transportation, which takes cars off the road!

Every person who enters the CAT Bicycle Cooperative or who participates in a CAT program is treated with respect, dignity, and the intention of empowerment through knowledge.

Every dollar supporting CAT goes a long way to help the community.





# CAT Committees

CAT Committees provide input and direction to CAT’s work. Any CAT member can join a committee of your choice. Most committees meet monthly or more often (see the calendar at [LVCAT.org](http://LVCAT.org))

In addition to the full Board of Directors, the nine (9) CAT committees are:

1. **Executive** – Governance, equity, and the avenue of strategic thinking/planning for the sustainable future of the organization. Chairperson: Bill Meiklejohn
2. **Nominating Committee** – Oversees nominations to CAT Board of Directors.  
Co-Chairpeople: Jennifer Cunningham & Tim Phillips
3. **Fundraising** – Works to strengthen and increase CAT financial stability. Seeks grant opportunities to fund CAT programs and general operations. Also working on endowment fund, special appeals, and estate giving. Chairperson: Jennifer Cunningham
4. **Transit** –Advocates safe, clean, and comfortable LANTA Bus facilities and access, and to educate/encourage prospective users on the benefits of public transportation  
Co-Chairpeople: Scott Slingerland & Jennifer Swann – [Learn More!](#)
5. **Youth Education** – Educates children how to ride safely and responsibly.  
Chairperson – Scott Slingerland – [Learn More!](#)
6. **Adult Bike Rides & Programs** – Advocates the design, funding, and facilitation of transportation beyond the single-occupant motor vehicle. Chairperson: Anne Felker – [Learn More!](#)
7. **Government Relations** – Deepening relationships with local and regional decision-makers.  
Chairperson: Jennifer Swann
8. **CAT Bicycle Cooperative** – Provides an inclusive community space, centrally located in the Lehigh Valley, for everyone to learn more about bicycling, walking, and riding the bus for transportation. Chairperson: Scott Slingerland – [Learn More!](#)
9. **Pedestrian** – Walking and rolling, as the most fundamental means of transportation, are human rights. Ensures that sidewalks are safe, attractive, and accessible for everyone by putting pedestrians at the forefront of policy, investments, and design. Chairperson: Shari Wilson - [Learn More!](#)



*CAT Yield to Pedestrians-Slow Down, Look Around Initiative, Fall 2024*



# CAT Financial Report

January 1 - December 31, 2024

## Income

Individual/Family Donations	\$53,907
Organizational Donations	\$2,183
Employer Matching Donations	\$464
Event Income	\$1,621
Grants	\$114,985
Classes	\$8,899
New Facility Fund	\$9,723
Endowment	\$12,385

**Total Income \$204,167**

## In-Kind Donations Received

- Bike Donations
- Volunteer Hours
- Donated Professional Services

## Grants Awarded

- PennDOT-LV Transportation Study (LVTS) Transportation Set-Aside (TASA)
- Trexler Trust
- IronPigs Charities
- Lehigh Valley Greenways
- Adventure Cycling Association
- City of Bethlehem Community Recovery Fund
- Bethlehem Morning Star Rotary



## Expenses

<b>Total CAT Bicycle Cooperative</b>	<b>\$32,818</b>
Rent and Utilities	\$16,269
Instructor Compensation	\$3,125
Bike Parts, Tools and Supplies	\$11,462
Liability Insurance	\$575
Other	\$1,387

<b>Total Adult Bike Programs</b>	<b>\$12,877</b>
Ride Leader Compensation	\$8,844
Trailside Bike Checks	\$2,400
Event Expenses	\$1,329
Ride Leader Training & Other	\$304

<b>Total Youth Education</b>	<b>\$58,674</b>
Instructor Compensation	\$53,640
Helmets	\$5,034

<b>Total Fundraising</b>	<b>\$8,841</b>
Donor Management Software	\$4,655
Promotion and Communications	\$2,299
Philly Bike Expo	\$1,849
Other	\$42

<b>Total Pedestrian</b>	<b>\$235</b>
<b>Total Executive</b>	<b>\$229</b>
<b>Total New Facility</b>	<b>\$1,500</b>

<b>Total General Expenses</b>	<b>\$70,920</b>
Wages	\$40,686
Payroll Taxes	\$15,871
Healthcare	\$6,476
Liability Insurance	\$2,670
Merchant Fees	\$1,100
Computer Software	\$1,194
Other	\$2,923

**Total Expenses \$185,010**

Net Income-Expenses for FY 2024 = +19,156



# 2024 CAT Award Winners

**William Penn Elementary School** – Youth Bike Education Award (Bike Club)

**Action Wheels Bike Shop** – Group Ride Award (Tuesday Night Ride)

**City of Allentown** – Education Can Be Fun Award (Movie Nights)

**Community Bike Works** – Really Big Ride Award (Youth Bike Summit)

**THE LINK Trails Network** – Weaving the Web of Trails Award

**Lehigh Valley Transportation Study** – Considering Pedestrians

**LANTA** – Enhancing Transit Award (Blue/Green EBS Lines & Transit App)

**Darlene Heller** – Lifetime Community Planning Award

**Sissy Kennedy** – CAT Volunteer Award

**Predo Nisic** - CAT Volunteer Award

**Joan Dooley** – Ride Leader Award

**Gary Madine** – Eyes and Wheels on the Street Award

**Shari Wilson** – Slow Down, Look Around Award



*Broad & Guetter Bethlehem Transportation Center, Spring 2024*



# A Special Thank You

to all who supported CAT in their unique ways during 2024...

## CAT Supporters

Luis Abundez  
 Gina Adorno  
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 Scott Slingerland  
 Steve Slutter  
 William Smith  
 Bruce Snyder  
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**Supporting Organizations**

Action Wheels Bike Shop  
 Adventure Cycling Association  
 Austin's Auto Service  
 Benevity Foundation  
 Bethlehem eBike  
 City of Bethlehem

Community Bike Works  
 Cutters Bike Shop  
 Delaware and Lehigh National Heritage Corridor  
 Eastern PA Down Syndrome Center  
 Fitness Central Bike Shop  
 Harry C. Trexler Trust  
 Hogar Crea International  
 IronPigs Charities  
 Johnson and Johnson  
 Kim's Healing Center  
 KLA Foundation  
 LANTA  
 Lehigh Valley Greenways  
 Lehigh Valley Planning Commission  
 Lehigh Valley Transportation Study  
 Microsoft Corporation

Muhlenberg College  
 Olympus Corporation  
 PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources  
 PennDOT  
 Piscitello Law  
 Pocono Biking  
 Recovery Cove  
 Strader and Associates  
 THE LINK Trails Network  
 Treatment Trends  
 Trek Bikes-Allentown and Easton

**What an amazing community! Thank you everyone!**





# CAT's Top Goals for 2025

1. **Build a New CAT Bicycle Cooperative** – The move is happening to expand our facility to a larger space so that we can serve more people and do more for the community. Anticipated move-in during November-December 2025.
2. **More Community Engagement** – Mobilize CAT's wide range of members for more CAT-led bike rides, events and volunteering. Provide more bikes and support for "necessity" cyclists with low/moderate-income or who are recently released from incarceration. Encourage more people to bike to work.
3. **Fundraising** - Connect with more individuals, families, and corporate donors. Plan larger-scale fundraising events for 2024.
4. **Expand Yield to Pedestrians Initiative** – to educate drivers on the law and encourage them to Slow Down and Look Around. Initiative rollout to include survey, street banners, events, and prizes



*Rendering of CAT's New Facility in downtown Bethlehem*



# Your Support Matters!

We appreciate and need your help to keep CAT a strong and vibrant organization. Your continued volunteer and financial support are vital to our success.

**Please make contributions** online via [LVCAT.org](https://LVCAT.org) or mail to:

CAT-Coalition for Appropriate Transportation  
1935 W Broad St  
Bethlehem, PA 18018

Consider donating towards CAT's new facility, Endowment Fund, including CAT in your estate planning, or supporting any of our programs directly. Find out if your employer matches donations to non-profits, like CAT!

If you have recently donated, **we appreciate your support very much** and will do our best to make it go a long way to benefit the community! Thank You!



*CAT at Elmwood Park Movie Night with Bethlehem's Northside Alive, August 2024*



COALITION FOR APPROPRIATE TRANSPORTATION

CAT Means Choices...  
for health...for community...for planet!

**We are Transformative  
Transportation!**



## **CAT Leadership 2024**

### **Staff and Support**

Scott Slingerland\*, Executive Director  
Lisa Lubin, Website  
Anne Evans, Grants Advisor  
Jason Schiffer\*, Attorney  
Matthew Tranter, Attorney  
Wayne Strader, CPA, Accountant  
Jennifer Swann, Ombuds

\*Member, Board of Directors ex-officio

### **Board of Directors**

Bill Meiklejohn\*, President  
Jennifer Cunningham\*, Vice President  
Edwin Kay\*, Treasurer  
Shari Wilson\*, Secretary  
Anne Felker\*  
Jennifer Swann  
Ayana Brown  
Lisa Lubin\*  
Gary Madine  
Predo Nisic  
Tim Phillips\*  
Anna Zawierucha

\*member of CAT Executive Committee

### **Contact CAT**

CAT-Coalition for Appropriate Transportation  
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