

Mobile bike shop comes to you

By Blair Anthony Robertson, Sacramento Bee

For most of his long career in the bicycle industry, Jack Cauthen greeted customers, made sales and repaired their faulty chains, frayed cables and poorly shifting gears in a traditional bike shop.

Cauthen hasn't left the bike business, but these days he's rolling around town in a customized Mercedes van that's essentially a repair shop on wheels.

Velofix is a Canadian franchise that now has a presence in Sacramento, with two new Mercedes vans operating from Elk Grove to Placerville and Auburn. Customers book appointments online and Velofix shows up at home or work – or even at a bike race or your kid's soccer practice. Most of the repairs can be done in under an hour and Cauthen says prices are competitive with the brick and mortar bike shops.

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