Riverside e-bike share pilot: six-month report

Prepared for the Riverside city council transport committee, October 2026. The town, figures and people in this report are made up for a Dock example.

What we tested

From April to September 2026 the city ran 120 e-bikes from 14 docking stations, mostly around the train station, the college and the riverside offices. Rides cost $1 to unlock plus $0.15 a minute; students rode for half price.

Results

Month	Rides	Unique riders	Avg ride (min)	Bikes out of service
Apr	6,240	1,910	14	9
May	8,830	2,480	15	7
Jun	10,450	2,960	16	11
Jul	11,920	3,310	17	14
Aug	11,180	3,150	16	12
Sep	12,600	3,540	15	8

Total rides: 61,220. 38% of rides started or ended at the train station. 41% of riders were students. Fare income covered 46% of operating cost ($212,000 over six months).

What riders told us

In a survey of 640 riders, 58% said an e-bike replaced a car trip at least once a week. The most common complaints were empty stations at the train station between 7 and 9 a.m. (cited by 44%) and no station on the north side of the river (31%).

Options for 2027

A. End the pilot. B. Keep 120 bikes and 14 stations for another year ($410,000). C. Grow to 200 bikes and 22 stations, adding the north side ($690,000), with a regional transport grant of up to $250,000 that the city can apply for by 15 January 2027.
Staff recommendation: option C, if the grant is awarded; otherwise option B.