



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**



**Partners of Parks (POP), Long Beach Environmental Services,  
Long Beach Public Works and Pedal Movement  
Partner to Bring Smiles to Youth Attending the Long Beach Bixby Park After-School Program**

**LONG BEACH, CA** - Thursday, November 15th, members from Partners of Parks (POP) gathered together with Works Community Program Specialist, Tony Cruz, and members of Pedal Movement at Bixby Park in celebration of National Philanthropy Day and America Recycles Day. 16 youth from the after-school program received a repurposed bicycle completely refurbished and POP presented the kids with helmets, backpacks, bike locks and snacks.

The bikes given to the youths were collected during the year by Long Beach Environmental Services through the “Recycle Your Bicycle” event. Each bike was then completely refurbished by Pedal Movement and repurposed so that they could be donated to at-risk youth participating in the after-school program at Bixby Park. After a short bicycle presentation program with VIP guests from each organization, members of Partners of Parks fitted each child with a new helmet, then Tony Cruz and Park staff handed out bikes to the kids, representing what can happen when business, non-profits and the City can do when working together to aid Long Beach youth. “As one of America’s most bike-friendly cities, these programs continue to add to our City’s quality of life, while increasing opportunities for our underserved youth,” states Trinka Rowsell, Executive Director of Partners of Parks. “We are proud to be the non-profit organization that collaborates with local, regional and national businesses, in partnership with our City’s Long Beach Parks, Recreation and Marine Department to help bring these types of programs to Long Beach Parks.”

Partners of Parks is the non-profit that supports programming, activities and neighborhood groups who fund events in Long Beach parks. The organization supports the Long Beach Parks, Recreation, and Marine Department by working with donors to fund City programming benefitting teens, seniors, and families-in-need; the Youth Scholarship Program helps LBUSD students who qualify to attend fee-based recreation classes without charge. For more information about POP and how you can become a member or a supporter, please visit [partnersofparks.org](http://partnersofparks.org)

###