

How to Change The Bicycle Parking Areas

May 30th, 2018

ESP2a

Final Draft



Abstract

I noted that Sunday's bicycle park in Shiraoka is without staff and the area was not cleanly organized. I proposed three ideas so that many people can use the place comfortably. The first idea is the area is not orderly. Second, is to improve the equipment, the third, is to appeal to human psychology to make people use the parking lot more cleanly. The former ideas are to incorporate a rack of bicycles and to color the parking space so that it stands out. The latter idea puts a slogan in the parking area that appreciates that people are using the bicycle parking area cleanly regardless of whether the bicycle is really put in order. With these three ideas, it can be expected that the bicycle parking lot in Shiraoka will be easier to use for everyone.

Keywords: bicycle area not organized, bicycle racks, clear bicycle parking location indicated, color effect, human psychology

Introduction

I often use a bicycle parking space in Shiraoka. This area is free of charge on every Sunday when there are no staff who arrange bicycles cleanly, so the bicycles are placed in disorder and the bicycle parking space is very difficult to use on Sunday. According to Brown (2014), being watched lead to change people behavior which is called the “Hawthorne effect”. Therefore, I think that no staff caused the parking space to be uncomfortable. If the bicycle parking lot is managed with a machine, the bicycles will be organized even on every Sunday, but the opportunity of communicating with people in the area will be lost. Whenever I use the area, I receive power from the energetic greetings of the staff. Keeping this state, how to make Sunday's bicycle park easy for everyone is key. I want to change this place into comfortable area with elements of human contact. In this essay, I will describe how to find the problem and three ideas for improving the problem.

Literature Review

At first, I started observing around to find something that I want to solve. According to Harper (2014), the powers of observation enable us to discover something new. This means that observation leads us to come up with the new idea then we have some questions, which helps us get newer ideas. After I watched carefully around me in my daily life, I realized a problem of an area for parking bicycles that I use many times. At the bicycle parking lot, bicycles are cluttered on Sunday and it is very hard to use compared to weekdays when the staff are there. Many people use it especially on sunny days. Therefore, I want to improve the state of the bicycle park, so that users think that it is easy to use.

Second, I looked for something to improve the bicycle parking space. Dyer, Gregersen, & Christensen, (2011) suggested that people able to find a lot of differences in places visited for the first time because we unconsciously try to figure out what is new and different. Therefore, I recalled the impression I felt when I used a bicycle parking space in

Koshigaya. I noticed that some differences between the Shiraoka and Koshigaya parking areas. In Koshigaya, there were many bicycle racks, which made the bicycles arranged neatly. On the other hand, in Shiraoka there are not racks but just a white line that makes people park bicycles inside it, yet I think racks should be used in Shiraoka as well. According to the Queensland Government (2017), racks are effective on security in a short to medium parking span and are low in cost. Therefore, they enable people not only to park bicycles orderly, but keep secure even if no workers are there.

However, racks need spaces to be placed, so I think that if racks are introduced, the number of people who can park bicycles will decrease. Therefore, I plan another arrangement. I think it is necessary to make the area where people should park their bicycles clearly and paint a color is a good solution for that. Nunes (2018) proposed that color tended to affect people's feelings and behavior, and yellow was particularly a good color to attract people's attention. For instance, yellow is used for textured paving blocks, which provides guidance to the blind in many stations and public facilities. The yellow braille blocks at the stations' platforms stand out even at dark evenings, and it helps to prevent accidents of trains and people. Therefore, by using yellow, you can expect people to park bicycles in designated places.

What I have mentioned before is about improving facilities. Next, I found a solution by changing my point of view. Third, I paid attention to human psychology. I hit on the idea when I talked with my friend at lunch. She said she often saw the word "thank you for keeping it clean" at a public lavatory. When she saw it, she thought she also ought to use the area cleanly. After hearing it, I thought how about this application to the bicycle parking in Shiraoka. The words give people motivation to keep the place tidy. To make it more effective, I propose placing a sign that wrote the words at the entrance to the bicycle parking lot or close to the place where you put the bicycle that is easy for people to see.

Conclusion

In conclusion, I mentioned that by observation in everyday life, I noticed that the bicycle park that I always use will become a difficult place to use on Sundays without staff. Then I picked up three ideas to make the bicycle parking place easy to use. To solve the problem, it is necessary to introduce bicycle racks, the colored area, which bicycles are supposed to be parked, and the words of encouragement for people to keep the place orderly. If my plan is used for the bicycle parking, it will be more comfortable.

Word Count: 1,007

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