



Skokie, IL

Status: Honorable Mention | Spring 2023

BFC Application History: First-time applicant.

The 5 Es Category Scores	Skokie	Max Score this round
Engineering	22%	53%
Education	12%	56%
Encouragement	12%	68%
Evaluation & Planning	14%	42%
Equity & Accessibility	5%	37%

Percentages shown above are the points received out of total points available in that category. See pages 2-3 for Skokie's subcategory points earned within each Category.

Key Outcomes

Overall Commuter Ridership: 0.1%

Male Commuter Ridership: 0.3%

Female Commuter Ridership: 0%

(Bicycle Mode Share among commuters, according to the Census Bureau's 2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimate.)

Bicycle Mode Share: unknown

(Reported by applicant)

Annual Average Bicyclist Crashes in last 5 years: 29.2

Annual Average Bicyclist Fatalities in last 5 years: 0

(Crashes and Fatalities both reported by applicant)

Skokie's BFA Program Stats

of Local Bicycle Friendly Businesses: 0

of Local Bicycle Friendly Universities: 0

of Local League Cycling Instructors: 2

Illinois's Bicycle Friendly State Ranking: #15

Community Profile

Population: 67,824

Area: 10.06 square miles

Population Density: 6742 people/square mile

Land Classification:

Majority Suburban

Poverty Rate: 5.6%*

Median Household Income: \$88,618*

Percent of the Population that Speaks a

Language Other Than English at Home: 49%*

Percent with Disability: 13%*

Percent of Households with No Vehicle Available: 5%*

*Source: https://data.census.gov/profile/Skokie_village,_Illinois?g=1600000US1770122

Skokie's Bike Links

Bike Network Map, if available:

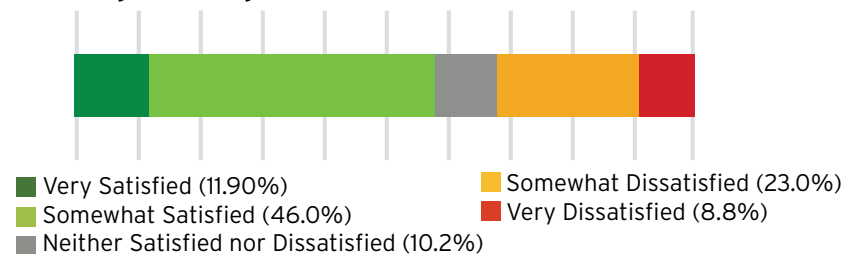
N/A

Bike Plan, if available:

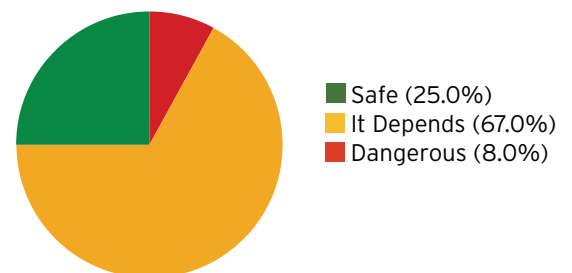
<https://www.skokie.org/DocumentCenter/View/8203/Bicycle-Plan-2022-Update?bidId=>

Spring 2023 BFC Public Survey Response Summary for Skokie, IL

How satisfied are you with how this community is designed for making bike riding safe? (n = 226)



Is it safe or dangerous to ride a bicycle in your neighborhood, or does it depend? (n = 224)



What is the number one change you would most like to see the local government make in this community for bicyclists? (n = 228)

1. More bike lanes (31.6%)
2. More bike paths (22.8%)
3. Improve existing bike lanes to protected bike lanes (21.1%)

About this Report Card

The following scores are based on the online application submitted by Skokie in the Spring 2023 Bicycle Friendly Community (BFC) submission round. These scores reflect a combination of automatically-generated points earned through the online application, as well as judge-assigned points and bonus points given by BFC reviewers.

The League updated its Bicycle Friendly Community application and awards criteria in the Summer of 2022, after nearly a year of research, focus groups, interviews, listening sessions, and other outreach. The updated application includes a new section on Equity and Accessibility, and other changes throughout. As such, **this Bicycle Friendly Community Report card is a beta version** as we refine our new scoring system and develop a greater understanding of how to convey new information.

All Spring 2023 BFC Report Cards (including this one) will be republished with updated scores if there are significant changes to the points system after the next round of BFC applications. To learn more about the BFC application and awards criteria, please visit <https://bikeleague.org/community>.

ENGINEERING	<i>Skokie earned 22% of the points available in the Engineering Category. Below is the breakdown of points that Skokie earned in each subcategory of the Engineering section compared to the total points available in that respective subcategory from the Spring 2023 BFC application.</i>	
	Engineering Subcategories	Skokie's Subcategory Points in Engineering
	Policies and Design Standards for the Built Environment	2 / 41 pts
	End-of-Trip Facilities	17 / 44 pts
	Bicycle Network	19 / 128 pts
	Network Maintenance	9 / 32 pts
	Bicycle Access to Public Transportation	8 / 23 pts
	Bike Sharing	0 / 21 pts
	Other Bicycle-Related Amenities	0 / 6 pts
	Regional Coordination	16 / 23 pts
Engineering Bonus Points	2 / 10 pts	

EDUCATION	<i>Skokie earned 12% of the points available in the Education Category. Below is the breakdown of points that Skokie earned in each subcategory of the Education section compared to the total points available in that respective subcategory from the Spring 2023 BFC application.</i>	
	Education Subcategories	Skokie's Subcategory Points in Education
	Youth Bicycle Education	15 / 69 pts
	Adult Bicycle Education	7 / 47 pts
	Motorist Education	2 / 28 pts
	Bicycle Safety Education Resources	0 / 16 pts
	Inclusive Education	0 / 26 pts
Education Bonus Points	0 / 7 pts	

ENCOURAGEMENT	<i>Skokie earned 12% of the points available in the Encouragement Category. Below is the breakdown of points that Skokie earned in each subcategory of the Encouragement section compared to the total points available in that respective subcategory from the Spring 2023 BFC application.</i>	
	Encouragement Subcategories	Skokie's Subcategory Points in Encouragement
	Encouragement Policies, Programs and Partnerships	0 / 17 pts
	Route-Finding Support	3 / 10 pts
	Bicycle Culture and Promotion	10 / 91 pts
	Access To Bicycle Equipment and Repair Services	8 / 35 pts
	Reducing Work-Related/Fleet VMT	0 / 11 pts
	Encouragement Bonus Points	0 / 7 pts

EVALUATION & PLANNING	<i>Skokie earned 14% of the points available in the Evaluation & Planning Category. Below is the breakdown of points that Skokie earned in each subcategory of the Evaluation & Planning section compared to the total points available in that respective subcategory from the Spring 2023 BFC application.</i>	
	Evaluation & Planning Subcategories	Skokie's Subcategory Points in Evaluation & Planning
	Staffing And Committees	1 / 40 pts
	Public Engagement for Bicycle Planning	2 / 35 pts
	Planning, Funding, And Implementation	8 / 46 pts
	Evaluating The Bicycle Network	6 / 24 pts
	Evaluating Ridership	0 / 20 pts
	Evaluating & Improving Safety Outcomes	14 / 42 pts
Evaluation & Planning Bonus Points	0 / 7 pts	

EQUITY & ACCESSIBILITY	<i>Skokie earned 5% of the points available in the Equity & Accessibility Category. Below is the breakdown of points that Skokie earned in each subcategory of the Equity & Accessibility section compared to the total points available in that respective subcategory from the Spring 2023 BFC application.</i>	
	Equity & Accessibility Subcategories	Skokie's Subcategory Points in Equity & Accessibility
	Equity & Accessibility Staffing, Committees, & Partnerships	1 / 24 pts
	Equity Data Collection & Goals	0 / 12 pts
	Equity & Accessibility Policies & Plans	1 / 31 pts
	Equity & Accessibility in Engineering	0 / 44 pts
	Equity & Accessibility in Education	-1 / 52 pts
	Equity & Accessibility in Encouragement	5 / 42 pts
	Equity & Accessibility in Evaluation & Planning	5 / 58 pts
Equity & Accessibility Bonus Points	0 / 9 pts	



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FEEDBACK TO IMPROVE:

To improve on Skokie's 2023 Honorable Mention status and earn a Bicycle Friendly Community award designation in the future, BFC Reviewers recommend...

- » Continue to expand and improve Skokie's low-stress on-road 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, to maximize safety and comfort for bicyclists of all ages and abilities. Identify gaps and add new facilities that complete and expand the bicycle network, and work to upgrade existing facilities, such as by converting bike lanes into protected bike lanes, and upgrading roads with sharrows into dedicated bicycle boulevards.
- » 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.
- » Lower speed limits -- and designed speeds -- on residential streets to 20 mph or less. Introduce road diets and traffic calming measures to ensure compliance.
- » Continue to increase the amount of high-quality bicycle parking throughout the community. Conduct an inventory or audit of your existing bike parking to evaluate the quality and security of existing racks, how equitably distributed racks are across the community, and to assess whether existing racks are accessible for adaptive cycles, cargo bikes, and other non-standard bike types.
- » Consider launching a bike share system that is open to the public, or explore whether Divvy can be expanded into Skokie and other neighboring communities that currently lack bike share.
- » Improve bicycle safety education for students of all ages by incorporating on-bicycle education opportunities and by expanding the program to all K-12 schools. Provide bicycles for on-bike education to ensure that all students can learn to safely ride, regardless of the availability of a bicycle in their household.
- » Expand bicycle education opportunities for adults. Consider ways to target demographics who currently do not feel safe riding with classes or events that address their concerns and create an inclusive, welcoming environment.
- » Increase the number of local League Cycling Instructors (LCIs) in your community, either by hosting an LCI seminar or sponsoring a Village 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.
- » Develop education and encouragement outreach methods and programs that specifically target families, women, seniors, low-income, and non-English speaking communities, in addition to general non-targeted outreach and media campaigns that discuss current and new bicycle facilities, safe driver and bicyclist behavior, and events related to walking and biking.
- » Celebrate National Bike Month as a community every May. Work with local employers to create a Bike to Work Day event. Bike to Work Day often involves a central "pit stop" station with food, community groups, and elected officials promoting and helping people to choose to bike to work.



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FEEDBACK TO IMPROVE, CONTINUED:

- » 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.
- » 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.
- » Create an official Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) to create a systematic method for on-going 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.
- » Develop and adopt a more in-depth and robust dedicated bicycle master plan for your community. An official bicycle master plan is a critical step to improving conditions for bicycling and institutionalizing processes for continual improvement, and should include specific and measurable goals as well as dedicated funding for implementation. Begin this process with an inclusive public engagement process, and by performing a bike network analysis to assess gaps in the existing bike network. Look into the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) planning grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation for potential funding opportunities to support this work: <https://www.transportation.gov/grants/SS4A>.

MORE RESOURCES FOR IMPROVING YOUR COMMUNITY:

- » **Guide to this BFC Report Card:** <https://bit.ly/BFC-Report-Card-Guide-Sp23>
- » **League of American Bicyclists:** <https://www.bikeleague.org>
- » **Bicycle Friendly Community (BFC) Program:** <https://bikeleague.org/community>
- » **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>
- » **The Five E's:** <https://bikeleague.org/5-es>
- » **The League's Benchmarking Project on Biking and Walking Data and Reports:** <https://data.bikeleague.org>
- » **Bicycle Friendly State Rankings and Report Cards:** <https://bikeleague.org/state>
- » **Bicycle Friendly Business (BFB) Program:** <https://bikeleague.org/business>
- » **Bicycle Friendly University (BFU) Program:** <https://bikeleague.org/university>
- » **Smart Cycling Education Program:** <https://bikeleague.org/ridesmart>
- » **Advocacy Reports and Resources from the League:** <http://bikeleague.org/reports>
- » **Federal Funding Resources from the League:**
<https://bikeleague.org/take-action/policy-advocacy/federal-policy/federal-resources/>
- » **Pedestrian and Bicycle Funding Opportunities from U.S. DOT Transit, Safety, and Highway Funds:**
https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bicycle_pedestrian/funding/funding_opportunities.pdf
- » **U.S. DOT Navigator:** <https://www.transportation.gov/dot-navigator>