Bike Share Aruba
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Bike Sharing – a nonmotorized transportation service that provides users the ability to pick up a bicycle at any self serve bike sharing station in the network and return it to any other bike sharing station.

Benefits of Bike Sharing
• “Bike sharing programs can contribute to reduced traffic congestion, reduced use of fossil fuels, reduced pressures on motor vehicle parking supply, and increased use of transit and other single occupant vehicle alternatives (e.g., rail, bus, car-sharing).” Toole, pg. 16
• Promotes a healthier lifestyle by actively riding to your destination as well as give the option for people to spontaneously go for a bike ride
• “Bike share rides generated by tourists have the potential of becoming a considerable source of revenue for a bike share system. Some tourist areas are congested, putting pressures on existing transportation infrastructure. A bike share program increases mode share choices and providing quicker access to recreational areas.” Toole, pg. 17
• Riding to your destination provides more visibility of local shops and restaurants that you would normally pass right by in a vehicle

Implementation Costs
The implementation and operational costs can greatly benefit jurisdictions because of their lower costs in compared with other public forms of transportation. The flexibility of the program also allows it to be installed and operational in months rather than years.
• Bike lane infrastructure must be expanded in Aruba in order to have a safe and successful program. This will increase the upfront cost but will be cheaper in compared to building new roads for high car population.
• To keep start up costs lower, bike share areas can be set up in phases. The map above shows the initial proposed areas to begin the bike sharing program. Each phase will be completed after successful implementation of its predecessor to use profits and lessons learned for the next phase.
• The table to the right shows an approximation of equipment costs in the initial and operating phases to get an idea of funds needed.

Environmental Bike Considerations
• Rust resistant protective coatings to easier maintain the bikes condition
• Tubeless bike tires to minimize flat tires from bush thorns and cactus needles

The figure above shows the different steps necessary in each phase to create the bike share program. One step is to determine the best type of station and bike for the program out of the many different options. Location determination for the stations is crucial to the success of the program. The stations must be placed in visible locations that are easily accessible and do not block transit paths including walking and biking paths.

Go Even Greener!
• Use stations powered by solar panels (only require a minimum of 4 hours of sunlight)
• Provide E-bikes (uses a battery to power an electric motor) either as the whole fleet or as an option to those who don’t mind paying a little extra for some assistance when pedaling gets tough

Where do we go from here?
Get a team together and start by doing a full feasibility analysis!!!

References: