Congratulations on adopting the 2020 Dover Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. This plan will be a blueprint for improvements and has many great recommendations for a more connected network of safe and comfortable bicycle facilities. Ensure that there is dedicated funding for the implementation of all types of bicycle infrastructure recommended by the new plan.

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. Consider using FHWA's Bikeway Selection Guide: https://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/ped_bike/tools_solve/docs/fhwasa18077.pdf

» Ensure that your Complete Streets policy is followed for all projects, and that compliance is tracked. Ensuring compliance with a Complete Streets policy is an important and often low-cost way to add to your bicycle network. Striping bicycle lanes as part of repaving operations can save 40% of the cost of adding a bicycle lane. If necessary, revisit your Complete Streets policy and process to ensure better compliance.

» Increase the amount of high quality bicycle parking throughout the community. Conduct a bike parking study or audit to determine current conditions of bike parking, both in terms of quality and quantity. Develop community-wide Bicycle Parking Standards to ensure that APBP-compliant bicycle parking is available in areas near transit and urban activity centers. (See www.apbp.org/bicycle-parking-solutions)

LEARN MORE » WWW.BIKELEAGUE.ORG/COMMUNITIES
Expand bicycle safety education to be a routine part of education for students of all ages, and ensure that schools and the surrounding neighborhoods are particularly safe and convenient for biking and walking. Work with the school district, local bicycle groups, and interested parents to create on-bike learning opportunities and Safe Routes to School programming for all K-12 schools.

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.

Repeal the mandatory bike registration law or ordinance in your community, which may be prohibitive or discouraging for new bicyclists. Ensure that any this and any other ordinances or laws which place restrictions on bicyclists do not have punitive repercussions -- focus on engineering, education, and encouragement solutions instead.

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.

Continue to develop a bicycle count program that utilizes several methods of data collection including automated bicycle counters to provide long-term data on bicycle use at fixed points and mobile counters to provide periodic or before/after data related to a changes 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 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. Introducing low stress bikeway facilities and lowering vehicle speeds through traffic calming treatments are important engineering components for addressing roadway safety.

Consider launching 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.

Develop new ways to engage with and inform residents and visitors about bicycling opportunities in Dover, such as showcasing new facilities and upcoming rides, events, and classes by creating city-wide social media accounts around bicycling and making this information more prominent on the city’s website.

More Resources for Improving Your Community:

- 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
- About the BFC Application Process: https://bikeleague.org/content/about-bfc-application-process
- The Five E's: https://bikeleague.org/5-es
- Tips for Current and Aspiring BFCs: https://bikeleague.org/BFC-tips
- 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