**MSU Experience w/ Bike Share**

By Tim Potter  
Sustainable Transportation Manager

**Campus Bike Share Webinar**

June 16, 2015

**Timeline:**

* MSU Bikes started volunteer-run bike-loan program 2003 w/ refurbished abandoned bikes.
* MSU Bikes started staff-run bike center 2006 w/ refurbished bikes
* MSU Bikes starts selling new bikes 2010
* Starts renting new bikes 2012; phased out/ sold off older rental bikes after one more tune.
* Selling rental bikes after 2-3 yrs. of service for roughly our cost
* Currently approx. 300 bikes in our rental fleet that rent from 1 hr. – 1 semester
* Perennially run out of rental bikes for short-term rentals during the summers and hard to meet the needs for large groups that visit campus for short programs
* Need for augmenting system via some sort of bike share system could help

**Student-Initiated Bike Share System Start-up:**

* Our student govt. wants to help the U become more bike friendly and to reduce abandoned bikes/ overcrowding on racks
* Authorized $$ to start a system
* Explored lots of options w/ outside vendors
* Ended up partnering with MSU Bikes to launch a pilot of a basic bike library system of 8 bikes
* Pilot deemed successful
* Planning to add 40 more bikes to the system and add 5 more "stations" where bikes can be checked out
* Planning to partially automate the process through existing res- hall check-out system (used for other sports eqpt.)

**Future Challenges:**

* Finding space to install unique bike racks
* Keeping others from locking up to those racks
* Logistics of servicing bikes in the field (picking up/ dropping off bikes)
* Staffing for field work (hard enough to staff our Center)
* Planning to create a mobile repair service setup (likely pedal-powered) to make scheduled stops at the stations

**Future opportunities:**

* Summer res-hall guests/ hotel guest use during the summers possibly to expand the utilization of the bikes during the year (how to fund?)
* Use of ‘smart-lock’ technology to make the bikes more “shareable” around campus