GEORGIA COMMUTE SCHOOLS

# Bike Bus Toolkit

## *A Startup Guide for Joyful Rides*

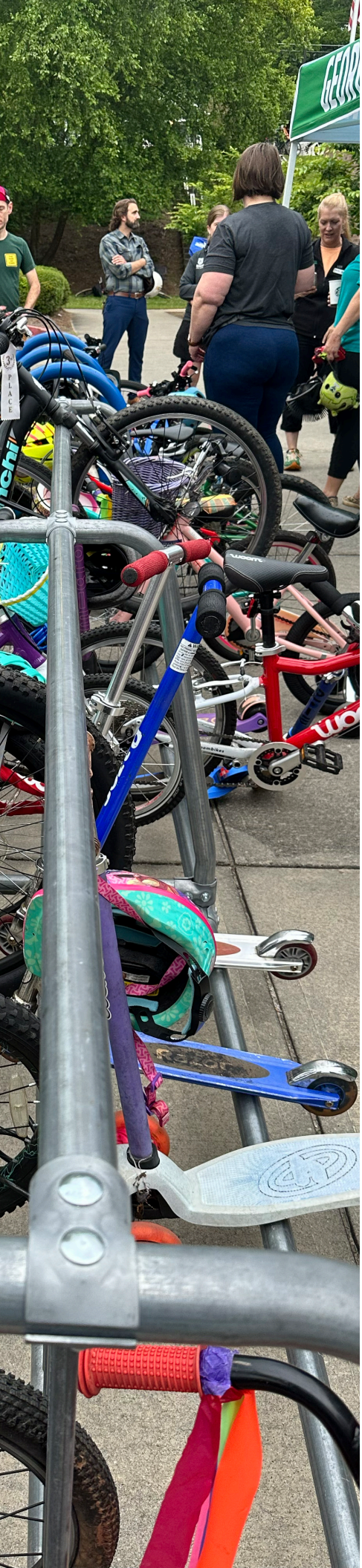
A program of

GEORGIA COMMUTE OPTIONS



## Are you a student?

*Have a parent or guardian reach out to*
*Georgia Commute Schools and we can help you get started!*



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From flyers to talking points,
GCS did the work, so you don't have to!



# PART 1 – Starting a Bike Bus

## Welcome to the Bike Bus Movement!

A bike bus is a fun, healthy, and community-driven way for students to ride to school together with adult supervision. In metro Atlanta, where car traffic and safety concerns often dominate school travel, bike buses offer an exciting alternative. This toolkit is designed to help you start small and build a sustainable bike bus in your neighborhood, no matter where you are in the region.

*What is a bike bus?*

A bike bus is a group of students and their adult volunteers who ride their bikes to school together along a **planned route**, picking up more riders as they go—just like a school bus, but on bikes!

**Each "stop" is a predetermined meeting point where additional students can join.** The route ends at school. And once the d ismissal bell rings, the process can start again. These rides are often supported by parental volunteers or community members and neighbors of all ages who help ensure safety and fun.

*What makes a bike bus different from a regular bike group?*

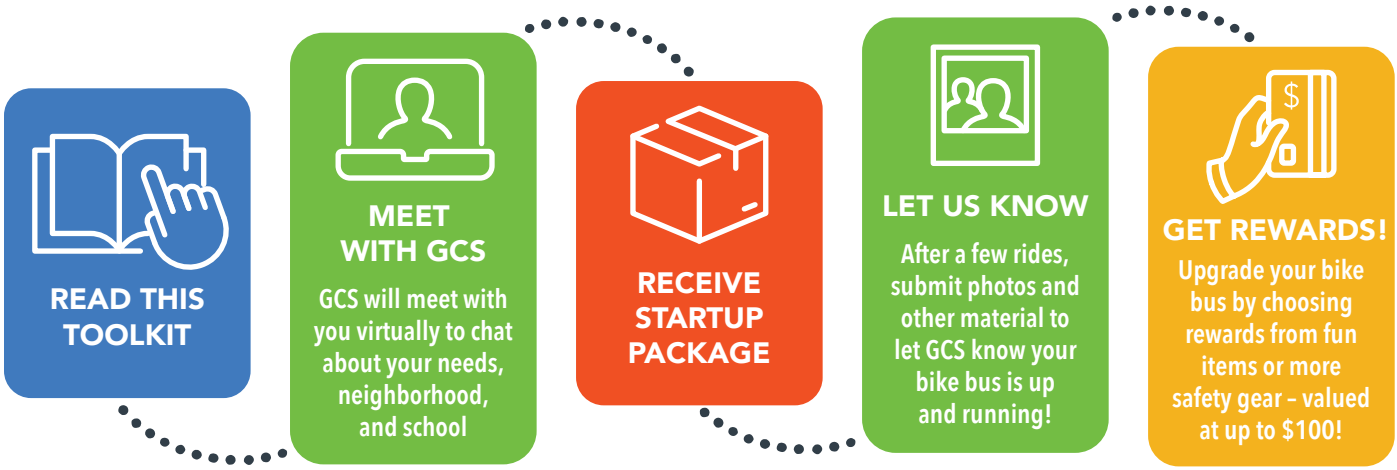
The sole focus is on safely escorting students on their bikes to the destination school. Further, bike buses have predetermined stops and a planned route, so this requires coordination with other school community members who would like to participate, either through having their student join the bus, by being an adult volunteer themselves, or both!

*Remember, starting small with rides just once a week – like on a Friday – can have a huge impact on classroom focus and performance!*

# Get Support from Georgia Commute Schools

Georgia Commute Schools (GCS) can assist you in starting a bike bus by **providing FREE safety gear, including four (4) adult GCS branded safety vests**. After downloading this toolkit, sign up to join the Coalition, or submit an inquiry via the GCS bike bus webpage. A member of our team will reach out to you!

### Start a Bus Bike with GCS




**Read this toolkit** – Review everything from email templates to school administration talking points to help get your bike bus plans going

**Receive startup package** – Receive bike lights, adult safety vests, and more to help you get started!

**Get awesome rewards!** GCS can help sustain your bike bus and help you with items needed, like helmets or tire pumps

Let's get started!

# Step 1 – Organize

Whether you are seeking assistance with GCS or just wondering how a bike bus gets started, the first place to begin is **getting organized**. Starting within your immediate school community circle, find and talk with parents, teachers, school administrators, and neighbors to see who would be interested in participating in a bike bus. Keep a running list of the names, email addresses, and phone numbers of those interested.

**TIP** *Get middle and high schoolers involved!*

Bike buses aren't just for elementary school students and their parents. Encourage pre-teens and teens to flex their independence and organize a bike bus of their own or join one – with adult supervision and route safety in mind!

### Set up the group

Use a social media platform, email, or messaging app to set up your bike bus group. Include individuals who have agreed to join and be part of the process of getting the bike bus up and running, but who may not be able to participate in every ride.

## Suggested free platforms



- Meta (Facebook, Instagram)
- Google Sheets (Sharing schedules & times)
- Strava – ("Create a club")
- WhatsApp
- GroupMe



## Know the facilities

Connect with your school parent-teacher organization (PTO/PTA) or school administrators to find out if there are bike racks (and how many), a bike storage room, or some other location where the students can safely keep their bikes and gear during school hours.

## Now that you have the bike bus group, it's time to discuss safety and assign roles!

Check out **Georgia SRTS safety** for free bike safety toolkits and information on workshops and bike rodeos.

## Go over basic traffic rules

- Stop at signs/lights
- Use hand signals
- Ride in a straight line, no swerving

## Assign roles

- Aim for 1 adult per 3–5 kids, depending on the group's experience
- Driver – **Leads** the route
- Sweepers – **Ride at the back**, ensure no one is left behind
- Siders/Watchers – Ride **beside** or monitor intersections

## Planning for the Unexpected

Create protocols for:

- Absences (e.g., notify via group chat)
- Weather (decide if you ride in light rain)
- Behavioral issues
- Minor injuries or mechanical problems

## Take Inventory

Know what safety gear the group has and note what is missing. See the suggested gear list in Part 3!

# Step 2 – Choosing the Route

The route should be based on where students live and the safety of the environment around them.

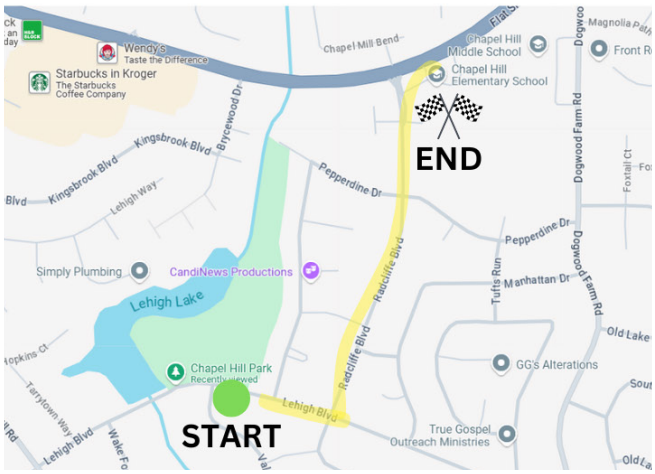
You can choose a central meeting point or create a full route that allows bike leaders (adults) to lead the group to different locations to pick up students to join you on the way to school.

## The route should:

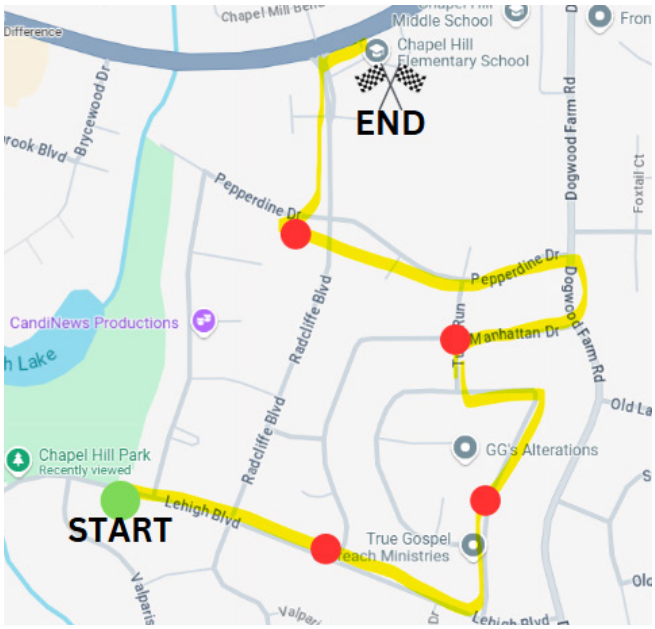
- Prioritize safe infrastructure in your community: Use protected bike lanes (like those on DeKalb Ave), paths or trails, neighborhood greenways, or any other infrastructure that physically separates bicyclists from car traffic.
- Be on low-traffic routes where there are safe intersections with crosswalks.
- Consider the age and experience level of all riders when deciding length and complexity of the route.
- Be understood by all members of the group. It is extremely helpful to make and then post in the group and/or social media platform a visual map of the route.

**Test it out**: Do a practice ride with a small group to estimate time and assess obstacles.

**Example: central meeting point**




**Example: full route with pick-up locations**






## Step 3 – Scheduling the First Ride

- Decide on frequency: Once a week (e.g., Bike Bus Friday) or more often.
- Decide: Morning only or both directions?
- Confirm the date, start time and location, arrival times at "stops," and expected arrival time at school – let EVERYONE know via your chosen communication platform!




*A bike bus that operates only once a week will still build rider confidence! It's all about starting small and building healthy habits!*

### The Day Before

- Re-send all route and time information to the group
- Confirm all adult volunteers understand their roles and responsibilities
- Let any school administrators who handle morning drop-off know the arrival time of your bus to the school
- Check the weather and remind participants to plan accordingly
- Bike or drive the route one last time to sweep for any changes like road or sidewalk closure or obstacles like fallen trees

## That Morning

It's finally here! All the planning and organizing is about to pay off!

- For the driver: Message the bike bus group chat that you are starting the route!
- For participants: Check the map and be at your "stop" at the appropriate time. Don't forget to pack water!
- For volunteers: Make sure you have all safety gear equipped (flags, lights, etc.) and medical gear equipped (i.e., basic first aid kit).
- Have fun! If safe to do so, adult volunteers can play music or attach fun flags and lights to their bikes. Remember that this isn't just about biking to school – it's about having healthy experiences, helping the environment, and building confidence and rapport with each other!

Congratulations on your brand-new bike bus!

Did You Use the GCS Bike Bus Startup Kit?

For those who received the GCS bike bus startup package, once you have completed your first few rides, submit photos of the ride, your route(s), a screenshot of your route schedule, along with pictures of any GCS gear you used.

Once verified, GCS will reward your new bike bus **with prizes valued up to $100 to help sustain your bike bus all year**. Great job!



*Remember! Join the GCS Bike Bus Coalition and add your bike bus to the regional map to connect and encourage others from around the region to start their own bike buses!*



# PART 2 – Growing Your Bike Bus

A bike bus is more than just a group ride to school — it's a rolling community, a statement about safer streets, and a joyful way for kids to start their day. Once you've established a consistent route and a small group of riders, the next step is growth: inviting more families, expanding your reach, and building sustainability over time. **Growth doesn't just increase numbers — it builds visibility, strengthens community, and helps normalize biking as a viable, safe option for school transportation.**

## How Georgia Commute Schools Can Support Growth

### Step 1 - Join the Community

Connecting with one another and setting aside a space for sharing ideas, themes, best practices, or challenges, is vital for growth and long-term sustainability.

Join the GCS Bike Bus Coalition for quarterly meetings and news via the GCS newsletter.

Register to have your bike bus appear on the GCS regional bike bus map.

TIP

*Let us know you have used the resources in this toolkit to grow your bike bus – this counts toward the $100 value reward!*

### Step 2 – Stay Engaged with GCS

**GCS will provide engaged bike buses with a comprehensive safety gear package, including bike lights, every year**. Submit pictures of an expanded route, added stops, participate in the Coalition by attending meetings and GCS events and promotions, and/or share news and resources for the Coalition newsletter to get resources and rewards for your bike bus!

**PLUS!**– During bike challenges and other Georgia Commute Options (and Schools) promotions, engaged members are eligible for additional prizes that are *only* available for GCS partnered bike buses.

### Step 3 – Plan and Act for the Future

Expanding a bike bus can amplify its benefits: more kids moving their bodies, fewer cars clogging drop-off zones, and stronger neighborhood connections. A larger bike bus sends a powerful message to schools and local leaders about the need for safer infrastructure.

Planning and acting with the future in mind will make it easier to rotate leadership, offer flexible schedules, and ensure long-term momentum after students graduate out of their schools.

Whether your goal is to add new stops, start additional routes, or bring in a wider range of ages, **growing your bike bus means exploring who, how, and when your larger community can support growth in 2026 and beyond.**

## Partner with Schools



Though it may seem obvious, starting with understanding the needs, vision, and challenges of the school(s) your bike bus serves can be foundational for growth planning:

- Ask to share info (sign-ups and route information) in school newsletters
- Connect with physical education teachers, STEM teachers to see if they would like to include bike bus participation as a project or activity in their curriculum
- Connect with PTA/PTO members to build momentum and interest with parents
- Ask your school for their School Transportation Plans, and check for walking/biking encouragement programs and bike facility improvements
- Ask administration if your bike bus can lead and participate in fun events, like school parades or rallies
- Sit down with school administration and establish rapport – they may have questions you can answer!




## Encourage Middle and High School Riders

Teens and pre-teens need community, healthy routines, and accountability. Middle schoolers and high schoolers can benefit from creating and being accountable to a bike bus pick-up schedule and help with exploring and mapping the safest routes for participants with the help of adults. Further, teens and pre-teens can advise on how to create and amplify your social media presence!

STEM/STEAM clubs in feeder schools/cohort network/cluster – email the sponsoring teacher for advice on how to make your bike bus a class project or volunteer opportunity.

YMCA gyms and youth groups – connect with different congregation spaces to see if there is a way to recruit neighborhood teens to participate.

## Community Engagement

Think outside the box and engage with people and places in your broader community network:

**Propel ATL** - Formerly known as the Atlanta Bicycle Coalition (ABC) and Pedestrians Educating Drivers on Safety (PEDS); they offer various resources including free bike classes

**Georgia Department of Public Health district offices** – Find your local health district to connect with businesses and organizations focused on improving health and wellness

**Cycling clubs** –Search online for local cycling clubs and reach out to them for advice, connections, and support. Folks of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities are welcome in most cycling clubs, and members are often neighbors you just haven't met yet! To start, here are some examples: Metro Atlanta Cycling Club, Black Girls Do Bike, MWR. Check out the Atlanta Cycling Festival page for clubs all around the metro.

## City Parks and Recreation Departments

Establish a relationship with your city parks department to see how you can spread the word about your bike bus, and get information on upcoming events that may be perfect for your bike bus's participation.

## Neighborhood Associations

Neighborhood associations vary in capacity and communication networks, so check with your local neighborhood association to see if they distribute community newsletters, have meaningful Nextdoor activity.




## Retirees and 65+ Community Members

Connect with retired neighbors through neighborhood association newsletters, emails or meetings. There are many older community members with time and interest in the health benefits and relationship building who would love to volunteer!

## Grants

Get to know what types of funds are available to help facilitate growth:

**GoGeorgia** – Local, regional, and state advocacy and clearinghouse for bicycle/pedestrian information and as a resource for people who bike, walk, and roll

**Georgia Healthy Family Alliance** – Georgia Healthy Family Alliance (GHFA) provides grants and resources to community organizations which promote healthy practices consistent with the principles of family medicine

**Outride** – Grants to support schools and nonprofits as they create and sustain cycling programs in their communities

**League of American Cyclists** – Provides "Community SPARK Grants" awards for projects and programs that "spark" change to create places where bicycling is safer, easier, and more accessible

## Local Government and School District Advocacy

Local government officials can be essential partners in supporting or expanding a bike bus, but they may have some legitimate concerns. Understanding their perspective and tailoring your message to address those concerns goes a long way.

Similarly, school districts may have concerns about things like planning or liability. However, advocating for creative ways to address pupil transportation issues like bus driver shortages, can help get people to the table.

See our talking point templates for more on how to advocate effectively!

## Community Safety Events

Use free safety toolkits like those provided by Georgia Safe Routes to School. You can also:



- Connect with the fire station in your school community.
- Bike Safety Rodeos
  - Organize a community event where local firefighters, EMS personnel, or community bike advocacy organizations demonstrate bike safety skills, proper helmet fitting, and emergency response tips.
  - Attendees can participate in obstacle courses and learn hand signals for safer group rides, organized by a community partner.
- Bike-to-Work & Bike-to-School Safety Days
  - Host guided bike bus rides to schools and workplaces, ensuring safe routes and group riding best practices.
  - Provide safety talks from fire department personnel on visibility, hydration, and injury prevention.
  - Firehouse Open House: Bike Safety & First Aid Partner with local fire stations for an open house event focusing on biking safety and first aid for minor injuries.
  - Offer free or discounted safety gear like bike lights, helmets, and reflective gear.
- Bike Maintenance & Safety Check Days
  - Local bike shops provide free, on-site bike tune-ups and safety checks.

**TIP**

*County fire departments often have specialty teams like a bike/medic team!*

**A bike/medic team is made up of EMT's and paramedics who have equipment on specially fitted bikes.** Reach out to your county fire department to see if they are available for a ride-along event for your bike bus!

## You're Continuing Something Big

Each rider brings us closer to safer streets, stronger communities, cleaner air, and healthier kids. Thank you for continuing to be part of the bike bus movement in Metro Atlanta.

Let's roll!

# PART 3 – Templates

## Advocacy & Awareness

### Email parent to teacher

Subject: Help Support the *[School name]* Bike Bus!

Hello *[Teacher name]*,

My name is *[Name]* and I am the *[Parent/family member]* of a child at *[School name]*. I'm reaching out to you because we are in the process of developing a bike bus for students at our school – that's where a group of students and adults bike to school along a designated route and pick up students along the way. We think this initiative will help our students build confidence, learn the rules of the road, and develop healthy, lifelong habits!

I'm reaching out to you because we were wondering if you might be open to supporting our rides! In particular, we could really use your help with providing material that highlights the program. GCS Toolkit | GCO.

Please let me know if this is something you might have interest in, and we can plan a time to talk in more detail about how we can collaborate.

My child loves being in your class!

*[Name]*

### Email: Parent to Organization

Subject: Help Support the *[School name]* Bike Bus!

Hello *[Organization/contact name]*,

My name is *[Name]* and I am the *[Parent/family member]* of a child at *[School name]*. I'm reaching out to you because we are in the process of developing a bike bus for students at our school – that's where a group of students and adults bike to school along a designated route and pick up students along the way. We think this initiative will help our students build confidence, learn the rules of the road, and develop healthy, lifelong habits!

I'm reaching out to you because we could use some support for our rides, and we were wondering if *[Organization]* might be open to helping us! In particular, we could really use your help with *[route planning, leading or joining rides, providing materials, etc.]*.

Please let me know if this is something *[Organization]* would have interest in, and we can plan a time to talk in more detail about how we can collaborate.

We look forward to hearing back from you.

*[Name]*

# Advocating with Your School Administration or District

## Concerns & Responses

| Concern | Response / Opportunity |
|---|---|
| **Safety & Liability** | Bike buses are typically volunteer-led and follow standard safety procedures. Organizers can offer waivers and provide helmets, vests, and training. Routes are mapped out by adult and prioritize trails, protected bike lanes, and low-traffic roadways. |
| **Lack of Infrastructure** | Routes will be planned to follow safe infrastructure. Gaps in infrastructure needs identified by bike buses can be communicated to community officials to help prioritize Safe Routes to School improvements. |
| **Car Line Disruption** | Bike buses reduce overall car congestion, including in school drop off and pick up lines. Coordination by school crossing guards, bus drivers, traffic control officials, or safety patrol can help to ensure smooth and safe drop off and dismissal. |
| **Organization & Student Departure** | Bike bus organizers create a standard operating procedure for routes, attendance, and family contact information. Bike bus leaders can share these plans with school dismissal staff to ensure that students are where they need to be. Schools might even consider a separate dismissal announcement for bike bus riders to stagger departures and clear bike riders separately from bus or car riders for additional safety and organization. |
| **Material Needs** | Organizers can pursue funding and partnerships to support inclusive access (e.g., bike libraries, helmet giveaways). Schools and districts can help to support bike bus needs as part of their pupil transportation planning and budgeting, including by adding bike racks. Some safety equipment, including safety vests for adult leads and bike lights for students, will be provided by Georgia Commute Schools to support the bike bus. Additionally, some bike buses may choose to include scooter riders, which can be a more accessible choice for some families. |
| **Public Perception & Student Wellness** | Bike buses are joyful, well-received community activities with growing media attention and strong parent support. Schools and districts can showcase them as a local success story. Plus, they emphasize and encourage student health and set students up for lifelong healthy habits. |

# How School Administrations Can Help

- **Support Visibility** – Share the program via school channels.
- **Provide Resources** – Bike racks, cones, signage, or access to additional crossing guards.
- **Plan Dismissals** – Help the bike bus organizers determine a central arrival and departure point, dismiss bike bus students separately from car and bus riders.
- **Attend or Ride Along** – A great opportunity for engagement and to better understand the bike bus needs.
- **Add Bike Education** – Provide safety or riding instruction at the school during PE.

# How Districts Can Help

- **Support Visibility** – Share the program via school channels and encourage other district schools to consider developing their own.
- **Provide Resources** – Bike racks, additional crossing guards, and bike libraries can go a long way.
- **Attend or Ride Along** – A great opportunity for engagement and to better understand the bike bus needs and joys.

## Talking Points – At a school or district meeting, or one-on-one

*Talking Point – Frame It as a Public Health & Safety Win*

Kids biking means cleaner air, more physical activity, and safer school zones.

*Talking Point – Frame it as a Relief to Car Line Stressors*

Kids biking instead of being car riders reduces dismissal times and improves air around schools at pickup.

*Talking Point – Offer Pilot Opportunities*

Suggest a short-term trial or one-day bike bus during Bike to School Day or Walk & Roll to School Day to show how it might fit the school community needs.

# Local Government Advocacy

## Local Official Concerns & Responses

| Concern | Response / Opportunity |
|---|---|
| **Safety & Liability** | Bike buses are typically volunteer-led and follow standard safety procedures. Organizers can offer waivers and provide helmets, vests, and training. |
| **Traffic Disruption** | Routes are chosen to minimize impact, and bike buses reduce overall car congestion. Coordination with public works or law enforcement (if needed) can improve flow. |

| | |
|---|---|
| **Lack of Infrastructure** | Bike buses draw attention to gaps in bike safety infrastructure and can help prioritize "Safe Routes to School" improvements. |
| **Access Gaps** | Organizers are pursuing funding and partnerships to support inclusive access (e.g., bike libraries, helmet giveaways). Officials can help scale these efforts. |
| **Public Perception** | Bike buses are joyful, well-received community activities with growing media attention and strong parent support. Officials can showcase them as a local success story. |

# How Local Elected Officials Can Help

- **Support Visibility** – Share the program through city/school channels.
- **Provide Minor Resources** – Temporary cones, signage, or access to crossing guards.
- **Attend or Ride Along:** – A great opportunity for community engagement and media.
- **Help Secure Funding** – Consider Safe Routes to School grants or small local investments.

## Talking Points – At a city hall, committee meeting, or one-on-one

*Talking Point – Frame It as a Public Health & Safety Win*

Kids biking means cleaner air, more physical activity, and safer school zones—all issues city leaders care about.

*Talking Point – Connect to Existing Goals*

Tie the bike bus into economic growth goals, Complete Streets policies, school wellness initiatives, or local transportation plans.

*Talking Point – Offer Pilot Opportunities*

Suggest a short-term trial or one-day bike bus during Bike to School Day or Walk & Roll to School Day to show how it works. There is current participation from local officials in this capacity around metro Atlanta.

*Talking Point – Economic Growth*

Walkable and bikeable communities are consistently attractive areas to locate businesses; further, homebuyers are looking to sustain home value, and communities that are walkable and bikeable report higher home values over time.

*Talking Point – Position It as a Community Builder*

Bike buses create joyful, visible community experiences. Officials love programs that make the city look good and bring people together.

Don't Forget - Provide Data

*Have Simple Stats o Visuals Ready*

How many students ride, car trips avoided, cars out of the pick-up and drop-off line, etc. GCS may be able to assist you in identifying data points, so reach out via the Coalition or email for assistance.

# Email: Parent to Elected Official

**Subject:** Community-Led Solution for Safer, Smarter School Travel: The Bike Bus

Dear *[Name]*,

I'm reaching out to share an exciting and community-driven initiative that is gaining momentum in cities across the country: the **bike bus**.

A bike bus is a group of students who ride to school together along a set route, picking up "passengers" along the way. Led by adult volunteers, it's a fun, healthy, and safe way for kids to get to school—while also supporting several key local priorities:

- Improved Safety – Reduces traffic congestion and creates calmer school zones.
- Public Health – Encourages active lifestyles and mental wellness in students.
- Environmental Benefits – Decreases emissions from short car trips.
- Economic Growth – Walkable and bikeable communities are attractive areas to locate businesses.
- Access – Can be inclusive with support for bike/helmet access and route planning.
- Transportation Resilience – Provides relief to overburdened school bus systems, especially amid ongoing bus driver shortages.

We would love your support to help grow this effort. Here are a few ways you can make a difference:

- Promote the bike bus through city conversations
- Support small-scale needs like cones, signage, or crossing guards
- Join us for a ride or event—it's a great media opportunity

This is a low-cost, high-reward solution that's making an impact—and we'd love to collaborate with you to bring it to more families in our community.

Please let me know if you'd like a short presentation, sample route, or toolkit overview. Thank you for your time and for all you do to support safe and healthy mobility.

Warm regards,
*[Your Full Name]*
*[Your Title or Affiliation, if relevant]*
*[Your Contact Info]*
*[Optional: Link to website, press coverage, or photos]*

# Student-Led Media

**School Newsletter Article**

Title: Join the Bike Bus – A Fun, Safe, and Healthy Way to Get to School!

Have you heard about the bike bus? It's a group of students who ride their bikes to school together along a planned route—like a school bus, but on bikes! Adult volunteers lead the ride, stopping at scheduled "bus stops" to pick up more riders along the way. It's a safe, healthy, and adventurous way for students to start their day.

Why join the bike bus?

- 🚦 **Be safe together** – Ride with adult leaders and a group of friends
- 😊 **Feel great** – Start the day with movement, fresh air, and fun
- 🌍 **Help the planet** – Fewer car trips mean cleaner air and less traffic
- 🎉 **Build community** – Make new friends and take pride in your ride

When does it run?
📅 Every *[day of week] [morning, after school]*
⏰ Departure time: *[Insert time]*
📍 Route starts at *[Location]* and arrives at *[School Name]* by *[Time]*

All students are welcome—just make sure you wear a helmet, bring a working bike, and have a signed permission slip if required.

Want to hop on?
📩 Parents, email *[Insert organizer name]* at *[email address or phone number]*

Let's roll to school, together!

**School Broadcast Script (Morning Announcements)**

*Anchor 1:* Good morning, *[School Name]*! Have you ever wanted to ride your bike to school—but wished you could do it with friends? Like in movies?

*Anchor 2:* Now you can! It's called the bike bus, and it's rolling through *[neighborhood/school zone]* every *[day of week]*! Think of it like a school bus—but everyone rides their bikes, led by adult volunteers who keep us safe on the road.

*Anchor 1:* You'll meet at *[starting location]* at *[departure time]*, pick up more riders at planned stops, and cruise into school together in time for *[class, breakfast, homeroom]*. It's like an adventure and it helps make our school zone safer and cleaner for everyone.

*Anchor 2:* To join, just bring a working bike, wear a helmet, and make sure you have permission if needed. Have your parents email *[name and contact info]* to let them know you want to join!

*Both Anchors:* Let's ride to school together—see you on the bike bus!

# Equipment Checklist

## For Bike Bus Organizers / Ride Leaders

These items help ensure safety, route visibility, communication, and group cohesion.

### Safety & Visibility

- High-visibility vest or jacket (reflective)
- Front and rear bike lights (white front, red rear – preferably USB rechargeable)
- Whistle or bell (for attention)
- Flags or tall bike flags (great for identifying leaders/sweepers)
- Handlebar or backpack-mounted mirror (to monitor group)
- Bike helmet
- First-aid kit
- Emergency contact info sheet
- Back-up bike lights or batteries

### Communication

- Printed route map and roster with parent contact info
- Clipboard or folder with sign-in/sign-out sheet and pen or pencil

### Route Safety Gear

- Cones or temporary signage (for staging areas)
- Laminated signs or flags ("Bike Bus," Caution: Students Biking")
- Zip ties and duct tape (always handy)!
- Portable bike pump + basic toolkit (multi-tool, tire levers, patch kit)

## For Students and Families

Make it fun, safe, and kid-friendly.

### Essentials

- Bike in good working order (check brakes, tires, gears)
- Properly fitting helmet
- Backpack with school supplies secured
- Water bottle
- Bright clothing (optional: safety vest or backpack cover)
- Closed-toe shoes
- Rear-facing reflective elements or blinking lights
- Bell or horn

# Sample Bike Bus Participation Form

**Participant Information**

Child's Name: _____

Age: _____ Grade: ____ School: _____

Home Address: _____

Parent/Guardian Name(s): _____

Phone Number(s): _____ Email Address: _____

**Emergency Contact Information**

Emergency Contact Name (other than parent/guardian): _____

Relationship to Child: _____ Phone Number(s): _____

**Medical Information**

Does your child have any allergies or medical conditions?

❍ No ❍ Yes – If yes, please describe:_____

_____

_____

Is your child currently taking any medications we should know about?

❍ No ❍ Yes – If yes, please describe:_____

_____

_____

# Sample Participation Agreement

I give permission for my child, named above, to participate in the bike bus rides. I understand that a bike bus is a group ride to school with adult volunteers and other children. I acknowledge the following:

- I will ensure my child arrives on time at the designated start location.
- My child will wear a properly fitted helmet at all times during the ride.
- My child understands the importance of following safety rules and listening to adult leaders.
- I acknowledge that bicycling carries some inherent risks and I accept responsibility for those risks.
- In the event of an emergency, I authorize the adult volunteers to seek appropriate medical care for my child.

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____

Printed Name: _____

Date: _____




## Need more guidance?

*Don't forget to sign up for the coalition to receive news, chat with community organizations, and more!*

SCHOOL BUS

GEORGIA **COMMUTE** SCHOOLS