



# OTTAWA, IL

**TOTAL POPULATION**

18,180

**POPULATION DENSITY**

1167

**TOTAL AREA (sq. miles)**

16

**# OF LOCAL BICYCLE FRIENDLY BUSINESSES** 0

**# OF LOCAL BICYCLE FRIENDLY UNIVERSITIES** 0

## 10 BUILDING BLOCKS OF A BICYCLE FRIENDLY COMMUNITY

	Average Bronze	Ottawa
High Speed Roads with Bike Facilities	20%	INCOMPLETE DATA
Total on- and off-road Bicycle Network Mileage to Total Road Network Mileage	25%	INCOMPLETE DATA
Bicycle Education in Schools	AVERAGE	ACCEPTABLE
Share of Transportation Budget Spent on Bicycling	7%	2%
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	VERY GOOD
Bike Plan is Current and is Being Implemented	YES	SOMEWHAT
Bike Program Staff to Population	1 PER 154K	1 PER 182K

## CATEGORY SCORES

<b>ENGINEERING</b> <i>Bicycle network and connectivity</i>	1.6 /10
<b>EDUCATION</b> <i>Motorist awareness and bicycling skills</i>	2.3 /10
<b>ENCOURAGEMENT</b> <i>Mainstreaming bicycling culture</i>	1.6 /10
<b>ENFORCEMENT &amp; SAFETY</b> <i>Promoting safety and protecting bicyclists' rights</i>	3.0 /10
<b>EVALUATION &amp; PLANNING</b> <i>Setting targets and having a plan</i>	2.8 /10

## KEY OUTCOMES

	Average Bronze	Ottawa
<b>RIDERSHIP</b> <i>Percentage of commuters who bike</i>	1.3%	0.89%
<b>SAFETY MEASURES CRASHES</b> <i>Crashes per 10k bicycle commuters</i>	1093	789.47
<b>SAFETY MEASURES FATALITIES</b> <i>Fatalities per 10k bicycle commuters</i>	20	0



## KEY STEPS TO BRONZE

» The data that Ottawa reported on its road and bikeway network appears to be incomplete or inconsistent. This lack of complete data makes it difficult to judge the current state of bicycling infrastructure in Ottawa. Ensure that data is available on your roadway and bicycle network so that your community can utilize GIS-based or other network analyses, can create high-quality bicycle network maps, and accurately assess the quality of your bicycle network.

» 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. 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.

» Continue to increase the amount of high quality bicycle parking throughout the community, and to upgrade the quality of existing bike parking to meet APBP standards. Adopt a bike parking ordinance for new and existing buildings that specifies the amount and location of secure, convenient bike parking available. Develop community-wide Bicycle Parking Standards that adhere to current APBP guidelines.

KEY STEPS CONTINUED ON PAGE 2...



# OTTAWA, IL

Spring 2020

## 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.
- » Expand bicycle education opportunities for adults by offering more educational opportunities per year. Increase the number of local League Cycling Instructors (LCIs) in your community to allow you to expand cycling education for youth and adults, deliver Bicycle Friendly Driver education to motorists, and have more experts available to assist in encouragement programs.
- » Improve Bike Month activities by organizing local Bike to Work Day and Bike to School Day events.
- » Encourage more local businesses, agencies, and organizations to promote cycling to their employees and customers and to seek recognition through the Bicycle Friendly Business program.
- » Provide education to law enforcement officers on bicycle safety, bicycling skills, and traffic laws as they apply to bicyclists and motorists. Develop a bike patrol unit to improve bicyclist/officer relations, and ensure that law enforcement officers who are not certified or trained as bicycle patrol officers nevertheless have basic training or experience with bicycling in your community in order to foster positive interactions between bicyclists and police officers.
- » 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 official responsibilities of current staff.
- » Work with the local school district and other agencies to appoint or hire an official 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.
- » Begin the process of creating a new Bicycle Master Plan or updating your 2012 Bike Plan. Regularly updating your bicycle plan is key to improving conditions for bicycling, adhering to evolving best practices and national standards, and institutionalizing processes for continual evaluation and improvement.
- » 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.

### 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](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](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>

