Based on the information we obtained for Kentucky, the League of American Bicyclists believes the following actions will improve the safety, comfort, and accessibility of bicycling in Kentucky.

Adopt a statewide Bike Plan or Active Transportation Plan. According to our data, Kentucky last adopted a statewide Bike Plan in 2009.

Kentucky has a bicycling to work rate of less than half the national average. Bicycling is cheap, safe, and one of the most popular ways for people to get physical activity. Work with cities to provide networks that allow more people to safely bike to work.

Kentucky has a bicyclist fatality rate worse than the national average. According to NHTSA data, nearly 82% of cyclists killed in Kentucky were killed on state DOT-owned roadways since 2015 despite the state owning only 35% of roadways. This is the second largest over-representation among all states. Addressing safety on state-owned roadways is key to improving bicyclist safety in Kentucky.

As part of adopting a statewide active transportation plan, Kentucky should consider creating resources and a technical assistance center for active transportation, including Safe Routes to School initiatives. This will help more low-income and rural communities access planning processes, grants, and other resources.

The KYTC Sidewalk and Curb Ramp Inventory for ADA Compliance using LiDAR is an innovative and interesting way to understand active transportation needs. If this inventory is successful, it would be great to see similar processes used for bike facilities and shoulders.

Congratulations for KYTC opening up its annual Kentucky Bicycle and Bikeway Commission meeting to the public after 2 years. Continuing to help educate and encourage the public about bicycling and ways to improving cycling in KY is always productive.