



ATTRIBUTES OF A BICYCLE FRIENDLY STATE

www.bikeleague.org/states



Policies and Programs

There is a **Complete Streets policy** with staff training, an implementation committee, a policy checklist, a compliance procedure, and compliance performance measures.

There is a designated **Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)** program manager and the **state bicycle and pedestrian coordinator** works fulltime on biking and walking issues.

A **large percentage of schools participate** in a Safe Routes to School program and **state funds** supplement federal funds.

There is no minimum acreage for school locations (allowing for schools in dense areas).

There is a Smart Growth land use policy that encourages bicycling and walking.

State office buildings, state park and recreation facilities, and other state facilities are required to provide bicycle parking.

Roadway facility design guidelines include good bicycle and pedestrian accomodation.

The **rumble strip policy** includes a minimum clear space of 4 feet for bicycles with spacing gaps.

People on bikes and pedestrians have **access across all major bridges and tunnels**.

There is **accountability** so that projects proposed with bicycle and pedestrian components are built with those components.

Legislation and Enforcement

There is a **safe passing distance** of at least three feet.

There are increased penalties injuring or killing **vulnerable road users**, including bicyclists.

Photo enforcement is permitted by state law or enabling legislation.

Speed limits can be 20mph or lower.

Bicyclists are **not required to use a sidepath or bike lane**.

“Dooring” a bicyclist is illegal.

Bicyclists have discretion on **where to ride on the road**.

It is illegal for drivers to **drive distracted or use a handheld cell phone or to text while driving**.

Bicycling enforcement is part of the Police Officer Standards and Training (POST) course, police academy curricula, and provided by advocacy groups.

Data is collected -- and publicly available -- on traffic citations issued, prosecutions, and convictions of incidents related to bicycles.

Infrastructure and Funding

Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) funds are spent promptly on bicycling and walking projects, and not transferred.

Previous years’ Transportation Enhancements, Safe Routes to School, and Recreational Trails dollars are being spent on bicycling and walking projects.

Learn more and see current ranking at bikeleague.org/content/states

The state uses the full range of federal funding sources on bicycling and walking projects, including:

Surface Transportation Program (STP)

Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ)

Highway Safety Improvement Program

Section 402 State and Community Highway Safety Grants

The state commits state revenue for bicycle and pedestrian projects and programs.

The whole state highway network has paved shoulders and bike lanes at least 4 feet wide.

There are many miles of bicycle trails.

The state uses physical activity as a criteria in project selection and uses [Health Impact Assessments](#).

The state bicycle route system is signed and marked, is part of the [US Bike Route System](#), and included on an available map.

Bicycles are allowed on Amtrak trains, [regional passenger rail](#), and state operated buses.

Education and Encouragement

The state has a Share the Road campaign and a Share the Road driver training for state employees.

The drivers license test and the commercial drivers license test have questions on motorists' responsibilities towards cyclists and information is included in the drivers manual.

The traffic offenders' diversion program includes information on sharing the road with bicyclists.

There's a statewide Safe Routes to School curriculum.

There is an active statewide [advocacy group](#).

There is a statewide [bike](#) (or bike/ped) conference or summit.

Statewide entity promotes [Bike to Work Day](#), a [bike challenge](#), and makes a Bike Month proclamation.

Governor and/or State Legislators hold a bike ride.

There is a cross-state ride or a professional multi-day race in the state.

The tourism board actively promotes bicycle tourism.

There is a state-sponsored bicycling-specific website.

There is a state-sponsored major bicycling event to promote cycling and physical activity.

Evaluation and Planning

More than 1 percent of commuters [bike to work](#).

State conducts household travel surveys for all trips.

The state conducts counts of bike/ped/transit/multimodal commuting.

There are few [bicyclist fatalities](#).

Bicycle and pedestrian safety are emphasis areas in the state [Strategic Highway Safety Plan](#).

The state has up to date statewide bicycle and pedestrian plans and is making progress towards implementing them.

The state has statewide mountain bike trail plan, a trails master plan, and an [MOU/MOA](#) regarding mountain bike trails.

A state [bicycle, pedestrian, and/or Safe Routes to School advisory committee](#) meets regularly, with inclusive and interagency participation.

There are published goals and/or performance measures to increase biking and walking and decrease bicyclist and pedestrian fatalities.

There is a statewide study on the [economic impact of bicycling and walking](#).

The [plan for reducing carbon emissions](#) encourages bicycle use.