

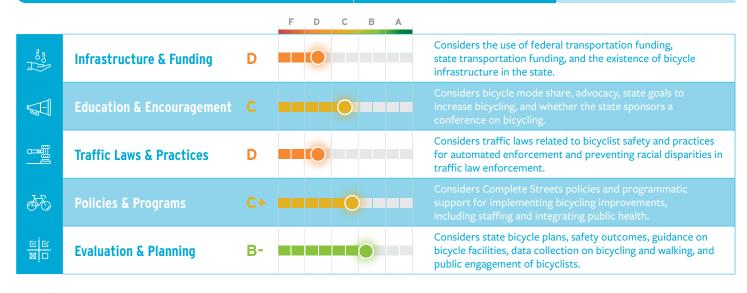
WE'RE BUILDING A BICYCLE FRIENDLY AMERICA FOR **EVERYONE** 

STATE ADVOCACY GROUP: **BICYCLE COALITION** OF NEW MEXICO

## **NEW MEXICO**

NATIONAL

REGIONAL RANK **WESTERN** (OF 13) SEE THE REPORT CARD USE GUIDE



Based on the information we obtained for New Mexico, the League of American Bicyclists believes the following actions will improve the safety, comfort, and accessibility of bicycling in New Mexico.

Adopt a safe passing law with a minimum distance of 3 feet to address bicyclist safety. Over the last two decades most states have adopted a safe passing law to protect people biking. New Mexico is one of 11 states

New Mexico is one of the most dangerous states for people walking, and is thankfully no more dangerous than average for people biking. Both people biking and walking face common threats posed by arterial roadways. 85% of people killed while biking in the state were killed on arterial roadways. Addressing arterial roadways is key to improving bicycle and pedestrian safety.

In 2021, the New Mexico DOT adopted its first Statewide Pedestrian Safety Action Plan to address the high pedestrian fatality rate in New Mexico. This effort is welcome and hopefully the infrastructure, land use, and other improvements contemplated by this plan also improve the experiences and safety of people cycling.

Adopt a statewide Complete Streets policy or other policy that institutionalizes planning, designing, and building safe places for people to bike and walk as part of the transportation system. While we give credit to New Mexico under our Bicycle Friendly Action criteria, the state only has resolutions expressing support for Complete Streets rather than stronger actions, such as a law or departmental policy.

The New Mexico legislature and DOT should consider incentive programs to promote local land use and transportation coordination, including bicycle and pedestrian network connectivity.

| Bicycle Friendly Actions             | Progress?       |  |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|--|
| Complete Streets Law / Policy        | Yes             |  |
| Safe Passing Law (3ft+)              | No              |  |
| Statewide bike plan last 10 years    | Yes             |  |
| 2% or more federal funds on bike/ped | Yes-New/Updated |  |
| Bicycle Safety Emphasis Area         | Yes             |  |

| Federal   | Data on Biking  | Rank          |
|-----------|---|---------------|
| Ridership | 0.62% of commuters biking to work                     | <b>17</b> /50 |
| Safety    | 9.3 fatalities per 10K bike commuters                 | <b>25</b> /50 |
| Spending  | \$6.60 per capita FHWA spending on biking and walking | <b>4</b> /50  |

## SEE THE BICYCLE FRIENDLY STATE DATABASE MAP:

BIKELEAGUE.ORG/BFA/AWARDS



The Bicycle Friendly State ranking is based on a comprehensive survey—with over 100 data points—completed by state departments of transportation and state bicycling advocates. For more information, visit bikeleague.org/states or contact Ken McLeod at (202) 822-1333 or ken@bikeleague.org.