



# BEMIDJI, MN

## TOTAL POPULATION

14319

## POPULATION DENSITY

1012.7

## TOTAL AREA (sq. miles)

14.1

# OF LOCAL BICYCLE FRIENDLY BUSINESSES **4**

# OF LOCAL BICYCLE FRIENDLY UNIVERSITIES **0**

## 10 BUILDING BLOCKS OF A BICYCLE FRIENDLY COMMUNITY

	Average Silver	Bemidji
High Speed Roads with Bike Facilities	47%	0%
Total Bicycle Network Mileage to Total Road Network Mileage	51%	95%
Bicycle Education in Schools	GOOD	ACCEPTABLE
Share of Transportation Budget Spent on Bicycling	14%	UNKNOWN
Bike Month and Bike to Work Events	VERY GOOD	AVERAGE
Active Bicycle Advocacy Group	YES	YES
Active Bicycle Advisory Committee	MEETS EVERY TWO MONTHS	NO BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Bicycle-Friendly Laws & Ordinances	AVERAGE	ACCEPTABLE
Bike Plan is Current and is Being Implemented	YES	YES
Bike Program Staff to Population	1 PER 89K	1 PER 72 K

## CATEGORY SCORES

<b>ENGINEERING</b> <i>Bicycle network and connectivity</i>	<b>3 / 10</b>
<b>EDUCATION</b> <i>Motorist awareness and bicycling skills</i>	<b>4 / 10</b>
<b>ENCOURAGEMENT</b> <i>Mainstreaming bicycling culture</i>	<b>4 / 10</b>
<b>ENFORCEMENT</b> <i>Promoting safety and protecting bicyclists' rights</i>	<b>2 / 10</b>
<b>EVALUATION &amp; PLANNING</b> <i>Setting targets and having a plan</i>	<b>2 / 10</b>

## KEY OUTCOMES

	Average Silver	Bemidji
<b>RIDERSHIP</b> <i>Percentage of Commuters who bike</i>	2.8%	1.8%
<b>SAFETY MEASURES CRASHES</b> <i>Crashes per 10k bicycle commuters</i>	498	263
<b>SAFETY MEASURES FATALITIES</b> <i>Fatalities per 10k bicycle commuters</i>	8	0



## KEY STEPS TO SILVER

- » Adopt a Complete Streets policy and offer implementation guidance. By adopting a Complete Streets policy, communities direct their transportation planners and engineers to routinely design and operate the entire right-of-way to enable safe access for all users, regardless of age, ability, or mode of transportation.
- » Create an official Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) to create a systematic method for ongoing citizen input into the development of important policies, plans, and projects. BPACs should meet monthly and be involved in developing relevant policy and planning documents, setting priorities, reviewing annual bicycle program work plans, and reviewing major public and private projects. Ensure that the members of the committee reflect the diversity and ability levels of cyclists in your community.
- » Increase the amount of staff time spent on improving conditions for people who bike and walk. Increasing staff time, either by creating a position or changing the responsibilities of current staff, can have a positive impact on the ability of your community to execute bicycling and walking-related projects



and programs.

- » Bemidji has some great programs, but needs to take steps to ensure that these programs are available to the whole community. Ensure that in-school education programs and health-related programs are widespread and target communities that have not received information about these programs yet.
- » Bicycle-safety education should be a routine part of education, for students of all ages, and schools and the surrounding neighborhoods should be particularly safe and convenient for biking and walking. Work with local bicycle groups and interested parents to expand the Safe Routes to School program to all schools.
- » Clearly communicate progress on bicycle plans and other key metrics to inform citizens about the accomplishments and return on investment of improvements for bicycling and walking. Annual benchmarks or other dashboard-style reporting may help people see change in your community.