



Canton, CT



Award: Bronze | Fall 2023

Award History:

Bronze since 2019. Previously received Honorable Mention in 2016.

Canton's BFA Program Stats

of Local Bicycle Friendly Businesses: **1**
 # of Local Bicycle Friendly Universities: **0**
 # of Local League Cycling Instructors: **0**
 Connecticut's Bicycle Friendly State Ranking: **#20**

The 5 Es Category Scores	Canton	Max Score this round
Engineering	20.74%	79.3%
Education	23.88%	76.3%
Encouragement	20.57%	87.5%
Evaluation & Planning	22.69%	78.0%
Equity & Accessibility	2.90%	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%

Male Commuter Ridership: 0%

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)

Community Profile

Population: 10,124

Area: 25 square miles

Population Density: 405 people/square mile

Land Classification:

Mixed Urban/Suburban/Rural

Poverty Rate: 1.5%*

Median Household Income: \$100,000*

Percent of the Population that Speaks a

Language Other Than English at Home: 15%*

Percent with Disability: 9.7%*

Percent of Households with No Vehicle Available: 10.9%*

**Source: https://data.census.gov/profile/Canton_town,_Hartford_County,_Connecticut?q=060XX00US0900312270*

Canton's Bike Links

Bike Network Map, if available:

<https://www.townofcantonct.org/content/44105/45671/45673/45774/default.aspx>

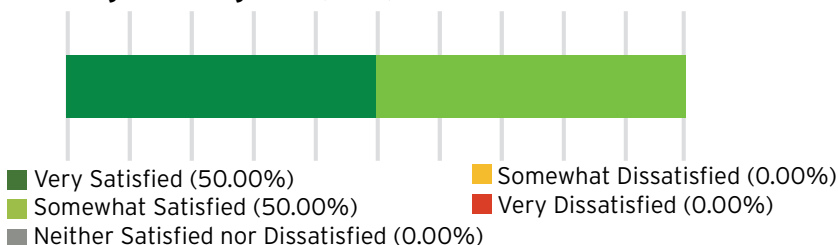
Bike Plan, if available:

<https://ecode360.com/attachment/CA2778/CA2778-A505b%20Implementation%20Plan.pdf>

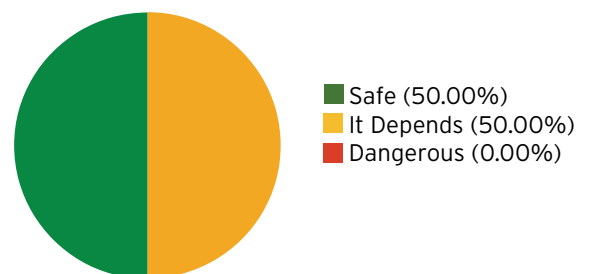
Fall 2023 BFC Public Survey Response Summary for Canton, CT

Note: Canton received fewer than 10 responses to the BFC public survey in Fall 2023. The League strongly encourages BFC applicants to distribute the public survey as widely as possible the next time your community applies to the BFC program, to get input from as many cyclists – and potential cyclists – as possible.

How satisfied are you with how this community is designed for making bike riding safe? (n = 2)



Is it safe or dangerous to ride a bicycle in your neighborhood, or does it depend? (n = 2)



What is the number one change you would most like to see the local government make in this community for bicyclists? (n = 2)

1. Reduce speeds through traffic calming and/or road diets (100%)

About this Report Card

The following scores are based on the online application submitted by Canton 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>Canton earned a weighted score of 20.74% in the Engineering Category. Below is the full breakdown of points that Canton 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	Canton's Subcategory Points in Engineering
	Policies and Design Standards for the Built Environment	9 / 41 pts
	End-of-Trip Facilities	11.3 / 44 pts
	Bicycle Network	0.5 / 128 pts
	Network Maintenance	5.1 / 32 pts
	Bicycle Access to Public Transportation	4 / 23 pts
	Bike Sharing	0 / 24 pts
	Other Bicycle-Related Amenities	0.4 / 6 pts
	Regional Coordination	12.5 / 23 pts
Engineering Bonus Points	0.8 / 10 pts	

EDUCATION	<i>Canton earned a weighted score of 23.88% in the Education Category. Below is the full breakdown of points that Canton 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	Canton's Subcategory Points in Education
	Youth Bicycle Education	8.1 / 68 pts
	Adult Bicycle Education	16.5 / 47 pts
	Motorist Education	2.5 / 28 pts
	Bicycle Safety Education Resources	1.3 / 16 pts
	Inclusive Education	1.1 / 26 pts
	Education Bonus Points	0.5 / 7 pts

ENCOURAGEMENT	<i>Canton earned a weighted score of 20.57% in the Encouragement Category. Below is the full breakdown of points that Canton 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	Canton's Subcategory Points in Encouragement
	Encouragement Policies, Programs and Partnerships	2.3 / 17 pts
	Route-Finding Support	1 / 10 pts
	Bicycle Culture and Promotion	16.2 / 91 pts
	Access To Bicycle Equipment and Repair Services	5.3 / 35 pts
	Reducing Work-Related/Fleet VMT	0 / 11 pts
	Encouragement Bonus Points	0.8 / 7 pts

EVALUATION & PLANNING	<i>Canton earned a weighted score of 22.69% in the Evaluation & Planning Category. Below is the full breakdown of points that Canton 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	Canton's Subcategory Points in Evaluation & Planning
	Staffing And Committees	6.9 / 35 pts
	Public Engagement for Bicycle Planning	1 / 35 pts
	Planning, Funding, And Implementation	9 / 46 pts
	Evaluating The Bicycle Network	0 / 25 pts
	Evaluating Ridership	3.3 / 20 pts
	Evaluating & Improving Safety Outcomes	8.2 / 42 pts
Evaluation & Planning Bonus Points	1 / 15 pts	

EQUITY & ACCESSIBILITY	<i>Canton earned a weighted score of 2.90% in the Equity & Accessibility Category. Below is the full breakdown of points that Canton 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	Canton's Subcategory Points in Equity & Accessibility
	Equity & Accessibility Staffing, Committees, & Partnerships	0 / 24 pts
	Equity Data Collection & Goals	0 / 27 pts
	Equity & Accessibility Policies & Plans	0 / 21 pts
	Equity & Accessibility in Engineering	1.8 / 44 pts
	Equity & Accessibility in Education	1.1 / 52 pts
	Equity & Accessibility in Encouragement	0 / 42 pts
	Equity & Accessibility in Evaluation & Planning	1 / 51 pts
Equity & Accessibility Bonus Points	0.3 / 9 pts	



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FEEDBACK TO IMPROVE:

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

- » Congratulations on adopting a Complete Streets policy directing transportation planners and engineers to routinely design and operate the entire right-of-way to enable safe access for all users. It is important to ensure that there is a strong implementation and compliance process for this new policy going forward.
- » Develop a design manual for bike facilities that meets current national standards or adopt the FHWA's Small Town and Rural Multimodal Network Guide. This will make it easier for town staff to propose and implement bicycle facility designs that have been shown to improve conditions for people who bike in other similar communities throughout the United States. 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.
- » Continue to increase the amount of high quality bicycle parking throughout the community, and to upgrade the quality of existing bike parking to meet APBP standards. Adopt a bike parking ordinance for new and existing buildings that specifies the amount and location of secure, convenient bike parking available. Develop community-wide Bicycle Parking Standards that specifically adhere to current APBP guidelines. (See www.apbp.org/bicycle-parking-solutions).
- » 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. Providing bicycles in schools for on-bike education ensures that all students can learn to safely ride a bicycle regardless of the availability of a bicycle in their household. Work with the school district, local bicycle groups, and interested parents to expand and improve the Safe Routes to School program. The Bike Rodeo being considered for Spring 2024 is a great start to increasing community-wide youth education outside of school as well.
- » Continue to 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 Town 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 LCIs and employers to offer Bicycle Friendly Driver training to motorists in Canton, particularly to professional drivers, government employees, emergency responders, and fleet operators. Learn more at <https://bikeleague.org/bfd>.
- » Develop a community-wide trip reduction ordinance/program, commuter incentive program, and a Guaranteed Ride Home program to encourage and support bike commuters in Canton.
- » Celebrate National Bike Month as a community every May. Bike Month activities could include community-wide signature events such as a Mayor's Ride and educational opportunities for children and adults throughout the month.



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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 (BFB) program. Consider focusing on recruiting businesses along the Farmington River Trail, such as the Crown and Hammer restaurant, to become certified as BFBs.
- » Develop education and encouragement outreach methods and programs that specifically target families, women, seniors, low-income residents, and people with disabilities, 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.
- » Consider what other local community groups exist in Canton 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>