

Macon-Bibb County named a Bronze-Level Bicycle Friendly Community by the League of American Bicyclists!

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The League of American Bicyclists honored the efforts of Macon-Bibb County to build better places for people to bike with a Bronze-level Bicycle Friendly Community (BFC) award. Macon-Bibb County joins 460 communities across the country in the movement for safer streets and better bicycling for everyone. The award recognizes Macon-Bibb County for its commitment to creating transportation and recreational resources that benefit its residents of all ages and abilities while encouraging healthier and more sustainable transportation choices.

“Bicycling is more than just a mode of transportation - it’s a powerful tool for building healthier communities, fostering sustainability, and connecting people,” said Bill Nesper, executive director of the League of American Bicyclists. “The cities and towns recognized in this round of Bicycle Friendly Community awards are leading the way by investing in infrastructure and programs that make biking an easier, safer, and more accessible choice. Their leadership demonstrates that supporting bicycling is an investment in a healthier future for everyone.”

The League of American Bicyclists’ Bicycle Friendly America program sets the standard for how communities build and benchmark progress toward making biking better. The League strives to provide continual updates to the application as part of our commitment to help communities raise their standards for safety, equity, and accessibility.

This round of awards includes 91 new and renewing awardees, joining a total of 460 current Bicycle Friendly Communities in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. The Bronze BFC award recognizes Macon-Bibb County’s commitment to improving conditions for all people who bike through investments in bike education programs, regular bike events that promote and encourage people to choose biking, pro-bike policies, and bike infrastructure.

“As a community, we are all working to improve the quality of life of our families by supporting healthier lifestyles, connecting people, and making our entire infrastructure safer for cyclists, runners, walkers, and more!” says Mayor Lester Miller. “I want to thank Bike Walk Macon for their leadership in multiple initiatives that are all tied together, from the Ocmulgee Heritage Trail to Vision Zero and Complete Streets policies to education programs to, of course, expanding our bike lane network. And I know that, even with all their progress, they’re just getting started!”

Nearly 900 communities have applied for recognition by the Bicycle Friendly Community program, which provides a roadmap to making biking better for communities of all shapes and sizes. While the award process considers very visible elements such as bike infrastructure, other essential elements include efforts around adult and youth bike education, encouragement through events like Bike to Work Day, evaluation mechanisms, and enforcement all through the lens of equity. The rigorous application process is an educational tool in itself, and includes an opportunity for local bicyclists and active transportation advocates to provide input on their experiences and perceptions of bicycling in their community.

The five levels of the BFC award – diamond, platinum, gold, silver and bronze, plus an honorable mention category – provide a clear incentive for communities to continuously improve. Awarded communities must renew their status every four years to ensure that they not only maintain existing efforts, but also keep up with changing technology, national safety standards, and community-driven best practices.

To learn more about the BFC program, visit bikeleague.org/community.

ABOUT THE LEAGUE OF AMERICAN BICYCLISTS

The League of American Bicyclists leads the national movement to create a Bicycle Friendly America for everyone. With a history dating to 1880, the League is committed to engaging diverse communities and building a powerful, unified voice for change around protecting and promoting bicyclists’ rights. Learn more at www.bikeleague.org.

ABOUT BIKE WALK MACON

Bike Walk Macon is a non-profit organization leading the movement to make bicycling and walking a safe, healthy, and convenient option for transportation and recreation for everyone in Macon-Bibb County. Bike Walk Macon’s office is located at 830 High St., Macon, GA. For more information, visit www.bikewalkmacon.com.

