



KENT, OH

Spring 2020

TOTAL POPULATION

29,824

TOTAL AREA (sq. miles)

9

POPULATION DENSITY

3213.79

OF LOCAL BICYCLE FRIENDLY BUSINESSES

0

OF LOCAL BICYCLE FRIENDLY UNIVERSITIES

1

10 BUILDING BLOCKS OF A BICYCLE FRIENDLY COMMUNITY

	Average Bronze	Kent
High Speed Roads with Bike Facilities	20%	100%
Total on- and off-road Bicycle Network Mileage to Total Road Network Mileage	25%	22%
Bicycle Education in Schools	AVERAGE	AVERAGE
Share of Transportation Budget Spent on Bicycling	7%	4%
Bike Month and Bike to Work Events	AVERAGE	NEEDS IMPROVEMENT
Active Bicycle Advocacy Group	YES	YES
Active Bicycle Advisory Committee	MEETS QUARTERLY	NONE
Bicycle-Friendly Laws & Ordinances	AVERAGE	ACCEPTABLE
Bike Plan is Current and is Being Implemented	YES	YES
Bike Program Staff to Population	1 PER 154K	1 PER 99K

CATEGORY SCORES

ENGINEERING <i>Bicycle network and connectivity</i>	3.0 /10
EDUCATION <i>Motorist awareness and bicycling skills</i>	3.4 /10
ENCOURAGEMENT <i>Mainstreaming bicycling culture</i>	1.8 /10
ENFORCEMENT & SAFETY <i>Promoting safety and protecting bicyclists' rights</i>	3.0 /10
EVALUATION & PLANNING <i>Setting targets and having a plan</i>	2.5 /10

KEY OUTCOMES

	Average Bronze	Kent
RIDERSHIP <i>Percentage of commuters who bike</i>	1.3%	0.57%
SAFETY MEASURES CRASHES <i>Crashes per 10k bicycle commuters</i>	1093	700
SAFETY MEASURES FATALITIES <i>Fatalities per 10k bicycle commuters</i>	20	0



KEY STEPS TO BRONZE

- » Adopt a Complete Streets policy and create 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. A Complete Streets policy should prompt the community to consider lane and/or road diets when repaving or otherwise doing major maintenance on roadways. Striping bicycle lanes as part of repaving operations can save 40% of the cost of adding a bicycle lane.
- » Continue to expand and improve the bike network 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.

- » Develop a design manual that meets current NACTO standards or adopt the NACTO Urban Bikeway Design 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.
- » Develop community-wide Bicycle Parking Standards to ensure that APBP-compliant bicycle parking is available in areas near transit and urban activity centers. Without secure and convenient bicycle parking it is difficult for a person to choose to ride their bicycle for transportation or utilitarian trips.

KEY STEPS CONTINUED ON PAGE 2...



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KEY STEPS TO BRONZE CONTINUED

» 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 local bicycle groups and interested parents to create 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 and/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 a community-wide trip reduction ordinance/program, commuter incentive program, and a Guaranteed Ride Home program to encourage and support bike commuters in Kent.

» Improve Bike Month activities by creating a Bike to Work Day event, Bike to School Day event, and/or a Mayor's Ride. Bike to Work Day events can include competitions for participation between businesses and "energizer" stations where people can get coffee on the way to work. Bike to

School Day events can include competitions related to bicycle use, outreach to parents, and coordination between the schools and the city to create safer routes to schools.

» Encourage more local businesses, agencies, and organizations to promote cycling to their employees and customers throughout the year through the Bicycle Friendly Business program.

» Increase the amount of staff time spent on improving conditions for people who bike and walk, either by creating a new dedicated position or expanding the responsibilities of current staff.

» Work with the local school district and other agencies to appoint or hire a new Safe Routes to School Coordinator to continue improving education for students and to focus on expanding and improving the bikeway network around schools.

» 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.

» Establish measurable goals and a dedicated annual budget to ensure successful implementation of your Bicycle Master Plan.

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 + Equity: <https://bikeleague.org/content/5-es>
- » Community FAQs & Resources: <https://bikeleague.org/content/community-faq-resources>
- » 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>

