



Cuyahoga Falls, OH

Award: Honorable Mention | Fall 2023

Award History:

First-time applicant.

The 5 Es Category Scores	Cuyahoga Falls	Max Score this round
Engineering	33.95%	79.3%
Education	7.71%	76.3%
Encouragement	20.58%	87.5%
Evaluation & Planning	21.65%	78.0%
Equity & Accessibility	10.48%	70.5%

Scores are determined by points earned in each 'E' Category, weighted against comparable communities in the Fall 2023 BFC round. See pages 2-3 for your full subcategory points in each Category.

Key Outcomes

Overall Commuter Ridership: 0.1%

Male Commuter Ridership: 0.1%

Female Commuter Ridership: 0%

(Bicycle Mode Share among commuters, according to the Census Bureau's 2022 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimate.)

Bicycle Mode Share: Unknown

(Reported by applicant)

Annual Average Bicyclist Crashes in last 5 years: 0

Annual Average Bicyclist Fatalities in last 5 years: 0

(Crashes and Fatalities both reported by applicant)

Cuyahoga Falls's BFA Program Stats

of Local Bicycle Friendly Businesses: **0**

of Local Bicycle Friendly Universities: **0**

of Local League Cycling Instructors: **0**

Ohio's Bicycle Friendly State Ranking: **#17**

Community Profile

Population: 51,114

Area: 25.8 square miles

Population Density: 1981.2 people/square mile

Land Classification:

Mostly Suburban

Poverty Rate: 9.5%*

Median Household Income: \$62,294*

Percent of the Population that Speaks a

Language Other Than English at Home: 9.3%*

Percent with Disability: 12.8%*

Percent of Households with No Vehicle Available: 1.3%*

*Source: https://data.census.gov/profile/Cuyahoga_Falls_city,_Ohio?q=160XX00US3919778

Cuyahoga Falls's Bike Links

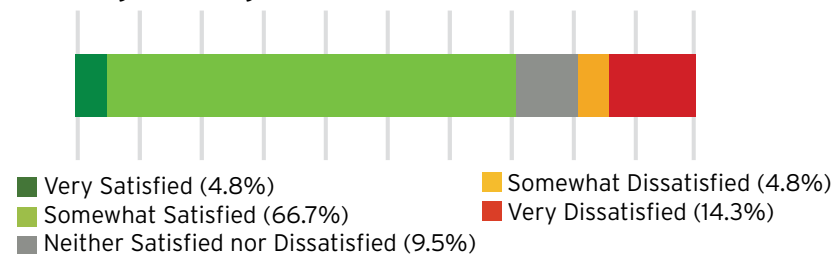
Bike Network Map, if available:

PDF available upon request.

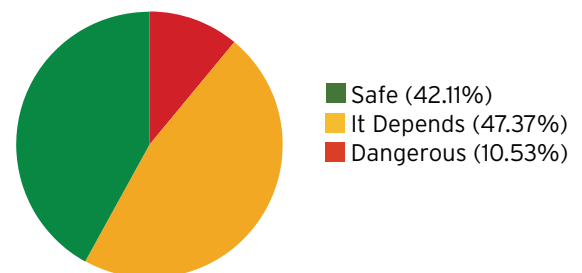
Bike Plan, if available:

Fall 2023 BFC Public Survey Response Summary for Cuyahoga Falls, OH

How satisfied are you with how this community is designed for making bike riding safe? (n = 21)



Is it safe or dangerous to ride a bicycle in your neighborhood, or does it depend? (n = 19)



What is the number one change you would most like to see the local government make in this community for bicyclists? (n = 21)

1. More bike lanes (33.3%)
2. More bike paths (28.6%)
3. Improve existing bike lanes to protected bike lanes (9.5%)
4. Improve public decision-making processes for transportation improvements, including bicycling improvements (9.5%)
5. Improve markings and signage that direct people to safe bike routes (9.5%)

About this Report Card

The following scores are based on the online application submitted by Cuyahoga Falls in the Fall 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 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 Fall 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>Cuyahoga Falls earned a weighted score of 33.95% in the Engineering Category. Below is the full breakdown of points that Cuyahoga Falls earned in each subcategory within the Engineering section, compared to the total points available in that subcategory from the Fall 2023 BFC application.</i>	
	Engineering Subcategories	Cuyahoga Falls's Subcategory Points in Engineering
	Policies and Design Standards for the Built Environment	13.3 / 41 pts
	End-of-Trip Facilities	18.6 / 44 pts
	Bicycle Network	13.1 / 128 pts
	Network Maintenance	23.8 / 32 pts
	Bicycle Access to Public Transportation	4.5 / 23 pts
	Bike Sharing	0 / 24 pts
	Other Bicycle-Related Amenities	0 / 6 pts
	Regional Coordination	3.3 / 23 pts
Engineering Bonus Points	2 / 10 pts	

EDUCATION	<i>Cuyahoga Falls earned a weighted score of 7.71% in the Education Category. Below is the full breakdown of points that Cuyahoga Falls earned in each subcategory of the Education section, compared to the total points available in that subcategory from the Fall 2023 BFC application.</i>	
	Education Subcategories	Cuyahoga Falls's Subcategory Points in Education
	Youth Bicycle Education	0.8 / 68 pts
	Adult Bicycle Education	5.8 / 47 pts
	Motorist Education	0.5 / 28 pts
	Bicycle Safety Education Resources	0 / 16 pts
	Inclusive Education	2 / 26 pts
Education Bonus Points	1 / 7 pts	

ENCOURAGEMENT	<i>Cuyahoga Falls earned a weighted score of 20.58% in the Encouragement Category. Below is the full breakdown of points that Cuyahoga Falls earned in each subcategory of the Encouragement section section, compared to the total points available in that subcategory from the Fall 2023 BFC application.</i>	
	Encouragement Subcategories	Cuyahoga Falls's Subcategory Points in Encouragement
	Encouragement Policies, Programs and Partnerships	1 / 17 pts
	Route-Finding Support	4 / 10 pts
	Bicycle Culture and Promotion	19 / 91 pts
	Access To Bicycle Equipment and Repair Services	2.3 / 35 pts
	Reducing Work-Related/Fleet VMT	0 / 11 pts
	Encouragement Bonus Points	1.8 / 7 pts

EVALUATION & PLANNING	<i>Cuyahoga Falls earned a weighted score of 21.65% in the Evaluation & Planning Category. Below is the full breakdown of points that Cuyahoga Falls earned in each subcategory of the Evaluation & Planning section, compared to the total points available in that subcategory from the Fall 2023 BFC application.</i>	
	Evaluation & Planning Subcategories	Cuyahoga Falls's Subcategory Points in Evaluation & Planning
	Staffing And Committees	4.6 / 35 pts
	Public Engagement for Bicycle Planning	10.6 / 35 pts
	Planning, Funding, And Implementation	0.9 / 46 pts
	Evaluating The Bicycle Network	0.5 / 25 pts
	Evaluating Ridership	-0.3 / 20 pts
	Evaluating & Improving Safety Outcomes	15.8 / 42 pts
Evaluation & Planning Bonus Points	0.5 / 15 pts	

EQUITY & ACCESSIBILITY	<i>Cuyahoga Falls earned a weighted score of 10.48% in the Equity & Accessibility Category. Below is the full breakdown of points that Cuyahoga Falls earned in each subcategory of the Equity & Accessibility section, compared to the total points available in that subcategory from the Fall 2023 BFC application.</i>	
	Equity & Accessibility Subcategories	Cuyahoga Falls's Subcategory Points in Equity & Accessibility
	Equity & Accessibility Staffing, Committees, & Partnerships	2.3 / 24 pts
	Equity Data Collection & Goals	0.7 / 27 pts
	Equity & Accessibility Policies & Plans	3 / 21 pts
	Equity & Accessibility in Engineering	6 / 44 pts
	Equity & Accessibility in Education	2 / 52 pts
	Equity & Accessibility in Encouragement	0.8 / 42 pts
	Equity & Accessibility in Evaluation & Planning	3 / 51 pts
Equity & Accessibility Bonus Points	0 / 9 pts	



Cuyahoga Falls, OH

Award: Honorable Mention | **Fall 2023** | **Award History:** First-time applicant.

FEEDBACK TO IMPROVE:

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

- » 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.
- » Continue to expand and improve your low-stress bikeway 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.
- » Lower speed limits -- and designed speeds -- on residential streets to 20 mph or less. Develop a system of bicycle boulevards, utilizing these quiet neighborhood streets, that creates an attractive, convenient, and comfortable cycling environment welcoming to cyclists of all ages and skill levels. Use the Bicycle Boulevards section of the NACTO Urban Bikeway Design Guide for design guidelines.
- » Consider developing recreational bicycling amenities for youth and adults in your community such as a pump track or mountain bike park.
- » Encourage Akron to renew their BFC status, which expired in 2018. Continue working with AMATS to coordinate with Akron and other local jurisdictions to build a cohesive bicycle network across the full region.
- » Bicycle safety education should be a routine part of education for students of all ages, and schools and the surrounding neighborhoods should be particularly safe and convenient for biking and walking. Work with local bicycle groups and interested parents to create Safe Routes to School programming and on-bike learning opportunities at all K-12 schools. Providing bicycles in schools for on-bike education is strongly encouraged to ensure that all students can learn to safely ride a bicycle regardless of the availability of a bicycle in their household.
- » 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.
- » Work with local or regional LCIs and employers to offer Bicycle Friendly Driver training to motorists in Cuyahoga Falls, particularly to professional drivers, government employees, emergency responders, and fleet operators. Learn more at <https://bikeleague.org/bfd>.
- » 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.
- » 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. City Hall or other municipal buildings could apply to the BFB program as an employer to lead by example among other local employers.
- » 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.
- » Your application indicated that your community is currently creating a Bicycle Master Plan. This is a great step to improving conditions for bicycling and institutionalizing processes for continual improve-



Cuyahoga Falls, OH

Award: Honorable Mention | **Fall 2023** | **Award History:** First-time applicant.

FEEDBACK TO IMPROVE, CONTINUED:

ment. 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.

- » Conduct a connectivity analysis and network quality evaluation of your existing bicycle network, and work to identify and fill any gaps. Establish a performance measurement program for bicycling and/or active transportation infrastructure. See FHWA's resources on these topics: https://bit.ly/FHWA_connectivity and https://bit.ly/FHWA_bikepedPMs. Look into the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Planning and Demonstration Grants from the U.S. Department of Transportation for potential funding opportunities to support this work: <https://www.transportation.gov/grants/SS4A>.
- » Create 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 Cuyahoga Falls. 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.
- » Consider what other local community groups exist in Cuyahoga Falls who may be good potential partners to reach new audiences and build on existing bike education, encouragement, and engagement efforts. Question F4 on the BFC application provides a wealth of suggested community partners for you to consider, beyond the existing bike clubs and organizations that are already active in this space.

MORE RESOURCES FOR IMPROVING YOUR COMMUNITY:

- » **Guide to this BFC Report Card:** <https://bit.ly/BFC-Report-Card-Guide-Fa23>
- » **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 BFC Ideabook and Map:** <https://bikeleague.org/BFCIdeaBook>
- » **The League's Benchmarking Project on Biking & 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>
- » **National Bike Month Resources:** <https://bikeleague.org/bikemonth>
- » **Advocacy Reports and Resources from the League:** <http://bikeleague.org/reports>
- » **Federal Funding Resources from the League:** <https://bikeleague.org/federal-funding-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>