

Project Title

Covered Bicycle Parking on Trinity Campus

Person who proposed it

Jaydon Fisher and Abby Bleything

Decision

Fully Funded

Budget

\$150,310

Project explanation

My proposal for the students of Trinity Campus is an enclosed bike shelter to provide protection and adequate storage for all of the bikes on the Trinity campus. Trinity campus and the Arts and Creativity learning community is a wonderful place to live. The people are avidly friendly and the community is truly connected, however, the walk to campus is not always a short one. Additionally, the busses may not be available at the times when you need them. A great solution for this is a bike however, Trinity campus, especially the back five, lacks a secure and weatherproof place to store the bikes.

My initial understanding from my tour of the campus before attending UVM was that there were plenty of indoor or enclosed options to keep your bikes so that they do not have to be left outside. Upon my arrival to campus, I found this not to be true. Many other dorms on campus have indoor bike rooms or outdoor bike shelters to store bikes so that they are safe and protected. The only current available place to store bikes on Trinity is the bike racks under the covering of McAuley Hall, and even this only provides some protection from the elements as it is only covered from above. When contacting ResLife, to inquire about the possibility of an indoor bike room, they responded saying there is not enough space in the dorms to provide for such accommodations. Many students choose to use their bikes as a means of transportation around campus and even more bring their bikes for recreational use. These students are left with no other alternative other than being forced to leave our bikes outside in the rain and snow to rust and eventually break. In addition to this, many students have valuable bikes that they would like to take care of properly and not abuse. This also holds true for the many students of Trinity campus that own electric bikes. These electric bikes are even more expensive than regular bicycles, have many more complex parts, and are not designed to be in wet conditions, especially not to be left outside in these conditions 24/7. These conditions that the students are being forced to abide by are costing them money and ruining all of our belongings when other students in different learning communities are treated differently.

The installation of an outdoor bike shelter would resolve all of the problems stated above. The construction of an enclosed bike shelter would protect these bikes from the rain and soon-to-be snow, all while additionally providing a safer space to keep the bikes stored without worry of them being stolen. A large enough shelter could easily accommodate the bikes of Trinity residents while creating a better learning community and living environment for the students. This construction would be very beneficial to the students of Trinity campus as it allows for anyone to be able to have a second means of transportation to get to campus and to get to their classes more easily and efficiently. In addition, this also provides a safer environment for the students and their bikes. It is no secret that Burlington has an

unusually high amount of bike thefts, and college students make up a vast percentage of bikes in Burlington. There have been many bikes stolen that I have been aware of from Trinity campus alone. This creates an uneasy and unsafe feeling around the campus and can cause students to fear for the safety of their belongings. Outdoor bike shelters such as the one on central campus can be equipped with cameras and/or CATcard readers to deter bike theft that are all too common. This would create a safer environment for the Trinity resident and allow for students to feel more comfortable that their belongings will still be there when they return.

This project supports the Sustainable Campus Fund mission of displacing fossil fuel use on campus by encouraging people to commute to and get around campus using active transportation, rather than using fossil-fuel-powered vehicles. The bike shelter structure proposed in this project has already received the approval from the Campus Master Planning Committee (CMPC) and Landscape Advisory Committee (LAC). Covered and secured bike parking for Trinity residents has been discussed for decades without resolution. This enclosed shelter would provide the first secured and weatherproof bike parking option on all of Trinity campus.

The costs developed in this proposal were taken from the extensive work done on the Harris Millis covered bike shelter estimates. After walking the site with PPD, it was determined that the sites were similar enough to share estimates. The most suitable location for the shelter would be in the back of McAuley on the flat surface where the existing racks off, directly off the walkway. Our team, including members of PPD, PDC, TPS, and OoS will use the budgeted funds to oversee a bidding process, acquisition of materials, and construction of the shelters at each location on academic and residential campus.

In line with the of University’s Active Transportation Plan, as well as the University’s Climate Action Plan goal of 100% carbon-neutral commuting by 2025, the aim of this project is to encourage bicycling as a year-round method of transportation. The implementation of covered bike parking will encourage bicycle use by creating convenient, secure, weather-resistant spaces for university students, employees, and visitors to park their bikes. Implementing this piece of bike infrastructure, and the subsequent increase of bicycling as a method of transportation, has numerous beneficial impacts, including increasing equity for those that do not have access to a vehicle and creating a healthier campus environment through increased physical activity of UVM affiliates and reduced air pollution caused by the displacement of cars.

In conclusion, I along with many others believe that Trinity campus not only deserves the equal treatment that other learning communities receive, but that Trinity campus would highly benefit from the incorporation of an outdoor bike shelter. This would provide the students with a safer, more practical, and weatherproof alternative to the current unsafe unsuitable conditions that are damaging the belongings of the innocent students living there.

Budget table

This Money will Supply	Requested funds	Justification
Arlington Shelter 16’x27’ Enclosed Shelter	\$120,704	Costs of Shelter, Delivery, Bike Racks, Installation, Civil, and Electrical

Site Work	\$10,000	Cost of SW Permitting, Civil Plans, Structural, Project Management/Inspection Service
Contingency	\$19,605	About 15% of the budget in the case of obstacles or challenges, as is often the case in construction projects