



ITHACA, NY

TOTAL POPULATION
30,837

POPULATION DENSITY
5080

TOTAL AREA (sq. miles)
6.07

OF LOCAL BICYCLE FRIENDLY BUSINESSES **0**

OF LOCAL BICYCLE FRIENDLY UNIVERSITIES **0**

10 BUILDING BLOCKS OF A BICYCLE FRIENDLY COMMUNITY

	Average Silver	Ithaca
High Speed Roads with Bike Facilities	35%	0%
Total on- and off-road Bicycle Network Mileage to Total Road Network Mileage	48%	22%
Bicycle Education in Schools	GOOD	NEEDS IMPROVEMENT
Share of Transportation Budget Spent on Bicycling	11%	5%
Bike Month and Bike to Work Events	GOOD	GOOD
Active Bicycle Advocacy Group	YES	YES
Active Bicycle Advisory Committee	MEETS EVERY TWO MONTHS	MEETS AT LEAST MONTHLY
Bicycle-Friendly Laws & Ordinances	GOOD	AVERAGE
Bike Plan is Current and is Being Implemented	YES	UPDATE UNDERWAY
Bike Program Staff to Population	1 PER 78K	1 PER 62K

CATEGORY SCORES

ENGINEERING <i>Bicycle network and connectivity</i>	4.68 /10
EDUCATION <i>Motorist awareness and bicycling skills</i>	4.48 /10
ENCOURAGEMENT <i>Mainstreaming bicycling culture</i>	5.27 /10
EVALUATION & PLANNING <i>Setting targets and having a plan</i>	4.54 /10

KEY OUTCOMES

	Average Silver	Ithaca
RIDERSHIP <i>Percentage of Commuters who bike</i>	2.7%	3.20%
SAFETY MEASURES CRASHES <i>Crashes per 10k bicycle commuters</i>	537	389.91
SAFETY MEASURES FATALITIES <i>Fatalities per 10k bicycle commuters</i>	6.3	0



KEY STEPS TO SILVER



» Continue to expand and improve Ithaca's low-stress on-road bike network and 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, to maximize safety and comfort for bicyclists of all ages and abilities. Identify gaps and add new facilities that complete and expand the bicycle network, and work to upgrade existing bike lanes into protected bike lanes by adding physical barriers that improve safety and accessibility for all ages and abilities.

» Lower speed limits on residential streets to 20 mph or less. Introduce road diets and traffic calming measures to ensure compliance, and use these lower speed streets to expand Ithaca's bicycle boulevard network.

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

» 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.

KEY STEPS CONTINUED ON PAGE 2...



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Spring 2021

KEY STEPS TO SILVER CONTINUED

- » Continue to increase the amount of high quality bicycle parking throughout the community. Ensure that APBP-compliant bicycle parking is available in areas near popular destinations and urban activity centers. Without secure and convenient bike parking it is difficult for a person to choose to ride their bicycle for transportation or utilitarian trips.
- » Expand bicycle safety education to be a routine part of education for students of all ages, and ensure that schools and the surrounding neighborhoods are particularly safe and convenient for biking and walking. Work with the school district, local bicycle groups, and interested parents to create Safe Routes to School programming for all K-12 schools. Appoint or hire a dedicated Safe Routes to School Coordinator to lead these efforts.
- » 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.
- » Continue efforts to re-launch a new public bike share system to replace the Lime bikeshare system that ceased operations in 2020. Bike sharing is a convenient, cost effective, and healthy way of encouraging locals and visitors to make short trips by bike, make bicycling more accessible to all, and to bridge the 'last mile' between public transit and destinations.
- » Hire a full-time Bicycle & Pedestrian Coordinator for the City. Expanding the official dedicated staff time focused on bicycling-related projects and programs would help in scaling up your BFC efforts.
- » Your application indicated that Bike Walk Tompkins has been leading the development of a community-built bicycle "blueprint" called the Bicycling for Everyone Action Plan. This new plan is a great step to improving conditions for bicycling and institutionalizing processes for continual improvement across Ithaca, and should gain the support of the City early in the process. 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.
- » Continue to develop a bicycle count program that utilizes several methods of data collection including automated bicycle counters to provide long-term data on bicycle use at fixed points and mobile counters to provide periodic or before/after data related to a changes in your community's road or bicycle network.

MORE RESOURCES FOR IMPROVING YOUR COMMUNITY:

- » League of American Bicyclists: <https://www.bikeleague.org>
- » Guide to the BFC Report Card: https://bikeleague.org/sites/default/files/Guide_to_the_Bicycle_Friendly_Community_Report_Card.pdf
- » 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>

