



CITY OF TOPEKA

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NEWS RELEASE

Topeka named a Bronze Bicycle Friendly CommunitySM by the League of American Bicyclists

Today, the League of American Bicyclists recognized Topeka with a Bronze Bicycle Friendly Community (BFCSM) award, joining 372 visionary communities from across the country.

With the announcement of 34 new and renewing BFCs today, Topeka joins a leading group of communities, in all 50 states, that are transforming our neighborhoods.

“We applaud these communities for making bicycling a safe and convenient option for transportation and recreation,” said Bill Nesper, Vice President of Programs at the League of American Bicyclists. “We are encouraged by the growing number of leaders who see bicycling as a way to build more vibrant, healthy, sustainable and connected communities and be a part of the solution to many complex challenges faced at both the community and national levels. We look forward to continuing to work with these communities as we move closer to our mission of creating a Bicycle Friendly America for everyone.”

The BFC program is revolutionizing the way communities evaluate their quality of life, sustainability and transportation networks, while allowing them to benchmark their progress toward improving their bicycle-friendliness. With this impressive round, there are now 372 BFCs in all 50 states. The Bronze BFC award recognizes Topeka’s commitment to improving conditions for bicycling through investment in bicycling promotion, education programs, infrastructure and pro-bicycling policies.

“I am delighted the City of Topeka has received the bronze designation from the League of American Bicyclists,” said Topeka Mayor Larry Wolgast. “It is a sign of our commitment as a City and as a community to making Topeka a safe, fun place for people to ride, and it celebrates how far we’ve come in just four years since our Bikeways Master Plan was approved. We’ve still got some work to do to achieve that gold standard, but we are well on our way.”

The BFC program provides a roadmap to building a Bicycle Friendly Community and the application itself has become a rigorous and an educational tool in itself. Since its inception, more than 1,200 distinct communities have applied and the five levels of the award – diamond, platinum, gold, silver and bronze – provide a clear incentive for communities to continuously improve.

“This designation wouldn't have been possible without the tremendous efforts of our citizens,” said Councilwoman Karen Hiller, chairwoman of the Bikeways Advisory Committee. “They led the charge to raise funds, develop the master plan and move Topeka toward the bike-friendly community you see today.”

Wednesday, May 18, 2016



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To apply or learn more about the BFC program, visit bikeleague.org/community.

About the Bicycle Friendly AmericaSM Program

The Bicycle Friendly CommunitySM, Bicycle Friendly StateSM, Bicycle Friendly Business and Bicycle Friendly UniversitySM programs are generously supported by program partner Trek Bicycle Corp. To learn more about building a Bicycle Friendly America, visit www.bikeleague.org/BFA

The League of American Bicyclists is leading the movement to create a Bicycle Friendly America for everyone. As leaders, our commitment is to listen and learn, define standards and share best practices to engage diverse communities and build a powerful, unified voice for change.

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