Summary

Colorado has embraced bicycling-related initiatives, as seen through the many Bicycle Friendly Communities, Businesses, and Universities in the state. This can also be seen in Governor Hickenlooper’s commitment to $100 million over 4 years to make Colorado “the best state for biking.”

However, it feels like this embrace has not quite been fully translated into results – our survey data did not reflect a significant increase in state funding for bicycling, and Colorado remains below average in the amount of federal funds spent on biking and walking. While Colorado improved this year, it hasn’t quite put it all together. In order to become “the best state for biking” Colorado should emulate Washington (#1) and Minnesota (#2), where the state Department of Transportation is an active innovator for bicycling-related policies, practices, and administrative structures that translate goals into results. A recent report by the Colorado Public Interest Research Group called for $229.5 million per year in bicycling investments, showing the immense potential for improvements to the safety and mobility of bicyclists in Colorado.

Feedback Points

In 2015, Governor Hickenlooper announced a 4-year, $100 million initiative to improve bicycling in Colorado. This is a potential transformative initiative and needs continued support. One way to support this initiative would be to create a dedicated active transportation specialist position in each CDOT engineering region to promote innovative bicycle and pedestrian accommodations.

Colorado Department of Transportation should adopt a stakeholder-informed high priority bicycle corridor plan as referenced in the newly adopted Procedural Directive 1602.1.

A recent study found that bicycling contributed $1.6 billion in economic and health benefits to Colorado’s economy in 2015. Despite these great benefits Colorado spends a less than average percent of its federal transportation dollars on biking and walking. Colorado should ensure that more federal funding is used on biking and walking.

Create a multi-agency advisory group to coordinate program, policy and budgeting priorities that increase opportunities to walk and ride a bicycle in Colorado. Address existing policy barriers preventing shoulder expansion as part of resurfacing projects.

Federal Data on Biking

- Ridership: 1.3% of commuters biking to work
- Safety: 3.2 fatalities per 10k bike commuters
- Spending: $1.93 per capita FHWA spending on biking and walking

Feedback Continued on Page 3
Colorado Report Card: Detailed Category Scores

The Category Scores below are aggregated from smaller sub-categories—each of which is sorted in descending order, from the topic with the highest possible points available to least.

### Infrastructure & Funding

**Ranked 17th of 50 States**

- **Design and Existence of Infrastructure**
  - Has the state made it easy to build bicycle infrastructure and installed a variety of infrastructure on state facilities?
  - 31/38 pts

- **State Transportation Funding**
  - Does the state report that funding is allocated to bicycling?
  - 10/28 pts

- **Use of Federal Transportation Funding**
  - Does the state take advantage of available federal funding for biking and walking?
  - 7/16 pts

- **Planned and Recently Built Bicycle & Pedestrian Facilities**
  - How many lane miles of bicycle and pedestrian facilities has the state reportedly planned to build and built?
  - 10/10 pts

- **State Transportation Funding Restrictions**
  - Does the state have any policies that limit the ability to fund bicycling and walking infrastructure?
  - 5/0 pts

**Total of Possible 100 Points:** 63/100 pts

### Policies & Programs

**Ranked 5th of 50 States**

- **Complete Streets**
  - Does the state have a complete streets policy and processes to support its implementation?
  - 53/56 pts

- **Design and Access Policies**
  - Does the state have policies in place to ensure good design and access for people who bike and walk?
  - 17/25 pts

- **State of Practice Development**
  - Does the state support trainings on bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure and complete streets implementation?
  - 13/13 pts

- **Sustainable Transportation Policies**
  - Does the state work incorporate multi-disciplinary considerations in the development and implementation of transportation projects?
  - 6/6 pts

**Total of Possible 100 Points:** 89/100 pts

### Education & Encouragement

**Ranked 4th of 50 States**

- **State DOT Education & Encouragement Support**
  - Does the state DOT support bicycling and walking events and education materials?
  - 35/35 pts

- **Mode Share**
  - Do many people bike to work and is that number increasing relative to other modes?
  - 16/30 pts

- **Driver Education Requirements**
  - Does the state require drivers to answer questions about bicyclist safety as part of the driver’s licensing test?
  - 10/20 pts

- **Advocacy**
  - Does the state have a bicycle advocacy group that is a member of the League of American Bicyclists or was identified by the state?
  - 15/15 pts

**Total of Possible 100 Points:** 76/100 pts

### Legislation & Enforcement

**Ranked 2nd of 50 States**

- **Laws that regulate driver behavior and methods of enforcement**
  - Does the state have strong comprehensive distracted driving laws and allow photo enforcement?
  - 26/37 pts

- **Laws that restrict the behavior of people who bike and walk**
  - How does the state unnecessarily restrict the behavior of people who bike and walk? (low points = more restrictions)
  - 28/28 pts

- **Laws that create protections for people who bike and walk**
  - Does the state have laws that provide specific protections for people who bike and walk?
  - 25/25 pts

- **Laws that influence the built environment**
  - Does the state allow speed limits of 20 mph or less?
  - 8/10 pts

**Total of Possible 100 Points:** 87/100 pts

### Evaluation & Planning

**Ranked 11th of 50 States**

- **State DOT Bicycle & Pedestrian Plans**
  - Does the state have a bicycle and/or pedestrian plan and does that plan follow best practices?
  - 36/48 pts

- **Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety**
  - Has the state made bicyclist and pedestrian safety an emphasis and what does data say about safety?
  - 29/34 pts

- **Understanding People who Bike and Walk**
  - Does the state have programs in place to collect data on people who walk and bike?
  - 8/10 pts

- **Formal User Group Engagement**
  - Does the state have an official Bicycle and/or Pedestrian Advisory Committee and does it follow best practices?
  - 0/8 pts

**Total of Possible 100 Points:** 73/100 pts

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**Dig into the data: Robust interactive report + Downloads**

The Bicycle Friendly State survey used to create this ranking is also the basis for a biennial report. Explore tons of bicycling, walking, & health data on states and cities at bikingandwalkingbenchmarks.org.
Feedback Points, CONTINUED

» Cont’d from Page 1

Adopt a statewide policy that requires bicycle accommodations on all bridge and tunnel projects. These once in a generation projects should create connections for all transportation users rather than build barriers.

Increase dedicated, long-term and sustainable, state transportation funding for active transportation.

Finalize and adopt Bicycle and Pedestrian action plan for “Approaching Zero Deaths.”

Continue to invest in non-motorized traffic counting programs, which have been influential on a national level and will allow the state to better understand bicyclist behavior.

SMART CYCLING RESOURCES

Bike Safety Education is a key component to keeping roadways safe for all users. Having League Cycling Instructors (LCIs) in your state creates more opportunities for bike safety education to be shared. LCIs are certified by the League through an intense 3-day seminar focused on how to effectively deliver the Smart Cycling curriculum. To host a LCI seminar in your state, contact education@bikeleague.org.

Visit bikeleague.org/ridesmart to access Smart Cycling videos, Smart Cycling Quick Guides (available in English & Spanish), and Smart Cycling manuals.

ABOUT THE LEAGUE & MEMBERSHIP

Support the League by becoming a member today and add your voice to the bicycling movement! Over 75% of our funding comes from individuals. Members support our time-tested programs like Bicycle Friendly America, Smart Cycling and Federal Advocacy. As a member, you’ll enjoy valuable perks like Bicycling Magazine, discounts at dozens of national bike retailers and manufacturers, and exclusive pricing to the National Bike Summit. Together, let’s advance bicycling on Capitol Hill and in your community!

WE BELIEVE

Bicycling brings people together. When more people ride bikes:

» Life is better for everyone;
» Communities are safer, stronger and better connected;
» Our nation is healthier, economically stronger, environmentally cleaner and more energy independent.

OUR VISION

is a nation where everyone recognizes and enjoys the many benefits and opportunities of bicycling.

OUR MISSION

is to lead 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.

The Bicycle Friendly States ranking is based on a comprehensive survey completed by state departments of transportation and state bicycling advocates. For more information, visit bikeleague.org/states or contact Ken McLeod at (202)-822-1333 or ken@bikeleague.org.