

BIKING AND WALKING ON A BUDGET LOW-COST TIPS AND SOLUTIONS

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Bike Walk Mississippi

WHAT IS "BICYCLE FRIENDLY"?

League of American Bicyclists

http://bikeleague.org/bfa

- » Started in 1996 with the Bicycle Friendly Community program
- » 5 Award levels: Diamond, Platinum, Gold, Silver and Bronze
- » Program recognizes communities for bicycle friendliness and provides roadmap and assistance to become better

WHAT IS "WALK FRIENDLY"?

U.S. DOT [Sponsored by FedEx]

www.walkfriendly.org

- » Developed in 2010 to promote and reward walkable communities
- » Administered by the Pedestrian and Bicycle Information Center

BENEFITS OF BECOMING BIKE & WALK FRIENDLY

- »Economic Development
- »Health & Wellness
- »Equitable Access & Connectivity
- »Safety for ALL types of users
- »Livability & Quality of Life
- »National & Statewide Recognition

APPLICATION CRITERIA:

- »Engineering
- »Education
- »Encouragement
- »Enforcement
- »Evaluation & Planning

CERTIFICATION PROCESS:

Bicycle Friendly Community:

After a deadline, the applications are first sent to local reviewers for comment. Local reviewers usually have 2-3 weeks to submit an online review of the applicant. Once all local feedback is received, it is shared with the judging panel. Each judge then takes about 2-3 weeks to review each application, together with any supplemental material and the local feedback. Applications that receive a range of award suggestions are discussed during a review meeting.

Walk Friendly Community:

Based on reviews and team discussion, detailed report, cards are prepared for each applicant.

Applications reviewed by at least 3 staff members

Reviews account for:

- Community size and context
- Recent progress and success
- Balance of different program areas

GET STARTED:

- » Download the latest application
- » Skim application and circle all low-hanging fruit and questions.
- » Send application to appropriate city staff and advocates for input on particular items of interest.
- » Work with Bike Walk Mississippi to create a short-term action plan for low hanging fruit before applying.



As part of this campaign, the state of Mississippi has increased 15 spots from #47 to #32 as a Nationally ranked Bicycle Friendly State!



OXFORD, MS BRONZE



RIDGELAND, MS
BRONZE



HATTIESBURG, MS BRONZE

HONORABLE MENTIONS:

GREENWOOD, MS PASCAGOULA, MS STARKVILLE, MS



EXAMPLES OF LOW-COST ENGINEERING SOLUTIONS:

- Regular training opportunities on best practices and funding bicycle projects for engineering and planning staff.
- <u>Public Input mechanisms</u> Convenient ways for the public to comment on maintenance, safety and other issues impeding bicycle accessibility.

PASS A COMPLETE STREETS POLICY — WITH implementation guidance, staff training, police checklist, compliance procedure and performance measures.

COMPLETE STREETS = INCREASED HEALTH, SAFETY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, REDUCED COST, MORE CHOICES, LIVABLE STREETS



Complete Streets is NOT: One special street project, a mandate for retrofit or only accomplished with a special funding source.

It IS a FLEXIBLE PLANNING & DESIGN PROCESS that takes into account ALL USERS.



EXAMPLES OF LOW-COST EDUCATION SOLUTIONS:

- There is a local Safe Routes to Schools Program.
 - Bicycle Safety education is part of primary and secondary school education and the surrounding neighborhoods are safe and convenient for biking.
- There are bicycle education opportunities for children OUTSIDE of school through bike rodeos, youth education programs and helmet fit seminars. Bike Rodeos.
- There are regular opportunities for adults to develop their bicycling skills (partner with LCI training programs through Bike Walk Mississippi)



EXAMPLES OF LOW-COST ENCOURAGEMENT SOLUTIONS:

- There is an active, engaged bicycle advocacy group representing the interests of bicyclists and potential bicyclists (Partner with Bike Walk Mississippi). If there is an active bicycling club, making sure they are equipped with advocacy training.
- Bike Month, Bike to Work Day, Bike to School Day are all promoted in partnership with local bike clubs and advocacy groups.
- Hold Walking Audits / Assessments in Communities throughout the city.
- City sponsored biking and walking challenges promoting biking and walking.
- Mayor or City Council led bike rides or walks and supporting community biking and walking events.

- There is a CYCLOVIA or "Open Streets"
 event, closing off a major corridor to
 automobile traffic and offering the space to
 cyclists, pedestrians and group exercise
 events.
- The tourism board or local chamber of commerce promotes bicycling in the area to boost the local economy.
- Promotion of and inclusion of Bicycle Friendly Businesses and Universities.
- Bike Shops, Community Bike Shop or opportunities to rent or loan bikes.
- Youth programs and "Earn a bike" programs.
- There is a local biking and/or walking map printed and online that addresses diverse needs and skill levels.





EXAMPLES OF LOW-COST ENFORCEMENT SOLUTIONS:

- There is a police bike patrol and designated law enforcement point person who interacts with the bike community.
- Law enforcement officers are offered regular education on the rights and responsibilities of bicyclists and traffic laws as it applies to bicyclists and motorists.
- Law enforcement officers use targeting enforcement and information sharing to encourage motorists and cyclists to share the road safely.
- Law enforcement officers report cyclist crash data and potential hazards to the public works department, traffic engineers and transportation planners.



EVERYONE IS SOMEONE'S EVERYTHING.

WWW.CHANGELANESTOPASS.COM

EXAMPLES OF LOW-COST ENFORCEMENT SOLUTIONS:

There is a public safety
 awareness campaign using
 Public Service Announcements
 and other media to make both
 motorists and cyclists aware of
 their rights and responsibilities.

You can find replicable local resources including:

- Posters,
- Safety information
- and PSA's available at: www.changelanestopass.com



EXAMPLES OF LOW-COST EVALUATION AND PLANNING:

- There is a Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee that meets several times a year to make policy and program recommendations and ensure the bicycle program is held accountable to citizens.
- Designate staff to lead and coordinate the Bicycle Friendly/ Walk Friendly initiatives in close cooperation with the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee.
- There is a current, comprehensive **Bicycle & Pedestrian PLAN** with dedicated funding, specific targets for ridership and safety and tools for evaluation and monitoring progress.
- There is a mechanism that ensures that bicycle facilities and programs serve the entire community equitably.

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STRATEGIES FOR MOVING FORWARD:

Next Steps:

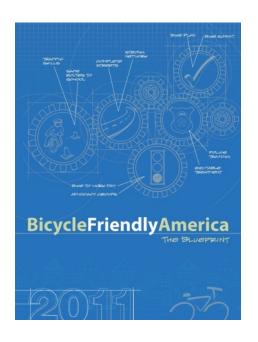
- 1. Hold Community Input meetings and Advocate Trainings
- 2. Create a short term action plan for your community
- 3. Establish timeline for low-hanging fruit goals to implement quickly while building the case in problem areas.
- 4. Identify any potential roadblocks or perceived limitations.
- 5. Establish a Bike/Ped committee to start developing a long term plan in conjunction with local and statewide (Bike Walk MS) best practices.

ONLINE RESOURCE LIBRARY:

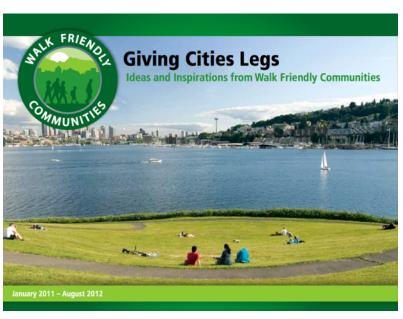
WWW.BIKELEAGUE.ORG/CONTENT/RESOURCES

WWW.WALKFRIENDLY.ORG/RESOURCES

WWW.BIKEWALKMISSISSIPPI.ORG (TOOLKITS)







Need more help? **Email me!**melody@bikewalkmississippi.org