From Kindergarten to Connected Communities

Growing demand for safer streets through Bikes in Schools



New York Metropolitan Transportation Council
October 21, 2026

Why don’t more people bike in our cities?

Safety Concerns

Lack of Infrastructure

Cultural Norms



Why This Room Matters

- Policymakers
- DOT
- Public Works
- Advocates
- Designers





Our Mission & Vision

<u>Vision:</u>

For every kid to experience the empowering freedom, pure joy, and life-long benefits of cycling.

<u>Mission:</u>

We work to put more kids on bikes because we believe cycling is good for people and communities.





Shredders MTB 2026

- **Youth (ages 3-11) recreational mountain bike programming**
  - Saratoga Springs, Queensbury, Albany, Schenectady, Orange County
  - Spring and Fall programming - 400 kids, 150 coaches this spring
  - Summer Camp programming - 125 kids
- **Bikes in Schools programming**
  - Saratoga Springs K-12, including Unified
  - Queensbury: Unified PE
  - Port Jervis: Kindergarten
  - In progress: Shenendahowa, Albany School Districts





Infrastructure follows expectation

Learn to Ride → Ride with Family → Hit Barriers → Advocate → Build Infrastructure → More riders traveling safely!





Meet the Riders







Bikes in Schools: The Process

Get Kids on Bikes!

3 Teachers inspire the kids!

Inspire Teachers

- **Professional development** for teachers to get kids on bikes
- Develop **maintenance agreement** with local bike shop



Acquire the Tools

1
- Purchase bikes & helmets
- Develop curriculum
- Determine storage options
- Determine riding locations

What is Bikes in Schools?

- A PE-based program that brings bikes, helmets, curriculum, and PD into classrooms so biking becomes as accessible as any other PE activity
- A complete package that sets PE teachers up for success
- A collaborative model tailored to each school





Why Bikes in Schools?

- Gives every kid the chance to learn to ride a bike
- Removes the biggest barriers to cycling
- Builds balance, coordination, endurance, whole-body fitness
- Teaches a lifelong skill





How it works

- Full package delivered to school
- Teachers get trained
- Schools tailor the program
- Students ride during PE
- Ongoing support





Bikes!







Curriculum & Professional Development







Case Study: Saratoga Springs School District

Spring 2023

- Kindergarten Learn to Ride pilot
- Balance bike fleets purchased and received at all 6 SSCSD elementary schools - 150 bikes

Fall 2023

- Grade 2-5 curriculum developed and approved

Spring 2024

- Grade 1-5 bike fleet (30 bikes) purchased
- Ran PD for PE staff (9 teachers)
- Curriculum for Grade 6-12 developed and approved

Fall 2024

- Built trails at Maple Ave MS
- Middle School (grades 6-8) mtb program implemented
- Unified PE bike fleet purchased and implemented

Spring 2025

- Bike PD for PE staff

Fall 2025

- High School (grades 9-12) mtb program implemented at Saratoga High School
- K-12 Bikes in schools program fully implemented

2023 — 2024 — 2024 — 2025

Saratoga Spring CSD









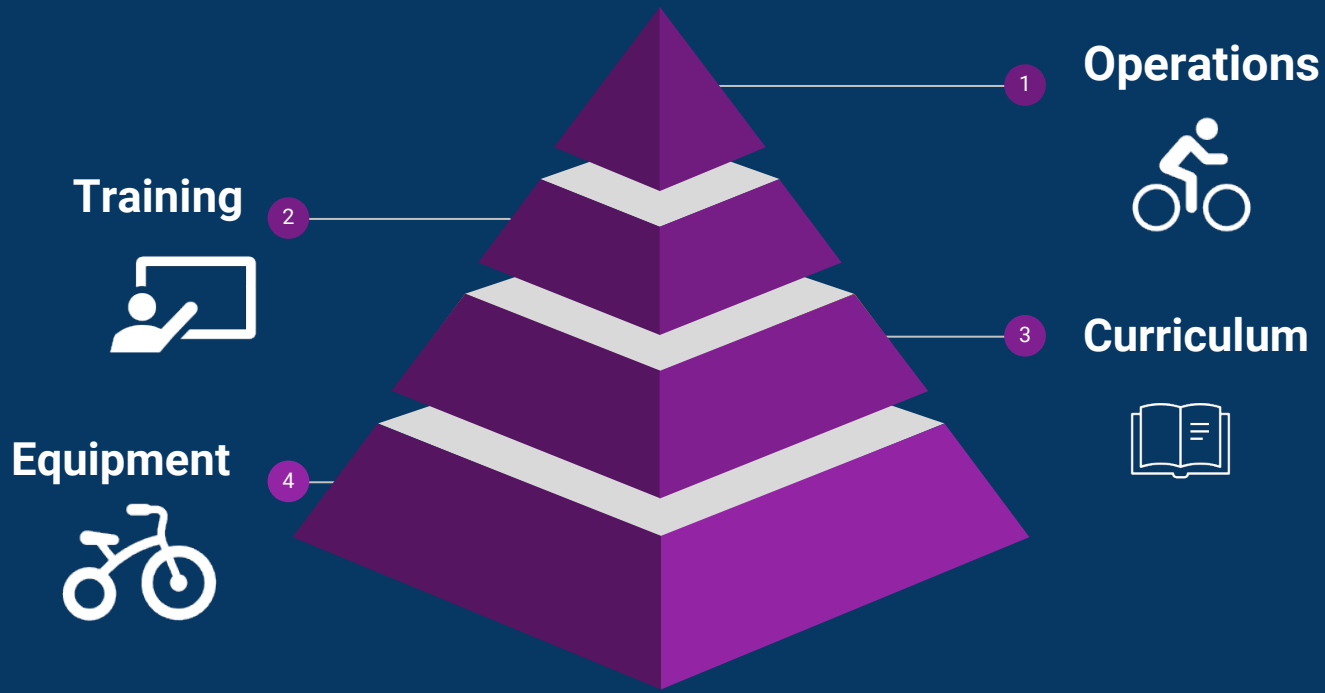
Stories of Impact from Saratoga







What we Built



The Real Innovation

Removing barriers



Cost



Access



Transportation



Confidence



Inclusion

From Classroom to Community Impact

- Riding together
- Advocating for change
- Building Connections



TOGA BIKE BUS

BIKEATOGA
PEDALING FOR A BETTER FUTURE

smba
Saratoga Mt. Bike Association

CITY OF SARATOGA SPRINGS N.Y.
INCORPORATED 1915

Saratoga Greenbelt Trail

Saratoga Safer Streets

CAPITAL REGION COMPLETE STREETS

Saratoga Trails Alliance

saratoga PLAN
Preserving Land and Nature

Toga Bike Bus: School Commute, Reimagined

A community-driven, safe, fun, and healthy way for kids to get to school.

- Students and families ride to school together
- Planned route with scheduled stops
- Led by parents and volunteers
- Just like a school bus…powered by pedals



Built by the Community

- Started by 4 moms
- Launched May 2025
- Grew through volunteers & partnerships
- Now multiple routes across schools
- ~50 riders weekly at 3 schools

Community partners:

- Bikeatoga
- Shredders MTB
- Lake Avenue Elementary School PTA
- Saratoga Springs Complete Streets Advisory Board



Impact beyond the ride

- Builds confidence and independence
- Strengthens community connections
- Increases driver awareness
- Safer streets for everyone



From learning to ride - to riding as part of daily life

Saratoga Bike Park - From Riders to Advocates



- Shredder girls identified a need: a safe place to ride
- Wanted something accessible from town
- Presented their pitch to the Saratoga Rec Commission

From Advocacy to Investment





- Multi-year effort (3 years)
- $400k city investment
- $420k state funding secured
- ~$1M total project

From Vision to Reality



- Phase 1 completed, July 2025: pump track
- Full park designed (renderings shown)
- Safe, local place for skill building and recreation

A space built because kids asked for it

The Parent Realization



‘Mom, Dad, I learned how to ride a bike in school today. Can we ride to town?’

The parent realization

‘We WANT to, but we can’t safely’

- No safe route
- No connections
- Traffic fear

Advocacy

- Parents (and kids) go to PTA, School Board, Town Hall
- Asking for:
  - Safe crossings
  - Bike connections
  - Greenways/ sidepaths
  - Traffic calming measures





If you're lucky, this leads to



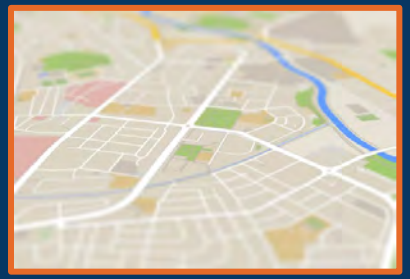




Why This Matters to This Audience



Community voices



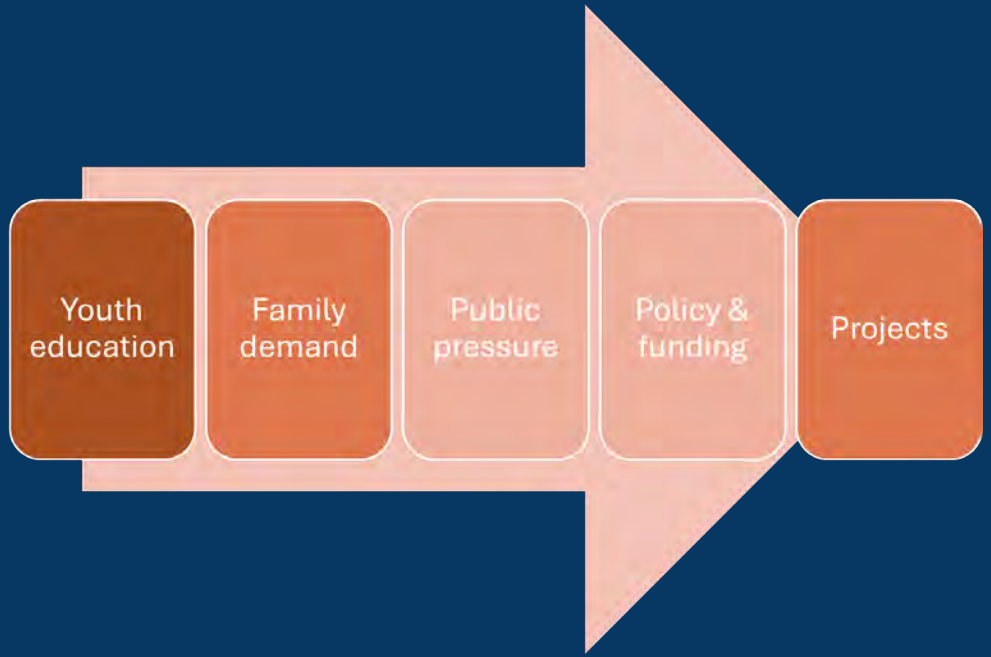
Agencies & planners





System response

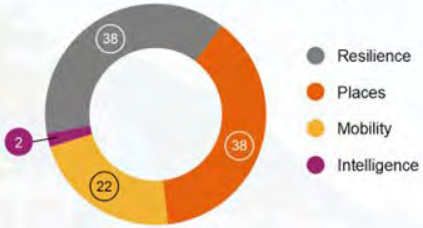
Missing link: We build infrastructure without building ridership



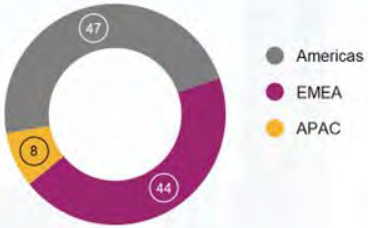
Arcadis: at a glance

With 36,000 people, operating in 30+ countries, Arcadis operates from a position of strength with well-established local expertise and services and global scale to meet client needs and ultimately improve quality of life for all.

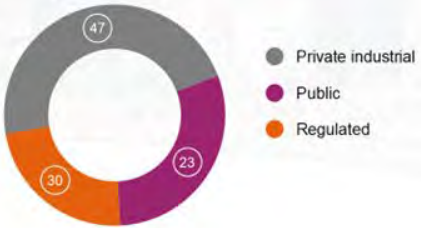
Global Business Areas (GBAs) in %



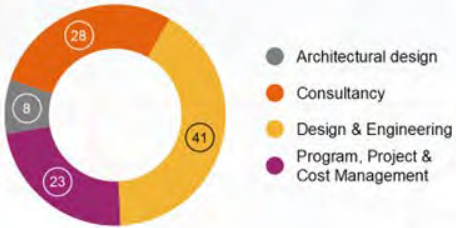
Geographical in %



Clients in %



Services in %



All percentages based on FY '24 net revenue



Founded in 1888
in the Netherlands



36,000 people
operating in 30+ countries



€5.0 billion
in gross revenues in 2024



Ranked top 2% in our industry in 2024
for ESG performance by Sustainanalytics



2nd largest
architecture firm in the world



Platinum rated by EcoVadis
for successfully integrating sustainability practices.

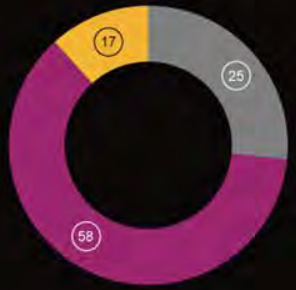
Our Global Business Areas

Mobility

Developing sustainable and innovative solutions to transform the way we move around and between our cities.

Key client offerings:

- New Mobility and Airport Hubs
- Connected Highways
- Intelligent Rail and Transit
- Resilient Ports & Maritime Transportation



Geographical in %

- Americas
- EMEA
- APAC

Net Revenues 2024
Full Year in %

6,549
Total headcount

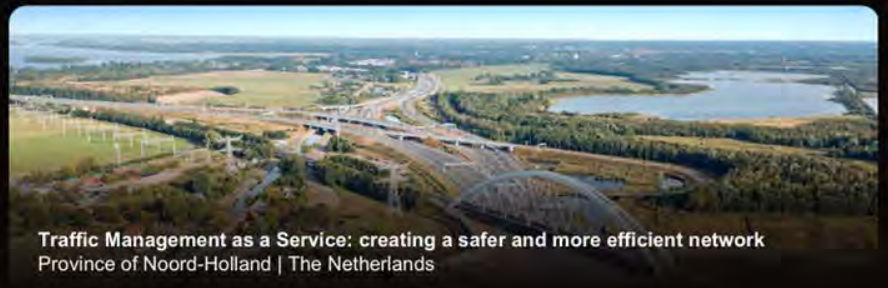
861
Total net revenue in millions of euro

22%
Total revenue as % of total Arcadis



"Our big project wins in 2024 are testament to how we're coming together as a global team and making the most of the huge talent and digital capability we have within our business."

Heather Polinsky, GBA President, Resilience & Mobility



Traffic Management as a Service: creating a safer and more efficient network
Province of Noord-Holland | The Netherlands

The 5 needs of active travelers



Developing a bicycle (multimodal) network



Mobility Hubs

Arcadis view **Mobility Hubs** as recognizable places within the transportation network that brings together public transit in combination with:

- **Shared Mobility**
- **Active Mobility & Amenities**
- **Public & Pedestrian Amenities**
- **Support Services**
- **Motorized Services**

Mobility Hubs can range in type and size to meet the unique needs of communities.

When formed as a network, Mobility Hubs can provide resilience to the transportation system.

And provide alternative routes of travel and modal choices at costs that are equitable.



Shared Mobility
- Micromobility
- Ride Hail
- Microtransit
- Car Share
- MaaS

Active Mobility & Amenities
- Bikeshare
- E-Bike Charging
- Parking / Storage
- Repair Station

Public & Pedestrian Amenities
- Sheltered Areas
- Walkways
- Street Furniture
- Retail Kiosks
- Socializing Areas

Support Services
- Real-Time Information
- WiFi Amenities
- Wayfinding & Signage
- Public Art
- CCTV

Motorized Services
- EV Charging
- Shuttles
- PU/DO Areas
- Carpool Parking
- ADA Parking



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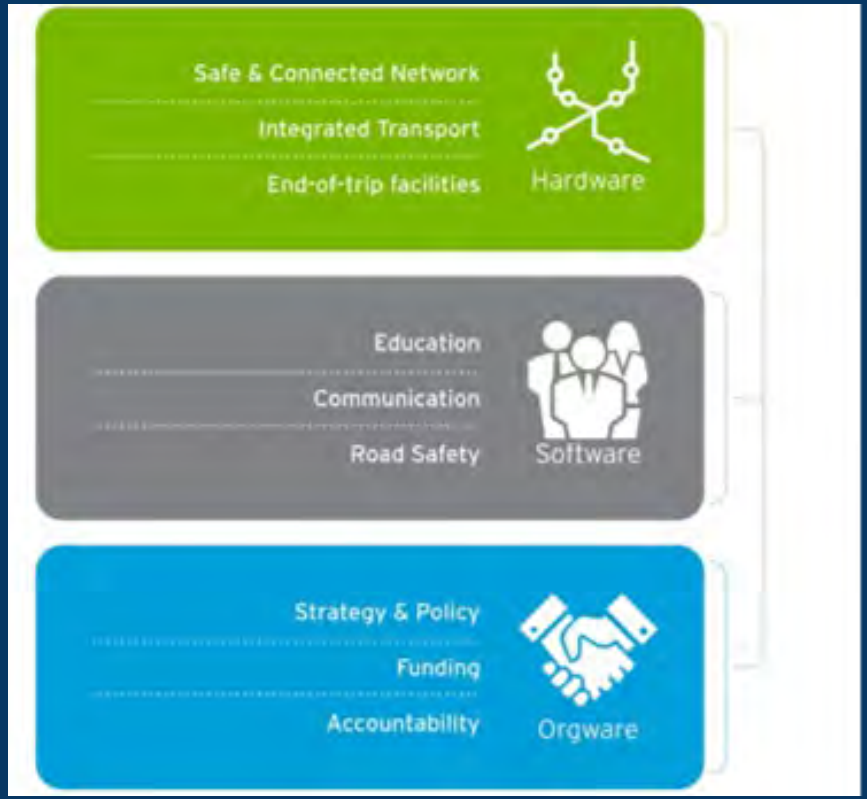
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Developing a bicycle (multimodal) network





Arcadis Projects

Brooklyn Naval Yard



NYC Citywide Greenway Plan



Arcadis Projects

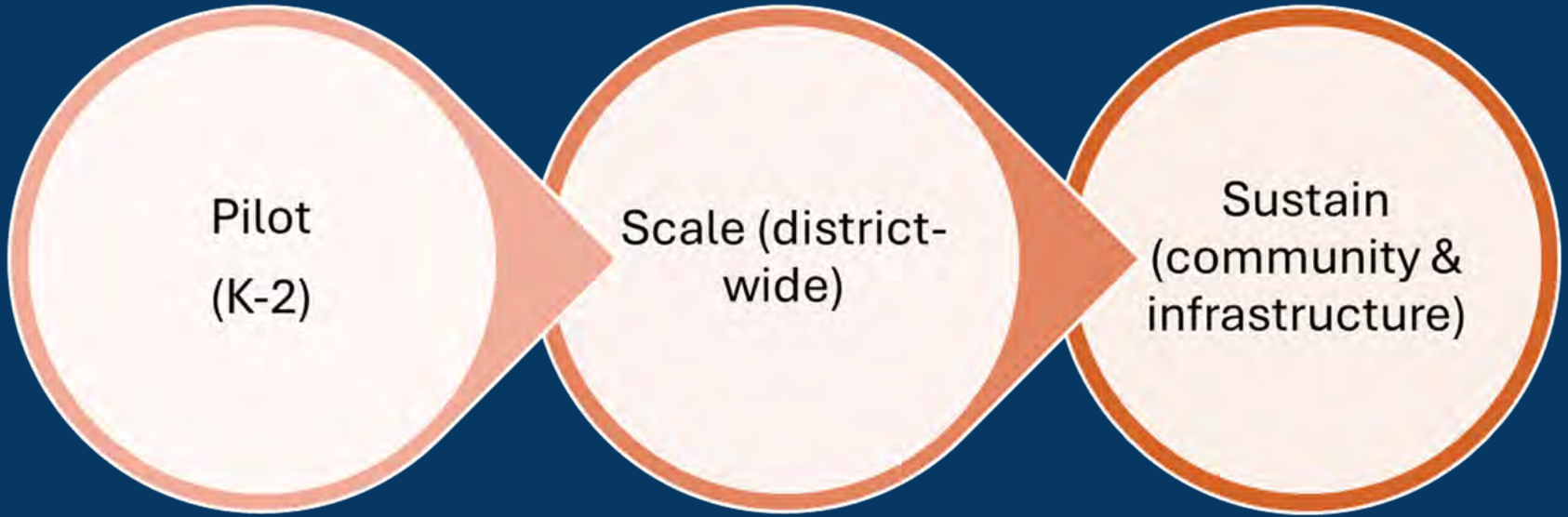
Hoboken Green Circuit



St. George Ferry Terminal



Scaling the movement



Calls to Action

- Schools: Integrate PE cycling
- Agencies: fund upstream (education & safety)
- Public Works: plan connections
- Nonprofits: activate communities
- Firms: design for real users

Thank you

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