



Vancouver, WA



2024 BFC Award: Bronze
Award History: Bronze from 2005-2016.

The 5 Es Category Scores	Vancouver	Max Score this round
Engineering	38.93%	79.26%
Education	34.28%	83.25%
Encouragement	30.14%	90.86%
Evaluation & Planning	33.15%	75.73%
Equity & Accessibility	23.01%	75.47%

Scores are determined by points earned in each 'E' Category, weighted against comparable communities in the 2024 BFC round. See pages 2-3 for your full subcategory points in each Category.

Key Outcomes

Overall Commuter Ridership: 0.4%
Male Commuter Ridership: 0.6%
Female Commuter Ridership: 0.2%
(Bicycle Mode Share among commuters, according to the Census Bureau's 2022 or 2023 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimate.)

Bicycle Mode Share: Unknown
(Reported by applicant)

Annual Average Bicyclist Crashes in last 5 years: 92
Annual Average Bicyclist Fatalities in last 5 years: 4
(Crashes and Fatalities both reported by applicant)

Vancouver's BFA Program Stats

of Local Bicycle Friendly Businesses: **2**
 # of Local Bicycle Friendly Universities: **0**
 # of Local League Cycling Instructors: **0**
 Washington's Bicycle Friendly State Ranking: **#1**

Community Profile

Population: 199,600
 (Size classification for weighted scoring: Medium)
Area: 51.84 square miles
Population Density: 3,850.30 people/square mile
Land Classification: Mostly Suburban
Poverty Rate: 10%*
Median Household Income: \$76,799*
Percent of the Population that Speaks a Language Other Than English at Home: 22%*
Percent with Disability: 14.7%*
Percent of Households with No Vehicle Available: 8%*

*Source: https://data.census.gov/profile/Vancouver_city,_Washington?g=160XX00US5374060

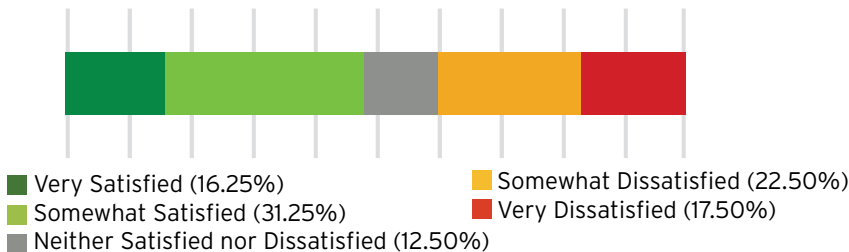
Vancouver's Bike Links

Bike Network Map, if available:
 PDF available upon request.

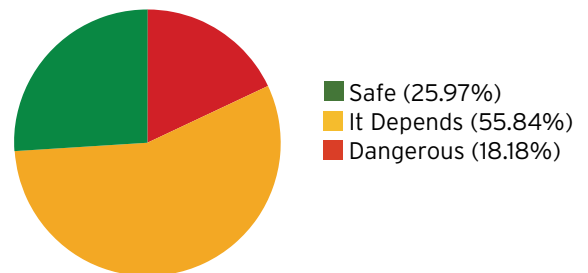
Bike Plan, if available:
<https://www.cityofvancouver.us/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/Van-TSP-Book-202402-Reduced.pdf>

2024 BFC Public Survey Response Summary for Vancouver, WA

How satisfied are you with how this community is designed for making bike riding safe? (n = 80)



Is it safe or dangerous to ride a bicycle in your neighborhood, or does it depend? (n = 77)



What are the top 1-3 changes you would most like to see the local government make in this community for bicyclists? (n = 80)

1. More bike paths (48.75%)
2. More bike lanes (47.50%)
3. Improve existing bike lanes to protected bike lanes (40.00%)

About this Report Card

The following scores are based on the online application submitted by Vancouver in the 2024 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 2024 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>Vancouver earned a weighted score of 38.93% in the Engineering Category. Below is the full breakdown of points that Vancouver earned in each subcategory within the Engineering section, compared to the total points available in that subcategory from the 2024 BFC application.</i>	
	Engineering Subcategories	Vancouver's Subcategory Points in Engineering
	Policies and Design Standards for the Built Environment	12.2 / 41 pts
	End-of-Trip Facilities	12.3 / 44 pts
	Bicycle Network	28.9 / 128 pts
	Network Maintenance	6.8 / 32 pts
	Bicycle Access to Public Transportation	12.9 / 23 pts
	Bike Sharing	0.0 / 24 pts
	Other Bicycle-Related Amenities	0.3 / 6 pts
	Regional Coordination	16.7 / 23 pts
Engineering Bonus Points	0.5 / 10 pts	

EDUCATION	<i>Vancouver earned a weighted score of 34.28% in the Education Category. Below is the full breakdown of points that Vancouver earned in each subcategory of the Education section, compared to the total points available in that subcategory from the 2024 BFC application.</i>	
	Education Subcategories	Vancouver's Subcategory Points in Education
	Youth Bicycle Education	17.8 / 68 pts
	Adult Bicycle Education	16.6 / 47 pts
	Motorist Education	6.3 / 28 pts
	Bicycle Safety Education Resources	3.0 / 16 pts
	Inclusive Education	3.2 / 26 pts
Education Bonus Points	2.5 / 7 pts	

ENCOURAGEMENT	<i>Vancouver earned a weighted score of 30.14% in the Encouragement Category. Below is the full breakdown of points that Vancouver earned in each subcategory of the Encouragement section, compared to the total points available in that subcategory from the 2024 BFC application.</i>	
	Encouragement Subcategories	Vancouver's Subcategory Points in Encouragement
	Encouragement Policies, Programs and Partnerships	4.5 / 17 pts
	Route-Finding Support	4.1 / 10 pts
	Bicycle Culture and Promotion	17.9 / 91 pts
	Access To Bicycle Equipment and Repair Services	15.0 / 35 pts
	Reducing Work-Related/Fleet VMT	0.0 / 11 pts
Encouragement Bonus Points	2.0 / 7 pts	

EVALUATION & PLANNING	<i>Vancouver earned a weighted score of 33.15% in the Evaluation & Planning Category. Below is the full breakdown of points that Vancouver earned in each subcategory of the Evaluation & Planning section, compared to the total points available in that subcategory from the 2024 BFC application.</i>	
	Evaluation & Planning Subcategories	Vancouver's Subcategory Points in Evaluation & Planning
	Staffing And Committees	13.6 / 35 pts
	Public Engagement for Bicycle Planning	12.0 / 35 pts
	Planning, Funding, And Implementation	9.4 / 46 pts
	Evaluating The Bicycle Network	7.3 / 25 pts
	Evaluating Ridership	2.3 / 20 pts
Evaluating & Improving Safety Outcomes	2.2 / 42 pts	
Evaluation & Planning Bonus Points	2.1 / 15 pts	

EQUITY & ACCESSIBILITY	<i>Vancouver earned a weighted score of 23.01% in the Equity & Accessibility Category. Below is the full breakdown of points that Vancouver earned in each subcategory of the Equity & Accessibility section, compared to the total points available in that subcategory from the 2024 BFC application.</i>	
	Equity & Accessibility Subcategories	Vancouver's Subcategory Points in Equity & Accessibility
	Equity & Accessibility Staffing, Committees, & Partnerships	6.5 / 24 pts
	Equity Data Collection & Goals	5.6 / 27 pts
	Equity & Accessibility Policies & Plans	9.3 / 21 pts
	Equity & Accessibility in Engineering	1.5 / 44 pts
	Equity & Accessibility in Education	0.9 / 52 pts
	Equity & Accessibility in Encouragement	9.8 / 42 pts
Equity & Accessibility in Evaluation & Planning	7.2 / 51 pts	
Equity & Accessibility Bonus Points	0.7 / 9 pts	



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FEEDBACK TO IMPROVE:

To maintain and improve on Vancouver's Bronze-level Bicycle Friendly Community award, BFC Reviewers recommend...

- » Continue to expand and improve Vancouver low-stress on-road bike network and ensure that your community follows a bicycle facility selection criteria that meets current NACTO standards and 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.
- » Lower speed limits -- and designed speeds -- on residential streets to 20 mph or less. Introduce road diets and traffic calming measures to ensure compliance. 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.
- » Improve bicycle safety education for students of all ages by incorporating more on-bicycle education opportunities and by expanding the program to all K-12 schools. Work with Cascade Bicycle Club to implement on-bike learning opportunities at all K-12 schools in Vancouver (learn more at <https://cascade.org/lets-go/lets-go-across-state>). 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, including adaptive cycles for children and youth with disabilities.
- » 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 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.
- » 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.
- » Work with local community groups to develop bicycling encouragement and 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.



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FEEDBACK TO IMPROVE, CONTINUED:

- » Congratulations on adopting the 2024-2044 Transportation System Plan. This plan will be a blueprint for improvements and has many great recommendations for a more connected network of safe and comfortable bicycle facilities. Ensure that there is dedicated funding for the implementation of all types of bicycle infrastructure recommended by the new plan.
- » Work to establish a performance measurement program for bicycling and/or active transportation infrastructure. See FHWA's resources on this topic: https://bit.ly/FHWA_bikepedPMs.
- » Adopt a goal for a target level of bicycle use (percent of trips made by bike) to be achieved within a specific timeframe, and ensure data collection necessary to monitor progress toward your adopted goal.
- » Your application indicated the existence of one or more laws that restrict the movement of bicyclists or which may discourage people from bicycling, such as an all-ages mandatory helmet law. Review these local ordinances and any data on citations and crashes that is available to understand whether your current laws are necessary. The problems that motivate these restrictions can often be more effectively addressed by engineering and education rather than enforcement.

MORE RESOURCES FOR IMPROVING YOUR COMMUNITY:

- » **Guide to this BFC Report Card:** <https://bit.ly/BFC-Report-Card-Guide-2024>
- » **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 (BFS) 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>
- » **More 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>