



# Request For Information

## South Central Power Up E-Bike Lending Library Operator

**LOS ANGELES CLEANTECH INCUBATOR**

INFORMATION DUE BY: **February 9, 2026**

# Key RFI Dates and Contact Information

## Key Project Dates:

- RFI Open for Submissions – **Monday January 5, 2026 at 9:00am PST**
- RFI Response Submission Deadline – **Monday, February 9, 2026 at 11:59pm PDT**  
Early submissions are welcomed and encouraged.

## Contact Information:

Please direct inquiries regarding this RFI to all contacts listed below:

- **Lacey Reddix**, Director Innovation Pilots, lacey@lincubator.org
- **Alexandria Bernabe**, Innovation Pilots Coordinator, alexandria@lincubator.org

# South Central Power Up Overview

Through this RFI, The [Los Angeles Cleantech Incubator \(LACI\)](#) is seeking information from organizations and businesses interested in operating an e-bike lending library called South Central Power Up (SCPU- see Area of Operations map), in South Central Los Angeles (LA) in 2026 and 2027.

Since 2024, with original funding from the California Air Resources Board (CARB) Sustainable Transportation Equity Project (STEP) and in partnership with the Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT), LACI and eight organizations and businesses serving the South Central LA community - [People for Mobility Justice \(PMJ\)](#), [Ride On! Bike Shop](#), [RideWitUs](#), [SCOPE](#), [T.R.U.S.T South LA](#), [Esperanza Community Housing](#), [Labor Community Strategy Center](#), and [Community Services Unlimited](#) - have operated the SCPU e-bike lending library, providing an initial 250 e-bikes.

In this next phase of the lending library up to 250 additional e-bikes will be available for month-long rentals (with the possibility to extend) to residents in South Central LA. Currently, rentals are free for residents.

The eight community organizations and businesses serve as Community Management Partners (CMPs) for the program. LACI and the CMPs have been working closely together since 2022 to design the pilot model, operations, and provide community-based specifications for the custom-made e-bikes. Further, to make sure SCPU is centering community and equity, the program is designed so that CMPs are on the frontlines of the program, responsible for operating rental hubs at their locations, which includes:

- Storing a portion of the e-bike fleet,
- Loaning e-bikes to participants,
- Ensuring users sign relevant liability waivers and user agreements,
- Collecting e-bikes from participants and coordinating needed maintenance,
- Providing access to online safety and usage training,
- Signing participants up for on-bike trainings, and
- Publicizing and disseminating program information to the community.

In this next phase, PMJ, a community-based organization, will serve as the project manager for SCPU, leading program development, community management partner coordination, develop training for E-Bike users, and project marketing. The Operator for the program will work in partnership with PMJ to seamlessly deliver the Scope of Work for the program as described below, including but not limited to fleet servicing and maintenance, balancing the number of bikes between CMPs, and tracking bike locations.

To date, the participants in the program have ridden over 34,622 miles. To continue SCPU operations in 2026-2027, LADOT applied along with grantee lead, Community Partners, for funding through the Strategic Growth Council's (SGC) Transformative Climate Communities (TCC) Program. LADOT was awarded TCC funding as project implementation partner for the e-bike library as part of the larger South LA Eco-Lab. In addition to continuing existing operations, funding will be used to expand the lending

library by adding between 200 to 250 e-bikes to the library. LACI anticipates being awarded a contract by LADOT in early 2026 to continue and expand operations for SCPU. At the end of the TCC grant period, to the extent that they have useful life, the e-bikes must remain to the benefit of the South LA community, and currently the CMPs are developing a long-term sustainability plan for the program.

Please note, **there is no guarantee that any funding, contract or pilot will be awarded to respondents to this RFI. LACI will issue a separate RFI/ RFP for procurement of additional e-bikes for the library.**

## *LACI Background*

The Los Angeles Cleantech Incubator (LACI) is creating an inclusive green economy for the people of Los Angeles and beyond. We are unlocking innovation by working with startups to accelerate the commercialization of clean technologies, transforming markets through partnerships with policymakers, innovators, and market leaders in transportation, energy, and sustainable cities, and enhancing communities through workforce development, pilots, and other programs. Founded as an economic development initiative by the City of Los Angeles and Los Angeles Department of Water & Power (LADWP), LACI is recognized as one of the most innovative business incubators in the world by UBI Global. Since 2011, LACI has helped 506 portfolio companies raise \$1 billion in funding, generate \$344 million in revenue, and create more than 2,600 jobs throughout the Los Angeles region, with a projected long-term economic impact of more than \$733 million. Learn more at [laci.org](http://laci.org)

## *The South LA Eco-Lab*

The South LA Eco-Lab is a transformative, community-driven initiative awarded \$35 million in 2022 by the SGC's TCC program. The South LA Eco-Lab is creating a greener, healthier and more resilient neighborhood via economic development through climate action. With 11 interconnected projects, the South LA Eco-Lab brings together residents, small businesses, community-based organizations, and public agencies to address long-standing environmental and economic challenges in South Los Angeles. The South LA Eco-Lab builds off the work from the South LA Climate Commons, funded under the Round 2 Transformative Climate Communities Planning Grant.

Rooted in a multi-year planning process, the South LA Eco-Lab focuses on expanding access to affordable housing, creating well-paying green jobs, improving public transportation, and enhancing the local environment with more green spaces and cleaner air. From installing 84 cool roofs and planting over 4,000 trees, to providing 45,255 free annual Metro passes to students and building 16 new EV charging stations, the South LA Eco-Lab ensures that South LA benefits from sustainable infrastructure improvements while protecting residents from displacement.

Through robust community engagement, workforce development programs and displacement avoidance, the South LA Eco-Lab empowers residents to take ownership of these investments, ensuring lasting benefits for generations to come. This initiative not only addresses climate resilience but also builds economic opportunity and social equity, making South LA a model for sustainable urban transformation

# Scope of Work

LACI is requesting information from respondents related to providing the following services for SCPU in 2026-2027:

- **Readiness:** The Operator should be able to provide services immediately and integrate into the existing program with little to no interruptions to the program;
- **Fleet Service:** The Operator will be responsible for fleet service. This includes a maintenance plan for continued reliable operation including repairs and maintenance of the e-bikes, to be coordinated with the CMPs. Maintenance and repair responsibilities apply to all hardware and software components. The Operator will be responsible for developing and implementing a regular inspection, preventative maintenance, and repair schedule that keeps the fleet in continuous operation. The Operator will be responsible for finalizing a fleet maintenance and operations plan;
- **Fleet balancing:** The Operator shall monitor the location of each bicycle. Continuously and predictably redistribute bicycles so there is consistent availability of bikes throughout the service area. The Operator should have experience with fleet management software (i.e. JoyRide and similar applications) and will own and operate this software for the duration of the program.
- **On-site repairs and routine maintenance:** The Operator shall coordinate with CMPs to schedule any on-site work including e-bike balancing and maintenance;
- **Asset loss prevention:** The Operator shall minimize opportunities for asset theft and vandalism through the planning and implementation of mitigation efforts, including but not limited to picking up and managing e-bikes that need service, are inoperable, or abandoned;
- **Customize and provide full access to membership / lending / payment software:** The Operator shall be responsible for ensuring community operations partners have the ability to independently enroll new members and process lending reservations, check-out & check-in and any payment processing;
- **Customer service responses:** The Operator shall provide a timely response to customer service inquiries from both SCPU riders and CMPs. The Operator shall provide a shared database in which project stakeholders can communicate complaints from the public and track the resolution of such complaints;
- **Fleet storage:** The Operator shall work with LACI to ensure e-bike storage for the remainder of the fleet that is not in use or deployed to the Community Operation Partner locations;
- **Rental hub location:** The Operator is responsible for serving as a rental hub for participants; and
- **CMP Meetings:** The Operator shall participate in CMP meetings as necessary and requested by LADOT, LACI, and PMJ to provide updates on operations, coordinate with the CMPs on maintenance needs and fleet balancing, and further refine the pilot operations model.

Intended SCPU outcomes are focused on:

- Providing access to economic opportunity with expanded mobility options that are clean and safe for low-income residents of South Central LA;
- Providing affordable mobility options to access additional basic services such as schools, grocery stores, and health appointments;
- Providing additional zero emissions mobility access that compliments existing transit options;
- Reducing Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) of internal combustion engine vehicles to lower air pollutants and GHG emissions; and
- Exposing new communities and individuals to zero emission transportation options and encouraging mode-shift out of single occupancy vehicles to active transportation.

LACI is now accepting expressions of interest in response to this RFI. We look forward to reviewing submissions in detail, and will inform each stakeholder of the outcome within six weeks of the submission window closing. If you have questions, please connect with LACI staff (contact information shown below).

## Area of Operation

The South Central Power Up Area of Operations consists of neighborhoods in South LA, bordered by the 110 freeway to the east and the 10 freeway to the north. The population is over 370,000, and the majority of residents are people of color – two-thirds Hispanic and one-quarter African American. Much of the area qualifies as a disadvantaged community per CalEnviroScreen 3.0 and/or an AB 1550 low-income community. Over 6% of households reported owning no vehicle and 30% own one vehicle. 6.7% of workers in the area walk or bike to work and 14.3% take transit to work. The CalEnviroScreen 4.0 score for the Area of Operation is between 90 and 100.

The SCPU Area of Operations boundary includes the following zip codes:

90001	90003	90007	90008
90011	90015	90016	90018
90021	90037	90043	90047
90044	90052	90058	90062
90089			

## Submission Requirements

### *Who Should Respond To This RFI?*

Organizations and businesses of all kinds who can provide the services as described in the Scope of Work, whether community based organizations, non-profits, small businesses, startups, or corporates, etc. are encouraged to apply.

### *RFI Response Requirements*

#### **General:**

- Organization Name
- Organization Address
- Organization Type
  - Local Business
  - Community Based Organization
- Representative First Name
- Representative Last Name
- Representative Title
- Email Address
- Phone
- Website
- LACI company affiliation (if any)
  - Current or Former LACI Startup - Innovator, Incubation, Market Access
  - Corporate Partner
  - Current or Former LACI pilot technology provider or operator

## Questions:

1. **Overview:** Provide a brief description of your company and products/services, including:
  - i. Years company has offered relevant products/services
  - ii. Number of employees
  - iii. Headquarters and office location(s)
  - iv. Service offering(s)
  - v. Geographic coverage
  - vi. Any business designations, such as small business or minority-owned
  - vii. Registration/Corporation status
  - viii. State of Formation:
2. An overview of your **organizational experience**: Describe experience developing, contributing or supporting similar projects; describe any relevant experience with fleet management systems and applications (i.e. JoyRide).
3. An overview of your **regional experience and impact**. Where is your organization located? Is your organization active in South Los Angeles? If so, in what ways?
4. An overview of your **proposal** that could advance the described pilot goals. Write a description of efforts and resources that your business/organization could provide to meet the Scope of Work.
5. An overview of your **stakeholders** and **how you engage with them**. Stakeholders can include e-bike manufacturers, community-based organizations, municipalities, etc.
6. An overview of your approach to **workforce development and training**.

## *RFI Schedule*

Responses must be submitted on or before **Monday, February 9, 2026 at 11:59pm PST**. We strongly encourage early submissions.

## *RFI Contact*

All correspondence and inquiries related to this project must be directed in writing by email to all the following contacts:

- **Lacey Reddix**, Director Innovation Pilots, lacey@lincubator.org
- **Alexandria Bernabe**, Innovation Pilots Coordinator, alexandria@lincubator.org

## *RFI Response Instructions*

All respondents must provide information related to the topics and questions outlined in the “RFI Response Requirements” section above.

Responses should be no more than ten (10) pages, single-spaced at 12-point font, provided as a PDF or Word document. Please also include the following information as a header on every page:

1. Name and address of firm
2. Contact Name
3. Contact Email
4. Contact Phone Number

Responses must be submitted through the SMAApply portal. Only electronic submissions received through the portal detailed below will be accepted:

[https://laci.smapply.org/prog/scpu\\_e-bike\\_operator/](https://laci.smapply.org/prog/scpu_e-bike_operator/)

If there are challenges or issues relating to the submission of the RFI responses, they can be directed to [lacey@laincubator.org](mailto:lacey@laincubator.org); copying [alexandria@laincubator.org](mailto:alexandria@laincubator.org)

### *Confidentiality*

Responses submitted will be shared with LACI staff, and any of the following parties: Los Angeles Department of Transportation, the City of Los Angeles, and People for Mobility Justice. Outside of the entities stated above, LACI will not share specific responses in any other capacity without express written permission from applicants.