Five Ways to Win at Dockless Bikeshare

Is it a flexible service for the commuter's last mile? Or a disruptive element on the public streetscape?

Dockless bikeshare can fill a significant gap in service, especially in communities not well-served by transit, but only if bikes are placed appropriately and people who need them can use them.

These five elements can make or break each system.

1

Integration with Transit

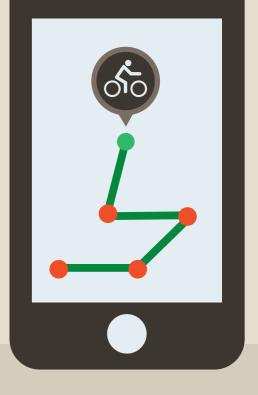
Lowering barriers to biking—by requiring that operators provide flexible and reduced payment options, facilitating transit fare integration, and ensuring an equitable distribution of bikes—connects dockless systems to a city's mass transit network, extending its reach.





Real-time data on the location

of every dockless bike, as well as aggregated trip and other operations data, should be shared with local governments. Usership and route patterns provide insights on infrastructure needs, and real-time data is critical for monitoring and enforcement of city regulations.





Public Space Management

Fleet size caps, time-bound responses to parking issues, lock-to requirements, and designated parking areas can prevent bikes not in use from cluttering the streetscape.



4

User Protections

As with docked bikeshare, cities should require dockless operators to clearly display safety information, meet equipment and insurance standards, and act responsibly with regard to user privacy, deposits and refunds.



Dedicated Staff

For dockless bikeshare to work, cities must dedicate staff and resources to monitor operations and enforce regulations, evaluate performance, develop plans for improving bike lanes, and strengthen integration and connectivity.





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