



## Arlington, VA



**Award: Gold | Fall 2023**

**Award History:**

Previously Silver since 2007; Previously Bronze since 2003.

### Arlington's BFA Program Stats

# of Local Bicycle Friendly Businesses: **49**  
 # of Local Bicycle Friendly Universities: **1**  
 # of Local League Cycling Instructors: **20**  
 Virginia's Bicycle Friendly State Ranking: **#7**

The 5 Es Category Scores	Arlington	Max Score this round
Engineering	79.27%	79.3%
Education	76.31%	76.3%
Encouragement	82.19%	87.5%
Evaluation & Planning	77.99%	78.0%
Equity & Accessibility	62.89%	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.

### Community Profile

Population: 238,643  
 Area: 26 square miles  
 Population Density: 9178.6 people/square mile  
 Land Classification:  
 Mixed Urban/Suburban  
 Poverty Rate: 8.4%\*  
 Median Household Income: \$125,651\*  
 Percent of the Population that Speaks a Language Other Than English at Home: 28.4%\*  
 Percent with Disability: 7.1%\*  
 Percent of Households with No Vehicle Available: 13.8%\*

\*Source: [https://data.census.gov/profile/Arlington\\_County,\\_Virginia?g=050XX00US51013](https://data.census.gov/profile/Arlington_County,_Virginia?g=050XX00US51013)

### Arlington's Bike Links

**Bike Network Map, if available:**  
<https://www.bikearlington.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/Bike-Map-2021-FINAL-Lo-Res.pdf>

**Bike Plan, if available:**  
[https://arlingtonva.s3.amazonaws.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/31/2019/05/MTP\\_Bicycle\\_Element\\_2019\\_adopted.pdf](https://arlingtonva.s3.amazonaws.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/31/2019/05/MTP_Bicycle_Element_2019_adopted.pdf)

### Key Outcomes

**Overall Commuter Ridership: 1.5%**

Male Commuter Ridership: 2.1%

Female Commuter Ridership: 0.7%

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

**Bicycle Mode Share: 5%**

*(Reported by applicant)*

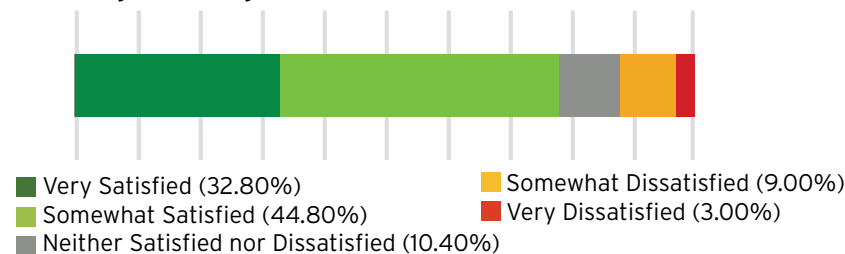
**Annual Average Bicyclist Crashes in last 5 years: 44.4**

**Annual Average Bicyclist Fatalities in last 5 years: 0**

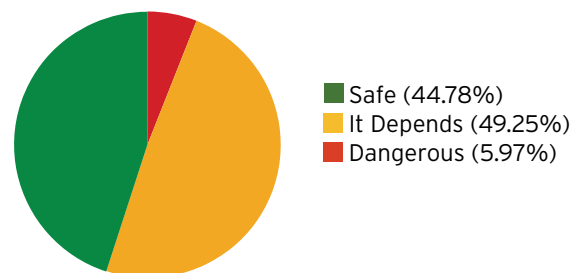
*(Crashes and Fatalities both reported by applicant)*

## Fall 2023 BFC Public Survey Response Summary for Arlington, VA

**How satisfied are you with how this community is designed for making bike riding safe? (n = 67)**



**Is it safe or dangerous to ride a bicycle in your neighborhood, or does it depend? (n = 67)**



**What is the number one change you would most like to see the local government make in this community for bicyclists? (n = 67)**

1. More bike lanes (28.4%)
2. Improve existing bike lanes to protected bike lanes (20.9%)
3. Reduce speeds through traffic calming and/or road diets (14.9%)

## About this Report Card

The following scores are based on the online application submitted by Arlington 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>.

<b>ENGINEERING</b>	<i>Arlington earned a weighted score of 79.27% in the Engineering Category. Below is the full breakdown of points that Arlington 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	Arlington's Subcategory Points in Engineering
	Policies and Design Standards for the Built Environment	25.1 / 41 pts
	End-of-Trip Facilities	29.5 / 44 pts
	Bicycle Network	54.6 / 128 pts
	Network Maintenance	21.5 / 32 pts
	Bicycle Access to Public Transportation	18.9 / 23 pts
	Bike Sharing	6.9 / 24 pts
	Other Bicycle-Related Amenities	3.3 / 6 pts
	Regional Coordination	19.5 / 23 pts
Engineering Bonus Points	6.4 / 10 pts	

<b>EDUCATION</b>	<i>Arlington earned a weighted score of 76.31% in the Education Category. Below is the full breakdown of points that Arlington 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	Arlington's Subcategory Points in Education
	Youth Bicycle Education	41.3 / 68 pts
	Adult Bicycle Education	31.6 / 47 pts
	Motorist Education	7.1 / 28 pts
	Bicycle Safety Education Resources	6.2 / 16 pts
	Inclusive Education	9.7 / 26 pts
	Education Bonus Points	4.4 / 7 pts

<b>ENCOURAGEMENT</b>	<i>Arlington earned a weighted score of 82.19% in the Encouragement Category. Below is the full breakdown of points that Arlington 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	Arlington's Subcategory Points in Encouragement
	Encouragement Policies, Programs and Partnerships	6.9 / 17 pts
	Route-Finding Support	6.6 / 10 pts
	Bicycle Culture and Promotion	63.9 / 91 pts
	Access To Bicycle Equipment and Repair Services	22.3 / 35 pts
	Reducing Work-Related/Fleet VMT	8.6 / 11 pts
	Encouragement Bonus Points	3.8 / 7 pts

<b>EVALUATION &amp; PLANNING</b>	<i>Arlington earned a weighted score of 77.99% in the Evaluation &amp; Planning Category. Below is the full breakdown of points that Arlington earned in each subcategory of the Evaluation &amp; Planning section, compared to the total points available in that subcategory from the Fall 2023 BFC application.</i>	
	Evaluation & Planning Subcategories	Arlington's Subcategory Points in Evaluation & Planning
	Staffing And Committees	21.6 / 35 pts
	Public Engagement for Bicycle Planning	24.8 / 35 pts
	Planning, Funding, And Implementation	15.9 / 46 pts
	Evaluating The Bicycle Network	15 / 25 pts
	Evaluating Ridership	11.5 / 20 pts
	Evaluating & Improving Safety Outcomes	23.4 / 42 pts
Evaluation & Planning Bonus Points	6.3 / 15 pts	

<b>EQUITY &amp; ACCESSIBILITY</b>	<i>Arlington earned a weighted score of 62.89% in the Equity &amp; Accessibility Category. Below is the full breakdown of points that Arlington earned in each subcategory of the Equity &amp; Accessibility section, compared to the total points available in that subcategory from the Fall 2023 BFC application.</i>	
	Equity & Accessibility Subcategories	Arlington's Subcategory Points in Equity & Accessibility
	Equity & Accessibility Staffing, Committees, & Partnerships	11.6 / 24 pts
	Equity Data Collection & Goals	8.6 / 27 pts
	Equity & Accessibility Policies & Plans	5.7 / 21 pts
	Equity & Accessibility in Engineering	11.6 / 44 pts
	Equity & Accessibility in Education	18.4 / 52 pts
	Equity & Accessibility in Encouragement	25.6 / 42 pts
	Equity & Accessibility in Evaluation & Planning	20.6 / 51 pts
Equity & Accessibility Bonus Points	3.9 / 9 pts	



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### FEEDBACK TO IMPROVE:

#### To maintain and improve on Arlington's Gold-level Bicycle Friendly Community award, BFC Reviewers recommend...

- » Your Bicycle Friendly Community application reported that ACS data shows a gender gap in bicycle modeshare (2.1% of male commuters bike to work, compared to 0.7% of female commuters, according to ACS data). Consider how focused outreach around bicycling education, encouragement, and engagement could help bring more women to bike for transportation in Arlington. Consider how local data collection efforts may be able to further inform your work by capturing gender in other bike use and modeshare counts, as well as identifying gender disparities in perceptions of safety and barriers to bicycling.
- » Continue to expand and improve Arlington's low-stress 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. Continue to identify gaps and add new facilities that complete and expand the bicycle network, while also continuing to upgrade existing facilities, such as the upgrades recommended by the South George Mason Drive Multimodal Corridor Study and the Arlington Blvd Trail Feasibility Study.
- » In addition to your existing efforts to create School Slow Zones and to lower the speed limit from 35mph to 25mph on Route 1, Arlington should work to lower speed limits -- and designed speeds -- on all residential streets to 20 mph or less. Introduce road diets and traffic calming measures to ensure compliance. Consider prioritizing the 65+ miles of 25mph roadways with signed bike routes, and work to develop a system of connected bicycle boulevards or neighborhood greenways, utilizing these quiet neighborhood streets. This bicycle boulevard/neighborhood greenway network should create 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.
- » Continue to expand the in-school bike education programming in all APS middle and high schools, so that more students have access to on-bike learning opportunities throughout their youth, as well as bicycle maintenance STEM/project-based learning, and even Bicycle Friendly Driver training for older students who may be learning to drive and share the road.
- » Work with BikeArlington, local League Cycling Instructors (LCIs), and local employers to offer Bicycle Friendly Driver training to motorists in Arlington, particularly to professional drivers, government employees, emergency responders, and fleet operators. Learn more at <https://bike-league.org/bfd>.
- » Continue efforts to diversity your Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC) and to revise the BAC charter with the goal of encouraging new and historically underrepresented voices and perspectives to become active members.



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### FEEDBACK TO IMPROVE, CONTINUED:

- » Integrate the Arlington County's existing Racial Equity Action Plan, ADA Transition Plan, Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Plan, Climate Action Plan, and Health Equity Plan with your bicycling and mobility planning activities to result in more systematically equitable and inclusive bicycle planning, outreach, engagement, and programming efforts. BikeArlington and the county's vision zero efforts are already doing a great job of centering equity in your education and engagement work, but further coordinating with these existing County-wide plans and/or policies could help to further advance your equity goals and identify new opportunities for partnerships, funding, and support for this work.

### 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](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>
- » **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](https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bicycle_pedestrian/funding/funding_opportunities.pdf)
- » **U.S. DOT Navigator:** <https://www.transportation.gov/dot-navigator>