Continue to expand and improve Gainesville’s low-stress on-road bike network and ensure that your community maximizes safety and comfort for bicyclists of all ages and abilities by following a bicycle facility selection criteria and design guidelines that increase separation and protection of bicyclists based on levels of motor vehicle speed and volume. Identify gaps and add new facilities that complete and expand the bicycle network, and work to upgrade existing bike lanes into protected bike lanes by adding physical barriers that improve safety and accessibility for all ages and abilities.

Continue to increase the amount of high quality bicycle parking throughout the community. Ensure that APBP-compliant bicycle parking is available in areas near popular destinations, urban activity centers, and all transit stops. Without secure and convenient bike parking it is difficult for a person to choose to ride their bicycle for transportation or utilitarian trips.

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 Safe Routes to School programming for all K-12 schools, and consider hiring a dedicated Safe Routes to School for the community.
Host a League Cycling Instructor (LCI) seminar to increase the number of local LCIs in your community. 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.

Your application indicated that your community is currently updating a bicycle master plan. This is a great step to improving conditions for bicycling and institutionalizing processes for continual improvement. Your Bicycle Master Plan update should take advantage of best practices that are applicable to a community of your size, including the use of separated bike lanes, targeted education programming, and demonstration projects to help the community understand possible bicycle facilities. Ensure that the new Plan includes specific and measurable goals, a strong implementation plan, and dedicated funding or an annual budget to ensure its success.

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 to create an understanding of current bicyclists and the effects of new facilities on bicycling in Gainesville. 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.

Develop a community-wide trip reduction ordinance/program, commuter incentive program, and a Guaranteed Ride Home program to encourage and support bike commuters in Gainesville.

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
- The Five E’s: https://bikeleague.org/5-es
- Smart Cycling Program: https://bikeleague.org/ridesmart
- Advocacy Reports and Resources: http://bikeleague.org/reports