



DECATUR, GA

TOTAL POPULATION

25,772

POPULATION DENSITY

5810.2

TOTAL AREA (sq. miles)

4.4

OF LOCAL BICYCLE FRIENDLY BUSINESSES **1**

OF LOCAL BICYCLE FRIENDLY UNIVERSITIES **0**

10 BUILDING BLOCKS OF A BICYCLE FRIENDLY COMMUNITY

	Average Gold	Decatur
High Speed Roads with Bike Facilities	41%	0%
Total on- and off-road Bicycle Network Mileage to Total Road Network Mileage	76%	31%
Bicycle Education in Schools	GOOD	VERY GOOD
Share of Transportation Budget Spent on Bicycling	18%	50%
Bike Month and Bike to Work Events	VERY GOOD	VERY GOOD
Active Bicycle Advocacy Group	YES	YES
Active Bicycle Advisory Committee	MEETS AT LEAST MONTHLY	NONE
Bicycle-Friendly Laws & Ordinances	GOOD	VERY GOOD
Bike Plan is Current and is Being Implemented	YES	YES
Bike Program Staff to Population	1 PER 26K	1 PER 17K

CATEGORY SCORES

ENGINEERING <i>Bicycle network and connectivity</i>	4.1/10
EDUCATION <i>Motorist awareness and bicycling skills</i>	3.9/10
ENCOURAGEMENT <i>Mainstreaming bicycling culture</i>	4.8/10
EVALUATION & PLANNING <i>Setting targets and having a plan</i>	5.5/10

KEY OUTCOMES

	Average Gold	Decatur
RIDERSHIP <i>Percentage of Commuters who bike</i>	5.1%	2.57%
SAFETY MEASURES CRASHES <i>Crashes per 10k bicycle commuters</i>	287	290
SAFETY MEASURES FATALITIES <i>Fatalities per 10k bicycle commuters</i>	2.2	0



KEY STEPS TO GOLD



- » Continue to improve and expand the low-stress bike network for all ages and abilities, and 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.
- » Take advantage of Decatur's high number of low-speed streets. Develop a network of bike boulevards/neighborhood greenways to encourage and optimize bicycle travel on low-stress corridors. Diverters, wayfinding, chicanes, and other treatments can be effective at reducing vehicle speeds and promoting the bicycle-oriented nature of a bike boulevard.

- » Develop a design manual that meets current NACTO standards or adopt the NACTO Urban Bikeway Design Guide or the FHWA's Small Town and Rural Multimodal Network Guide. This will make it easier for city staff to propose and implement bicycle facility designs that have been shown to improve conditions for people who bike in other cities throughout the United States. 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.
- » Improve bicycle safety education for students of all ages by incorporating more on-bicycle education opportunities and by expanding the program to all K-12 schools. Providing bicycles

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KEY STEPS TO GOLD CONTINUED

in schools for on-bike education ensures that all students can learn to safely ride a bicycle regardless of the availability of a bicycle in their household. Work with the school district, local bicycle groups, and interested parents to expand and improve the Safe Routes to School program.

» 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.

» Partner with MARTA or other regional entities to launch a bike share system that is open to the public. Bike sharing is a convenient, cost effective, and healthy way of encouraging locals and visitors to make short trips by bike, make bicycling more accessible to all, and to bridge the 'last mile' between public transit and destinations.

» Decatur could be well-served by a bike co-op or non-profit community bike shop. In communities your size, co-ops have had major success in building a culture around youth/ family cycling and coupled with after-school programming, job training and a connection point with local clubs/advocacy, this can be win-win-win.

» 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. Ensure that the members of the committee reflect the diversity and ability levels of cyclists in your community.

» 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 Decatur. 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.

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
- » About the BFC Application Process: <https://bikeleague.org/content/about-bfc-application-process>
- » 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: <http://bikeleague.org/reports>

