



## Wilmette, IL



**Award: Bronze | Fall 2023**  
**Award History:** Bronze since 2018;  
 Previously Honorable Mention in 2014.

The 5 Es Category Scores	Wilmette	Max Score this round
Engineering	25.18%	79.3%
Education	44.78%	76.3%
Encouragement	20.88%	87.5%
Evaluation & Planning	22.23%	78.0%
Equity & Accessibility	8.25%	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:** 1.1%

Male Commuter Ridership: 1%

Female Commuter Ridership: 1.2%

*(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:** 14.4

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

*(Crashes and Fatalities both reported by applicant)*

### Wilmette's BFA Program Stats

# of Local Bicycle Friendly Businesses: **0**

# of Local Bicycle Friendly Universities: **0**

# of Local League Cycling Instructors: **0**

Illinois's Bicycle Friendly State Ranking: **#15**

### Community Profile

Population: 28,170

Area: 5.4 square miles

Population Density: 5216.7 people/square mile

Land Classification:

Suburban

Poverty Rate: 2.7%\*

Median Household Income: \$173,967\*

Percent of the Population that Speaks a

Language Other Than English at Home: 16.9%\*

Percent with Disability: 7.9%\*

Percent of Households with No Vehicle Available: 4.5%\*

\*Source: [https://data.census.gov/profile/Wilmette\\_village,\\_Illinois?q=160XX00US1782075](https://data.census.gov/profile/Wilmette_village,_Illinois?q=160XX00US1782075)

### Wilmette's Bike Links

**Bike Network Map, if available:**

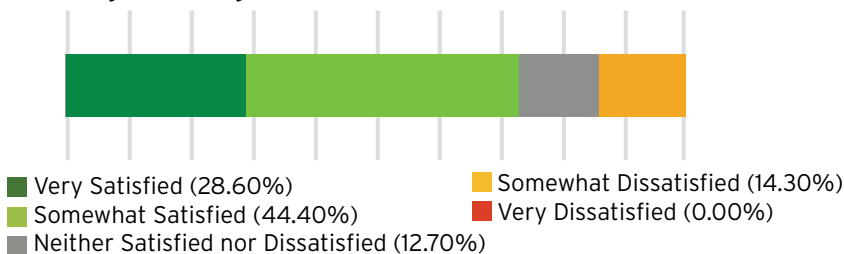
PDF available upon request.

**Bike Plan, if available:**

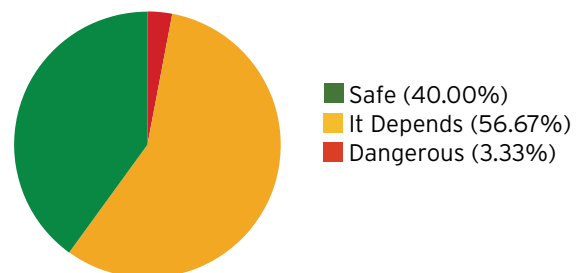
<https://www.wilmette.com/download/Wilmette-Master-Bike-and-Active-Transportation-Plan.pdf>

## Fall 2023 BFC Public Survey Response Summary for Wilmette, IL

**How satisfied are you with how this community is designed for making bike riding safe? (n = 63)**



**Is it safe or dangerous to ride a bicycle in your neighborhood, or does it depend? (n = 60)**



**What is the number one change you would most like to see the local government make in this community for bicyclists? (n = 63)**

1. More bike lanes (30.20%)
2. More bike paths (15.90%)
3. Increase police enforcement of traffic laws for drivers (9.50%)
4. Improve existing bike lanes to protected bike lanes (9.50%)

## About this Report Card

The following scores are based on the online application submitted by Wilmette 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>Wilmette earned a weighted score of 25.18% in the Engineering Category. Below is the full breakdown of points that Wilmette 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	Wilmette's Subcategory Points in Engineering
	Policies and Design Standards for the Built Environment	2.5 / 41 pts
	End-of-Trip Facilities	4.8 / 44 pts
	Bicycle Network	13.9 / 128 pts
	Network Maintenance	10 / 32 pts
	Bicycle Access to Public Transportation	8.1 / 23 pts
	Bike Sharing	0 / 24 pts
	Other Bicycle-Related Amenities	0.5 / 6 pts
	Regional Coordination	17.5 / 23 pts
Engineering Bonus Points	1 / 10 pts	

<b>EDUCATION</b>	<i>Wilmette earned a weighted score of 44.78% in the Education Category. Below is the full breakdown of points that Wilmette 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	Wilmette's Subcategory Points in Education
	Youth Bicycle Education	27.3 / 68 pts
	Adult Bicycle Education	12 / 47 pts
	Motorist Education	10.3 / 28 pts
	Bicycle Safety Education Resources	3.1 / 16 pts
	Inclusive Education	0 / 26 pts
Education Bonus Points	6 / 7 pts	

<b>ENCOURAGEMENT</b>	<i>Wilmette earned a weighted score of 20.88% in the Encouragement Category. Below is the full breakdown of points that Wilmette 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	Wilmette's Subcategory Points in Encouragement
	Encouragement Policies, Programs and Partnerships	1 / 17 pts
	Route-Finding Support	3 / 10 pts
	Bicycle Culture and Promotion	14.3 / 91 pts
	Access To Bicycle Equipment and Repair Services	5.8 / 35 pts
	Reducing Work-Related/Fleet VMT	3 / 11 pts
	Encouragement Bonus Points	1.5 / 7 pts

<b>EVALUATION &amp; PLANNING</b>	<i>Wilmette earned a weighted score of 22.23% in the Evaluation &amp; Planning Category. Below is the full breakdown of points that Wilmette 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	Wilmette's Subcategory Points in Evaluation & Planning
	Staffing And Committees	5.6 / 35 pts
	Public Engagement for Bicycle Planning	4.5 / 35 pts
	Planning, Funding, And Implementation	8.5 / 46 pts
	Evaluating The Bicycle Network	0 / 25 pts
	Evaluating Ridership	-0.3 / 20 pts
	Evaluating & Improving Safety Outcomes	13.9 / 42 pts
Evaluation & Planning Bonus Points	1.3 / 15 pts	

<b>EQUITY &amp; ACCESSIBILITY</b>	<i>Wilmette earned a weighted score of 8.25% in the Equity &amp; Accessibility Category. Below is the full breakdown of points that Wilmette 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	Wilmette's Subcategory Points in Equity & Accessibility
	Equity & Accessibility Staffing, Committees, & Partnerships	4.5 / 24 pts
	Equity Data Collection & Goals	0.5 / 27 pts
	Equity & Accessibility Policies & Plans	0.4 / 21 pts
	Equity & Accessibility in Engineering	0.3 / 44 pts
	Equity & Accessibility in Education	1.3 / 52 pts
	Equity & Accessibility in Encouragement	2 / 42 pts
	Equity & Accessibility in Evaluation & Planning	4.8 / 51 pts
Equity & Accessibility Bonus Points	0.3 / 9 pts	



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### FEEDBACK TO IMPROVE:

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

- » Ensure that your Complete Streets policy is followed for all projects, and that compliance is tracked. Ensuring compliance with a Complete Streets policy is an important and often low-cost way to add to your bicycle network. Striping bicycle lanes as part of repaving operations can save 40% of the cost of adding a bicycle lane. If necessary, revisit your 2015 Complete Streets policy and process to ensure better compliance.
- » Develop a design manual that meets current NACTO standards or adopt the NACTO Urban Bikeway Design Guide. This will make it easier for city staff to propose and implement bicycle facility designs that have been shown to improve conditions for people who bike in other cities 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.
- » 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.
- » Increase the amount of high quality bicycle parking throughout the community. Conduct a bike parking study or audit to determine current conditions of bike parking, both in terms of quality and quantity. Develop community-wide Bicycle Parking Standards that adhere to current APBP guidelines. (See [www.apbp.org/bicycle-parking-solutions](http://www.apbp.org/bicycle-parking-solutions)).
- » Continue to reconsider the feasibility of working with Divvy bikeshare to have the program expanded into Wilmette to help serve your residents and visitors, and to help facilitate trips into neighboring communities that are already served by the Divvy System.
- » It is great that such a high percentage of your Elementary, Middle, and High Schools offer on-bike bicycling safety education. Continue to strengthen this programming by providing a fleet of youth-sized bikes in schools 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.
- » Increase the number of local League Cycling Instructors (LCIs) in your community, either by hosting an LCI seminar or sponsoring a Village 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](http://bikeleague.org/ridesmart) for more information.
- » 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.
- » Create an official Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) or official bicycle-specific subcommittee of the Transportation Commission to create a systematic method for ongoing citizen input into the development of important policies, plans, and projects that impact bicycling conditions in Wilmette. Ensure that the members of the committee reflect the diversity and ability levels of cyclists in your community. See the Evaluation & Planning section of the BFC Resources page for several resources related to creating and maintaining an effective BPAC: [https://bikeleague.org/BFC\\_Resources](https://bikeleague.org/BFC_Resources).



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### FEEDBACK TO IMPROVE, CONTINUED:

- » 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](https://bit.ly/FHWA_connectivity) and [https://bit.ly/FHWA\\_bikepedPMs](https://bit.ly/FHWA_bikepedPMs).
- » 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 Wilmette. 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.
- » 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 future planning work, such as: data collection, safety data analysis, a comprehensive roadway safety plan, demonstration projects, and/or evaluations of your existing bike network: <https://www.transportation.gov/grants/SS4A>.

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