



GULF SHORES, AL

TOTAL POPULATION
12,757

POPULATION DENSITY
455

TOTAL AREA (sq. miles)
28

OF LOCAL BICYCLE FRIENDLY BUSINESSES **0**

OF LOCAL BICYCLE FRIENDLY UNIVERSITIES **0**

10 BUILDING BLOCKS OF A BICYCLE FRIENDLY COMMUNITY

	Average Silver	Gulf Shores
High Speed Roads with Bike Facilities	35%	14%
Total on- and off-road Bicycle Network Mileage to Total Road Network Mileage	48%	21%
Bicycle Education in Schools	GOOD	NEEDS IMPROVEMENT
Share of Transportation Budget Spent on Bicycling	11%	10%
Bike Month and Bike to Work Events	GOOD	GOOD
Active Bicycle Advocacy Group	YES	YES
Active Bicycle Advisory Committee	MEETS EVERY TWO MONTHS	MEETS QUARTERLY
Bicycle-Friendly Laws & Ordinances	GOOD	AVERAGE
Bike Plan is Current and is Being Implemented	YES	YES
Bike Program Staff to Population	1 PER 78K	1 PER 42.5K

CATEGORY SCORES

ENGINEERING <i>Bicycle network and connectivity</i>	3.11 /10
EDUCATION <i>Motorist awareness and bicycling skills</i>	1.14 /10
ENCOURAGEMENT <i>Mainstreaming bicycling culture</i>	3.88 /10
EVALUATION & PLANNING <i>Setting targets and having a plan</i>	3.45 /10

KEY OUTCOMES

	Average Silver	Gulf Shores
RIDERSHIP <i>Percentage of Commuters who bike</i>	2.7%	0.22%
SAFETY MEASURES CRASHES <i>Crashes per 10k bicycle commuters</i>	537	2,154
SAFETY MEASURES FATALITIES <i>Fatalities per 10k bicycle commuters</i>	6.3	153.85



KEY STEPS TO SILVER



- » Keep up the good work in continuing to expand and improve the bike network. Continue to ensure that your community follows a bicycle facility selection criteria that increases separation and protection of bicyclists based on levels of motor vehicle speed and volume.
- » Congratulations on the launch of the Gulf State Park Bike Share Program. Work with local stakeholders to expand the bike share program into the community so that it can also be used for recreation and transportation trips beyond the park, accessible to all residents, seasonal workers, and visitors.
- » 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 create Safe Routes to School programming for all schools.

- » Develop bicycle education opportunities for adults. Consider ways to target demographics who currently do not feel safe riding with classes or events that address their concerns and create an inclusive, welcoming environment.
- » Increase the number of local League Cycling Instructors (LCIs) in your community, either by hosting an LCI seminar or sponsoring a City staffer or local bike advocate to attend an existing seminar elsewhere. Having several active instructors in the area will enable you to expand cycling education for youth and adults, recruit more knowledgeable cycling ambassadors, deliver Bicycle Friendly Driver education to motorists, and have experts available to assist in encouragement programs. Visit bikeleague.org/ridesmart for more information.
- » Develop education and encouragement outreach methods and programs that specifically target families, women, seniors, low-income,

KEY STEPS CONTINUED ON PAGE 2...



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Fall 2020

KEY STEPS TO **SILVER** CONTINUED

and non-English speaking communities, in addition to general non-targeted outreach and media campaigns that discuss current and new bicycle facilities, safe driver and bicyclist behavior, and events related to walking and biking.

» Create a bicycle count program that utilizes several methods of data collection to create an understanding of current bicyclists and the effects of new facilities on bicycling in Gulf Shores. Automated bicycle counters provide long-term data on bicycle use at fixed points in a community and mobile counters can provide periodic or before/after data related to a change in your community's road or bicycle network. Observational counts and surveys can supplement automated data in order to collect demographic information and examine social equity goals.

» Adopt a target level of bicycle use (percent of trips) to be achieved within a specific timeframe, and ensure data collection necessary to monitor progress.

» Adopt a comprehensive road safety plan or a Vision Zero policy to identify specific strategies to reduce traffic crashes and deaths for all road users, including bicyclists and pedestrians. Road diets, lane diets, and traffic calming treatments are important engineering components for addressing safety.

MORE RESOURCES FOR IMPROVING YOUR COMMUNITY:

- » League of American Bicyclists: <https://www.bikeleague.org>
- » Guide to the BFC Report Card:
https://bikeleague.org/sites/default/files/Guide_to_the_Bicycle_Friendly_Community_Report_Card.pdf
- » Resources for Building a Bicycle Friendly Community: https://bikeleague.org/BFC_Resources
- » Building Blocks of a Bicycle Friendly Community:
<https://bikeleague.org/content/building-blocks-bicycle-friendly-communities>
- » The Five E's: <https://bikeleague.org/5-es>
- » Smart Cycling Program: <https://bikeleague.org/ridesmart>
- » Advocacy Reports and Resources: <https://bikeleague.org/reports>
- » Bicycle Friendly Business Program: <https://bikeleague.org/business>
- » National Bike Month: <https://bikeleague.org/bikemonth>

