



Press Release

From The Office Of
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SUFFOLK COUNTY EXECUTIVE BELLONE ANNOUNCES FIRST OF ITS KIND REGIONAL BIKE SHARE PROGRAM

Bethpage Ride Now Available at 17 Locations throughout Village of Babylon, Village of Patchogue, and Hampton Bays – More Locations Anticipated Across the County

***Bike Share Launched Ahead of [Long Island Mobility Week](#)
New Promotion Will Allow Users a Free Ride on September 20 for Car Free Day***

Suffolk County Executive Steve Bellone, Zagster and Bethpage Federal Credit Union today launched Suffolk County's regional Bike Share program, Bethpage Ride, the first of its kind on Long Island. Bethpage Ride is now available in the Village of Babylon, the Village of Patchogue, and Hampton Bays, in the town of Southampton.

In addition to unveiling the docking stations, County Executive Bellone announced a promotion in celebration of Car Free Day on September 20. With the code ***ridecarfree60***, which can be redeemed on the pace bike share app, users will receive a 60-minute free ride to try the system, which will be available until the end of the year. Car Free Day is an international event celebrated every September in which people are encouraged to get around without cars and instead ride a train, bus, bicycle, carpool, subway or walk.

"Bike Share is here and ready to change the landscape of mobility and transportation in Suffolk," **said County Executive Bellone.** "We are effectively extending the reach of our existing transit system, and once out of reach locations are now within easy biking distance."

"What a tremendous asset for village residents and visitors to travel through our village and experience our greenway from Argyle Lake to Belmont park," **said Village of Babylon Mayor Ralph Scordino.**

"Biking is a great way to get around the community and get exercise at the same time," **said Southampton Town Supervisor Jay Schneiderman.** "We also get the added benefits of less traffic, less air pollution and less use of fossil fuels."

"Many communities around the country have successful bike share programs and Bethpage is thrilled to be a part the Suffolk County Launch," **said Linda Armyn, Senior Vice President, Bethpage Federal Credit Union.** "It has been a pleasure working with Suffolk County and Zagster to help roll out this vast initiative and we look forward to providing continued support so that even more communities can benefit."

Karl Alexander, Zagster Senior Market Manager, said: "Zagster is proud to have partnered with Suffolk County and Bethpage Federal Credit Union on the launch of Bethpage Ride,

powered by our Pace bike share platform. Micro-mobility options such as bike share are spreading across the US faster than ever before. When done right, micro-mobility gives consumers safer, more affordable transportation options, gets them out of their single occupancy cars, and fundamentally changes the way they get around their communities. Pairing these services with community initiatives such as Car-Free Day is an affirmative step in this direction for Suffolk County."

Bike share stations can be found at the following locations:

Babylon:

- Babylon LIRR
- Babylon Village Pool
- Argyle Park/ Carlston Place
- Locust Avenue
- Park Avenue
- Totten Place

Patchogue:

- Patchogue LIRR
- Blue Point Brewery
- Patchogue Theatre Alley
- Roe Walkway
- Davis Park Ferry
- Mascot Dock

Hampton Bays:

- Good Ground Park
- Downtown Hampton Bays
- Tiana Beach
- Ponquogue Beach
- Shinnecock Inlet

All bike share stations will be displayed on a map in the pace bike sharing app, with up-to-date bike and parking availability, as well as a link to help you get directions to the station.

The program includes modern technology features that can be accessed through smartphone devices, making it simple and accessible. Users will have the ability to download the Pace app and will either be able to pay per ride or buy a membership.

Riders have several different rental options with Bethpage Ride. Riders can pay \$1 per 15 minutes, but can also opt for a monthly plan for \$10 or a yearly plan for \$60 per year. Both plans allow for unlimited trips of up to 30 minutes. College students, 18 years or older, and EBT recipients have the option to receive half off pricing. Users have the options of paying through major credit cards, Paypal, or by using cash through "Paypal CASH" at participating locations.

System members will also receive universal access to other Pace bike share programs throughout the United States. In New York, other systems are currently located in Rochester and Utica.

In order to participate in Bethpage Ride, users must be 18 years older. Riders have the option of returning a bike to one of the Pace docking stations, or for a two dollar charge, they can lock the bike at any public bike rack or safe location. Rider support is available 24/7 through the Pace App, or by either emailing support@ridepace.com or calling 888-321-PACE (7223).

Last May, the County awarded Zagster, the industry's leading operations platform for the micro-mobility sharing economy, a contract to implement its Pace bicycle-share service for communities across Suffolk County.

Zagster is responsible for designing, building, financing and operating this first-of-its-kind regional bike-share program in Suffolk County – at no cost to County taxpayers, towns, or villages. This program will boost the local economy by increasing tourism, extending the reach of existing transit networks, and will provide the critical last-mile connection between transportation hubs, popular destinations, and our vibrant downtown areas.

The goals of this regional bike share program include decreasing the use of the automobile as the primary mode of transportation, encouraging a more active, healthier lifestyle by providing bicycles for intermittent recreational use, and establishing a stronger bicycle network in Suffolk County, complete with new bike lanes which will support infrastructure.

To complement this program, the Suffolk County Department of Economic Development and Planning is currently working to develop a county-wide Hike-Bike Network Master Plan for improving hike-bike infrastructure for pedestrians and cyclists across the region. The plan will provide Suffolk County with a comprehensive and coordinated vision for a connected network of hiking and biking trails County-wide, facilitating transportation, recreation, tourism, and economic development. A completed master plan and suite of recommendations are expected by the end of 2019.

The Regional Bike-Share program complements County Executive Bellone's Connect Long Island Plan – a regional transportation and development initiative that promotes sustainable long-term economic growth in Suffolk County. The plan calls for development around transit nodes, investment in enhancements to existing mass transit infrastructure, and implementation of new rapid transit systems to create a robust transit network that connect regional assets and downtowns.

About Zagster

Since 2007, Zagster has been at the forefront of the micro-mobility revolution. We know that the promise of micro-mobility is anchored in world-class operations. As such, Zagster offers turnkey operations and support services for any micro-mobility product. We strive to make shared mobility work within communities large and small. We currently operate more than 250 micro-mobility vehicle shares across 35 states. We understand that although the scooters, pedal bikes and e-bikes are swappable, the professional service operations are not. At Zagster, we help communities and partners build and operate best-in-class solutions. Let us be your ride. Visit us at <https://www.zagster.com/> and on Twitter @zagster.

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