Bicycle use in Cambridge increased
3X
from 2004-2016*

...while bicycle facility lane-miles increased
34%
in the same years

BICYCLE COUNT STATIONS
bicyclists counted by year

existing bicycle facilities (2019)

BICYCLE FACILITIES AND RIDERSHIP COUNTS TRENDS*

Bar chart showing Bike Facility Lane Miles (left axis, 0–120) and Intersection Turning Movement Counts (TMCs) (right axis, 0–20,000) for years '04 through '18.

- Shared Lanes & Streets
- Striped Lane
- Separated Lane
- Shared-Use Path
- Intersection turning movements totals

*2018 TMC counts are not included because weather conditions and count dates were not comparable to other years

Children on bicycles increased
46%
from 2014 to 2018
at 19 count locations across the city
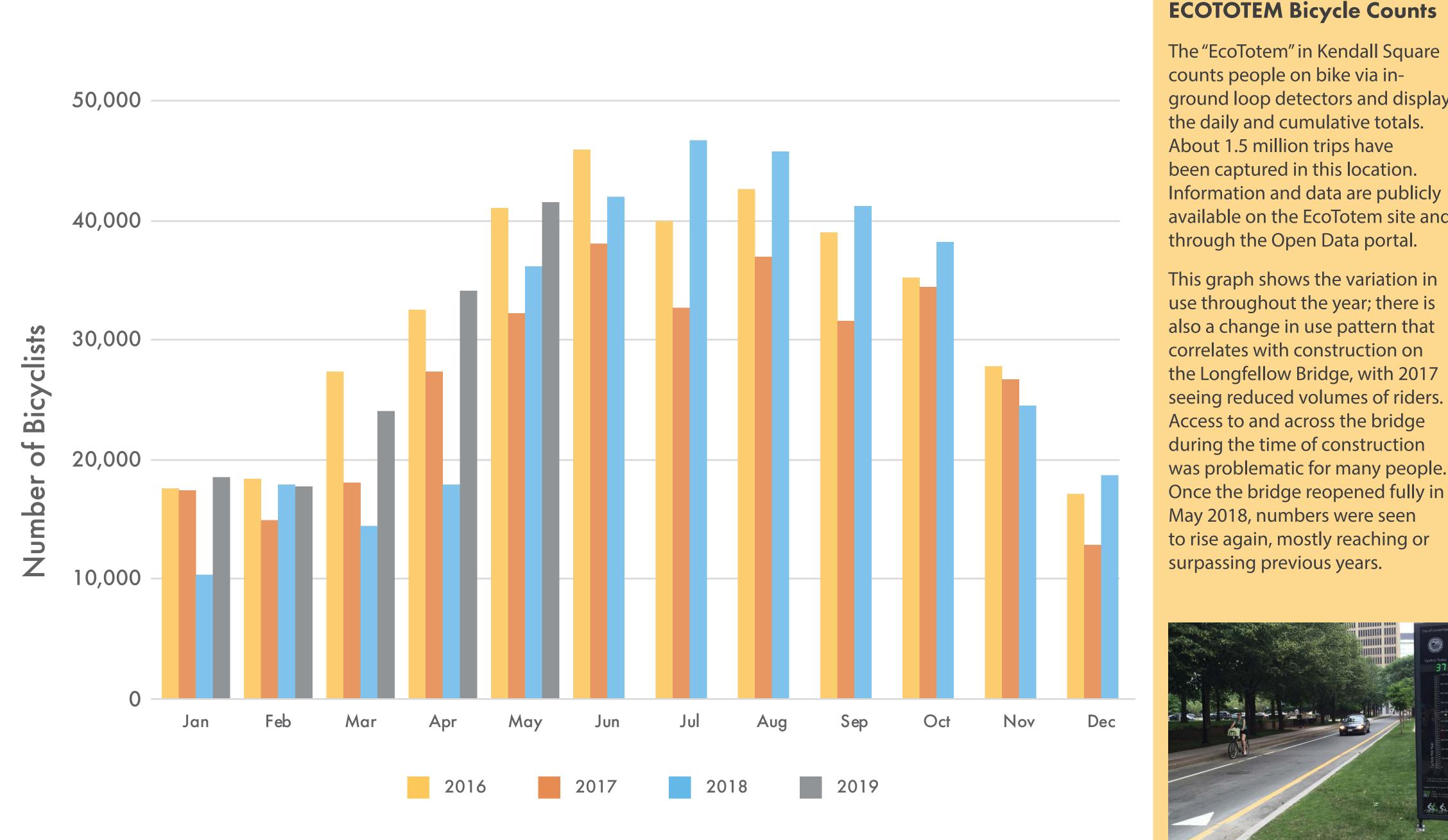
The proportion of cyclists running red lights decreased
82%
from 2008 to 2018
at 8 intersections across the city

BICYCLE CRASH FREQUENCY
ALL REPORTED BICYCLE CRASHES
2015-2017

crash frequency
− +

ECO-TOTEM COUNTS OF BICYCLISTS
2016 - 2018

ECOTOTEM Bicycle Counts

The "EcoTotem" in Kendall Square counts people on bike via in-ground loop detectors and displays the daily and cumulative totals. About 1.5 million trips have been captured in this location. Information and data are publicly available on the EcoTotem site and through the Open Data portal.

This graph shows the variation in use throughout the year; there is also a change in use pattern that correlates with construction on the Longfellow Bridge, with 2017 seeing reduced volumes of riders. Access to and across the bridge during the time of construction was problematic for many people. Once the bridge reopened fully in May 2018, numbers were seen to rise again, mostly reaching or surpassing previous years.

Bar chart showing Number of Bicyclists (0–50,000) by month Jan–Dec for years 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019.

- 2016
- 2017
- 2018
- 2019

BICYCLE CRASH RATES
BICYCLE CRASHES PER MILLON BICYCLE MILES TRAVELED (BMT) AND CRASHES AT TERMINAL INTERSECTIONS
2016

Crashes per Million BMT   Crashes at Terminal Intersections

What is a CRASH RATE?

The best way to describe the relative level of safety of travelling by bicycle is with a crash rate. A rate accounts for differences in volume of use. With this data, a rate can be shown, i.e., the number of crashes per bicycle mile traveled each year.

Bicycle Miles Traveled (BMT) is an adaptation of the traditional traffic planning tool Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT). It is an estimate of overall usage during a specific timeframe and is useful for calculating exposure to crashes. The BMT along these corridors is derived by using annual counts and indexing them to the 24/7/365 data collecting via the permanent bicycle counter (EcoTotem).