While the BFC Review team was happy to see the ongoing commitment to improve from the City of Kettering, there were a few glaring areas of the BFC application in which the city appears to have backslid compared to your 2016 application, including bike education offered in schools, staffing hours, and transportation budget allocated toward bicycling improvements. We hope to see the momentum apparent in other areas of your 2020 application continue to move the city forward including in bringing these areas back up to their 2016 levels or even better.

» Adopt a local Complete Streets policy and create implementation guidance. By adopting a Complete Streets policy, communities direct their transportation planners and engineers to routinely design and operate the entire right-of-way to enable safe access for all users, regardless of age, ability, or mode of transportation. A Complete Streets policy should prompt the community to consider lane and/or road diets when repaving or otherwise doing major maintenance on roadways.

» Your application indicated that your community is currently updating a bicycle master plan. This is a great step to improving conditions for bicycling and institutionalizing processes for continual improvement. Your Bicycle Master Plan update should take advantage of best practices that are applicable to a community of your size, including the use of separated bike lanes, targeted education programming, and demonstration projects to help the community understand possible bicycle facilities. Ensure that the new Plan includes specific and measurable goals, a strong implementation plan, and dedicated funding or an annual budget to ensure its success.

Striping bicycle lanes as part of repaving operations can save 40% of the cost of adding a bicycle lane. 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.

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» Bicycle safety education should be a routine part of education for students of all ages, and schools and the surrounding neighborhoods should be particularly safe and convenient for biking and walking. Work with local bicycle groups and interested parents to create Safe Routes to School programming for all schools.

» Develop a community-wide trip reduction ordinance/program, commuter incentive program, and a Guaranteed Ride Home program to encourage and support bike commuters in Kettering.

» Develop 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.

MORE RESOURCES FOR IMPROVING YOUR COMMUNITY:

» League of American Bicyclists: https://www.bikeleague.org


» Resources for Building a Bicycle Friendly Community: https://bikeleague.org/BFC_Resources

» Building Blocks of a Bicycle Friendly Community: https://bikeleague.org/content/building-blocks-bicycle-friendly-communities

» The Five E's: https://bikeleague.org/5-es

» Smart Cycling Program: https://bikeleague.org/ridesmart

» Advocacy Reports and Resources: https://bikeleague.org/reports

» Bicycle Friendly Business Program: https://bikeleague.org/business

» National Bike Month: https://bikeleague.org/bikemonth