



Virginia

RANKING # 13

REGIONAL RANKING » SOUTH #1

GOVERNOR: Terry McAuliffe

DOT COMMISSIONER: Charles Kilpatrick

BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN COORDINATOR: John Bolecek

STATE ADVOCACY GROUP: Virginia Bicycling Federation, Bike Virginia

CATEGORY SCORES

SCORING: 5 = HIGH 1 = LOW

2 LEGISLATION AND ENFORCEMENT

4 POLICIES AND PROGRAMS

3 INFRASTRUCTURE AND FUNDING

4 EDUCATION AND ENCOURAGEMENT

2 EVALUATION AND PLANNING

TOP 10 SIGNS OF SUCCESS

= NEW IN 2015

1% OR MORE OF PEOPLE COMMUTING BY BIKE

SAFE PASSING LAW (3 FEET OR GREATER)

COMPLETE STREETS POLICY

DEDICATED STATE FUNDING

ACTIVE STATE ADVOCACY GROUP

STATE BICYCLE PLAN (ADOPTED 2005 OR LATER)

SHARE THE ROAD CAMPAIGN

VULNERABLE ROAD USER LAW

BICYCLE SAFETY EMPHASIS IN STRATEGIC HIGHWAY SAFETY PLAN

2% OR MORE FEDERAL FUNDS SPENT ON BIKE/PED

OVERALL POINTS

47 of 100

2014: 41 of 100

FEEDBACK

- Update law that makes maintenance payments to cities based upon the number of moving lane miles available and which discourages road diets and bicycle lanes in urban areas. Road diets can substantially increase bicyclist and pedestrian safety without significant impacts on automotive mobility. Policies should support road diets and not punish communities for implementing road diets by reducing payments when automotive lanes are removed.
- Adopt a law prohibiting a motorist from opening an automobile's door unless the motorist is able to do so safely. Virginia is one of only 10 states to not have this type of law.
- Incentivize and document compliance with Commonwealth Transportation Board policies related to inclusion of bicycle and pedestrian facilities in projects.
- Dedicate state funding for bicycle projects and programs, especially those focused on safety, eliminating gaps and increasing access for bicycle networks. Creating programmatic funding allows local communities to better understand how to access state funding or helps guide the state's funding priorities for maximum impact.
- Adopt a mode share goal for biking to encourage the integration of bicycle transportation needs into all transportation and land use policy and project decisions.
- Adopt a vulnerable road user law that increases penalties for a motorist that injures or kills a bicyclist or pedestrian. Model language is available here: <http://bikeleague.org/content/model-legislation>.
- Add bicycle safety as an emphasis area in the state Strategic Highway Safety Plan and aggressively fund bike safety projects.

The Bicycle Friendly States ranking is based on a comprehensive survey completed by state departments of transportation and state bicycling advocates. It asks comprehensive questions across 5 categories: Legislation and Enforcement, Policies and Programs, Infrastructure and Funding, Education and Encouragement, Evaluation and Planning. The results listed above provide only a snap shot of the full application. They are intended to offer some ideas for further growth in bicycle friendliness. For more information, visit www.bikeleague.org/states or contact Ken McLeod at (202)-822-1333 or ken@bikeleague.org.