

**A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO SIGN THE
ACTION PLAN FOR BICYCLE FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES**

Resolution No. 172/2003-04

WHEREAS, the Town of Carrboro is one of 38 communities in the nation that have been granted the Bicycle Friendly Community designation by the League of American Bicyclists in recognition of the Town's commitment to providing safe accommodation and facilities for bicyclists, and for efforts to encourage bicycling for fun, fitness, and transportation.

WHEREAS, the League of American Bicyclists encourages the Board of Aldermen to sign the "Action Plan for Bicycle Friendly Communities," which outlines how a bicycle-friendly community enhances the quality of life of a community and includes ten steps to bring that about.

WHEREAS, the capital cities of four European nations and the United States were among the 20 communities who signed the "Action Plan for Bicycle Friendly Communities" at the conclusion of an International Symposium on Bicycle Friendly Communities on Thursday, March 4, 2004 in Washington, DC.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the Town of Carrboro that the Mayor is hereby empowered to sign the "Action Plan for Bicycle Friendly Communities."

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Carrboro Board of Aldermen that the Transportation Advisory Board will evaluate Carrboro's progress in achieving the goals of the action plan as part of updating the Carrboro Bicycle Policy over the next year.

This is the 8th day of June in the year 2004.

Carrboro Honored with Bicycle-Friendly Community Award

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 4, 2004

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Washington, DC— Andy Clarke, executive director of the League of American Bicyclists, will present the League's prestigious Bicycle Friendly Community award to Carrboro, North Carolina at the Board of Aldermen meeting on June 8 at 7:30 pm. The meeting will be held in Carrboro Town Hall at 301 W. Main Street. Carrboro has earned the bronze-level of the Bicycle Friendly Community (BFC) awards, announced in May during National Bike Month™ (www.bikemonth.com).

Carrboro is one of 38 communities that have been granted the BFC designation to recognize their commitment to providing safe accommodation and facilities for bicyclists, and for their efforts to encourage bicycling for fun, fitness and transportation. In 2001, Carrboro became the first community in North Carolina to be recognized as a Bicycle Friendly Community. Visit www.bicyclefriendlycommunity.org to learn more about the awards process and view the recently published highlights on the award-winning communities, as well as the results of the League's recent International BFC Symposium.

Clarke said, "I am delighted to honor Carrboro and our other BFC award winners. Given the choice, people will and do ride their bikes. Bicycle Friendly Communities are special places, with a heightened sense of community spirit and an uncommon devotion to improving their quality of life. With political commitment, focused investment in infrastructure and policies, and broad community involvement, cities and towns can become better places not only to bicycle but also to live. The rewards for residents are huge: greater opportunities to lead active lifestyles; improved air quality, and increased travel choices."

League staff and reviewers consider several factors before granting a community BFC status, including:

- The physical environment for bicycling -- on-street facilities, trails, parking, etc.
- Education programs to promote a "share the road" ethic among bicyclists and drivers
- Promotional initiatives to persuade people to ride or ride more often
- Enforcement of traffic laws for both motorists and bicyclists
- Future plans and evaluation techniques to improve conditions further

Among the factors the League's staff and reviewers cited in their decision to honor Carrboro is that the town takes good care of its existing bicycling facilities and enforces its traffic laws as they impact cyclists. Bike lanes are swept regularly to remove glass, sand, litter, and fallen leaves. Signs and pavement markings are inspected regularly and kept in good condition. Prohibitions on parking in bike lanes are enforced.

Ensuring that children can bike and walk to all schools is a major focus of Carrboro's existing bicycle policy. The Town staff is currently reviewing plans for a new high school to ensure that students and faculty will be able to access the school safely by bicycle. In a critical effort to improve bike safety among children, a "Basics of Bicycling" course is offered to fourth and fifth graders at Carrboro elementary schools.

The Town of Carrboro has made an ongoing commitment to bicycle facility planning since the mid-1970s. Over the past 25 years, the town has utilized its bonding authority to develop bike lanes and bike paths, has worked cooperatively to include bike lanes in all state road improvement projects, and has amended its street standards to include bike lanes as a requirement on all collector roads. The Town now has bike lanes along 12 miles of streets. According to the 2000 Census, 5.2 percent of residents in Carrboro bike to work.

As part of Carrboro's promotion of National Bike Month™ (www.bikemonth.com), employees in the Town's planning department are taking steps to obtain Town-owned bicycles for use in making site visits and carrying out other duties.

Boulder, Colorado was granted the League's gold-level BFC award. Silver-level award winners include Gainesville, Florida; Olympia, Washington; and Tucson, AZ. Bronze level distinctions were awarded to Ashland, Oregon; Auburn, Alabama; Longmont, Colorado; Mountain View, California; Portage, Michigan; Rockville, Maryland; as well as Carrboro. An Honorable Mention was given to Milpitas, California. The League has yet to bestow its highest-level platinum award to any communities.

The League's Bicycle Friendly Community Campaign is a national grassroots effort to increase the number of trips made by bike, promote physical fitness, and help make communities more livable. The Campaign works in the most effective way possible-town by town, city by city-to encourage bicycling and achieve a bicycle-friendly America. The Campaign is supported by generous grants from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (www.rwjf.org) and Bikes Belong Coalition (www.bikesbelong.org).

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The League of American Bicyclists promotes bicycling for fun, fitness and transportation, and works through advocacy and education for a bicycle-friendly America. The League represents the interests of America's 50 million bicyclists, including its 300,000 members and affiliates. For more information or to support the League, visit www.bikeleague.org and www.bicyclefriendlycommunity.org. May is National Bike Month™; visit www.bikemonth.com for safe cycling tips, promotional ideas, and events in your area.

**Bicycle-Friendly Communities 2004
Enhancing Cities Through Cycling**

Platinum

None

Gold

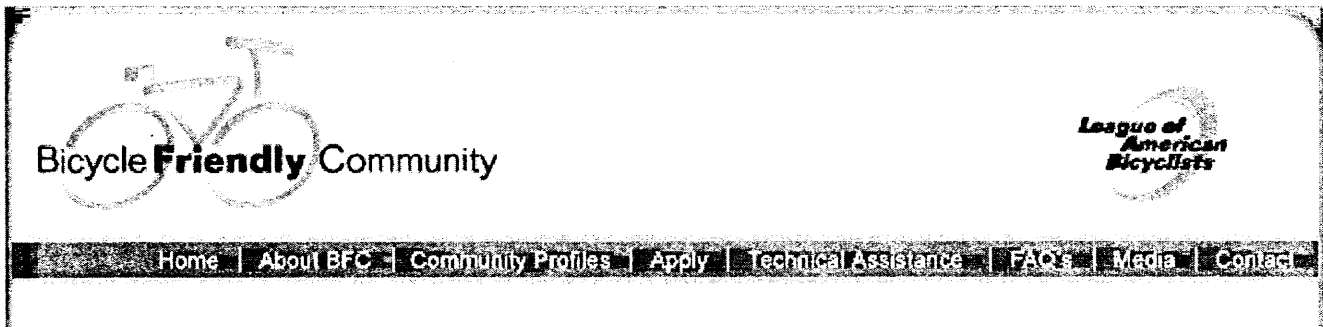
*Boulder, Colorado
Corvallis, Oregon
Palo Alto, California
Portland, Oregon*

Silver:

*Denver, Colorado
Folsom, California
Fort Collins, Colorado
Gainesville, Florida
Missoula, Montana
Olympia, Washington
Santa Barbara, California
Stanford University, California
Tempe, Arizona
Tucson, Arizona*

Bronze:

*Arlington, Virginia
Ashland, Oregon
Auburn, Alabama
Beaverton, Oregon
Bloomington, Indiana
Boca Raton, Florida
Brentwood, California
Brunswick, Maine
Carrboro, North Carolina
Cary, North Carolina
Chattanooga, Tennessee
College Station, Texas
Gilbert, Arizona
Longmont, Colorado
Mesa, Arizona
Miami Beach, Florida
Mountain View, California
Portage, Michigan
The Presidio of San Francisco, CA
Redmond, Washington
Rockville, Maryland
Schaumburg, Illinois
Shawnee, Kansas
Washington, DC*



About BFC

The Bicycle Friendly Communities Campaign is an awards program that recognizes municipalities that actively support bicycling. A Bicycle-Friendly Community provides safe accommodation for cycling and encourages its residents to bike for transportation and recreation. To view an overview presentation on the program, [click here](#).

Benefits

Encouraging bicycling is a simple way towards improving public health. With more people bicycling, communities experience reduced traffic demands, improved air quality and greater physical fitness. In addition, bicycle-friendly towns are often seen as places with a high quality of life. This can translate into increased property values, business growth and increased tourism.

How to Apply

There are two steps to apply for Bicycle Friendly Community status:

First, complete and submit Part 1 of the application. After a review of your general community profile, the League will inform you if you have met some of the basic criteria required.

Part 2 is a detailed audit of the engineering, education, encouragement, enforcement and evaluation efforts in your municipality. This comprehensive inquiry is designed to yield a holistic picture of your community's work to promote bicycling. Technical assistance for completing Part 2 is available.

"You and other bicyclists in the community can bring this program, particularly the application, to your mayor or county council to initiate positive change in your neighborhood. [Click here for more information...](#)

Award Determination

A committee reviews and scores the application and consults with local cyclists in your community. An award of platinum, gold, silver or bronze status is designated for two years. The League and technical assistance staff will continue to work with awardees and those communities that do not yet meet the criteria to encourage continual improvements. [Click here](#) to read how this is working for one community.

The League of American Bicyclists recognizes newly designated Bicycle Friendly Communities with an awards ceremony, a Bicycle-Friendly Community road sign, and a formal press announcement.

Renewing the Designation

You will complete a simple renewal form to compliment your original application so that the League of American Bicyclists can continue to recognize your progress. Renewals are due two years after a community is designated or receives their renewal notice. Award levels may change based on the renewal feedback.

About the League

The League of American Bicyclists promotes bicycling for fun, fitness and transportation and works through advocacy and education for a bicycle-friendly America. The League represents the interests of the nation's 42 million cyclists. With a current membership of 300,000 affiliated cyclists, including 40,000 individuals and 600 affiliated organizations, the League works to bring better bicycling to your community. If you care about bicycling, become a League member today.

[Read more about the League...](#)

National Advisory Group

The National Advisory Group for the Bicycle Friendly Community program provides guidance on program development and priorities. The Advisory group members are:

- M. Katherine Kraft, Ph.D., Senior Program Officer, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
- Tom Huber, Bicycle/Pedestrian Coordinator, Wisconsin DOT
- Tim Bustos, Bicycle/Pedestrian Coordinator, City of Davis
- Martin Guttenplan, Florida Department of Transportation
- Laura Hallam, Executive Director, Florida Bicycle Association
- Alan Turnbull, National Park Service Rivers, Trails, & Conservation Assistance
- Amy Bell, Bicycle/Pedestrian Coordinator, VT Agency of Transportation
- Randy Neufeld, Executive Director, Chicagoland Bicycle Federation
- Charlie Zegeer, Director, Pedestrian & Bicycle Information Center
- Rich Killingsworth, MPH, Active Living By Design National Program Office
- Mike Greehan, Advocacy Director, Interbike
- Jim Sebastian, Bike Ped Coordinator, DC Office of Transportation Planning

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Maintained by the Pedestrian and Bicycle Information Center for the League of American Bicyclists.
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Action Plan for Bicycle Friendly Communities

We, the undersigned Mayors and municipal elected officials, make decisions every day affecting the health and safety of our residents, the efficient conduct of commerce and delivery of government services, and the long term quality of life in our communities.

Cities across the globe are managing diverse issues such as pollution, congestion, traffic safety, accessibility, social inclusion, and economic growth. Increasing urbanization and sprawl is generating extra demand for quality public spaces and recreation opportunities. A renewed emphasis on security and the costs of dealing with the emerging epidemics of obesity and physical inactivity are stretching limited resources even further.

Solutions to these many challenges are equally diverse and complex. This Charter recognizes one policy initiative that addresses these challenges and contributes to many of the solutions necessary to improve the quality of life in cities: increasing the percentage of trips made by bicycle by making communities more bicycle-friendly.

We recognize that increasing bicycle use can:

Improve the environment by reducing the impact on residents of pollution and noise, limiting greenhouse gases, and improving the quality of public spaces.

Reduce congestion by shifting short trips (the majority of trips in cities) out of cars. This will also make cities more accessible for public transport, walking, essential car travel, emergency services, and deliveries.

Save lives by creating safer conditions for bicyclists and as a direct consequence improve the safety of all other road users. Research shows that increasing the number of bicyclists on the street improves bicycle safety.

Increase opportunities for residents of all ages to participate socially and economically in the community, regardless income or ability. Greater choice of travel modes also increases independence, especially among seniors and children.

Boost the economy by creating a community that is an attractive destination for new residents, tourists and businesses.

Enhance recreational opportunities, especially for children, and further contribute to the quality of life in the community.

Save city funds by increasing the efficient use of public space, reducing the need for costly new road infrastructure, preventing crashes, improving the health of the community, and increasing the use of public transport.



Enhance public safety and security by increasing the number of "eyes on the street" and providing more options for movement in the event of emergencies, natural disasters, and major public events.

Improve the health and well being of the population by promoting routine physical activity.

Therefore we, the undersigned Mayors and municipal elected officials, are committed to taking the following steps to improve conditions for bicycling and thus to realizing the significant potential benefits of bicycling in our community. We hereby adopt the following Action Plan for Bicycle Friendly Communities:

1. Adopt a target level of bicycle use (e.g. percent of trips) and safety to be achieved within a specific timeframe, and improve data collection necessary to monitor progress.
2. Provide safe and convenient bicycle access to all parts of the community through a signed network of on- and off-street facilities, low-speed streets, and secure parking. Local cyclists should be involved in identifying maintenance needs and ongoing improvements.
3. Establish information programs to promote bicycling for all purposes, and to communicate the many benefits of bicycling to residents and businesses (e.g. with bicycle maps, public relations campaigns, neighborhood rides, a ride with the Mayor)
4. Make the City a model employer by encouraging bicycle use among its employees (e.g. by providing parking, showers and lockers, and establishing a city bicycle fleet).
5. Ensure all city policies, plans, codes, and programs are updated and implemented to take advantage of every opportunity to create a more bicycle-friendly community. Staff in all departments should be offered training to better enable them to complete this task.
6. Educate all road users to share the road and interact safely. Road design and education programs should combine to increase the confidence of bicyclists.
7. Enforce traffic laws to improve the safety and comfort of all road users, with a particular focus on behaviors and attitudes that cause motor vehicle/bicycle crashes.
8. Develop special programs to encourage bicycle use in communities where significant segments of the population do not drive (e.g. through Safe Routes to Schools programs) and where short trips are most common.

- 9. Promote intermodal travel between public transport and bicycles, e.g. by putting bike racks on buses, improving parking at transit, and improving access to rail and public transport vehicles.
- 10. Establish a citywide, multi-disciplinary committee for non motorized mobility to submit to the Mayor/Council a regular evaluation and action plan for completing the items in this Charter.

"We will promote safe and environmentally friendly cycling and walking by providing safe infrastructure and networks..." World Health Organization Charter on Transport, Environment and Health.

"The US Conference of Mayors calls on cities and communities to promote increased safe bicycle use for transportation and recreation..." US Conference of Mayors, 2003.

For the city of:

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Signature

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Name