

Marshall, Minnesota named a Bronze Level Bicycle Friendly Community by the League of American Bicyclists "One of America's Greatest Small Towns"

Today, the League of American Bicyclists recognized Marshall, Minnesota with a Bronze Level Bicycle Friendly Community (BFC) award, joining 464 visionary communities from across the country.

With the announcement of 61 new and renewing BFCs today, Marshall joins a leading group of communities in every state that are transforming the American landscape. "We applaud these communities for making bicycling a safe and convenient option for transportation and recreation," said Bill Nesper, Executive Director at the League of American Bicyclists. "We are encouraged by the growing number of leaders who see bicycling as a way to build more vibrant, healthy, sustainable and connected communities and be a part of the solution to many complex challenges faced at both the community and national levels. We look forward to continuing to work with these communities as we move closer to our mission of creating a Bicycle Friendly America for everyone."

The BFC program is revolutionizing the way communities evaluate their quality of life, sustainability, and accessibility, while allowing them to benchmark progress toward improving their bicycle-friendliness. With this latest round of new and renewing awardees, there are currently 464 BFCs in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. The Bronze BFC award recognizes Marshall's commitment to improving conditions for bicycling through investment in bicycling promotion, education programs, infrastructure and pro-bicycling policies.

"We are extremely appreciative of this designation for the City of Marshall," said Mayor Bob Byrnes. "Being recognized as one of 25 communities in the great state of Minnesota is reflective of the progressive nature of our community and their commitment to an enriched quality of life." "Marshall has made great progress in providing safe options for bicycling including bike lanes, bike trails and bike safety education; all these efforts to support and promote healthy lifestyles and active living."

Since the Bicycle Friendly Community program's inception over 20 years ago, more than 800 distinct communities have applied for recognition. The program provides a roadmap to building a Bicycle Friendly Community for communities of all shapes and sizes. The rigorous application

process is an educational tool and includes an opportunity for local bicyclists to provide input on their experiences and perceptions of bicycling in their community.

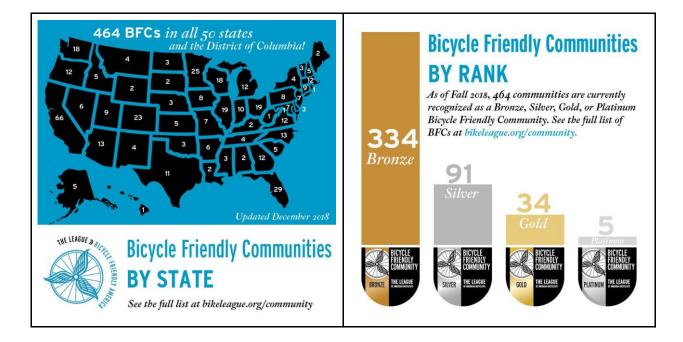
The five levels of the BFC award – diamond, platinum, gold, silver and bronze, plus an honorable mention category and a no designation level – provide a clear incentive for communities to continuously improve. The League of American Bicyclists provides feedback and guidance to every applicant community, regardless of award designation, with the goal of helping every community to 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 Bicycle Friendly AmericaSM Program

The Bicycle Friendly CommunitySM, Bicycle Friendly StateSM, Bicycle Friendly BusinessSM and Bicycle Friendly UniversitySM programs are generously supported by program partner Eco-Counter and by League Members. To learn more about building a Bicycle Friendly America, visit www.bikeleague.org/BFA

The League of American Bicyclists is leading the movement to create a Bicycle Friendly America for everyone. As leaders, our commitment is to listen and learn, define standards and share best practices to engage diverse communities and build a powerful, unified voice for change.



BIKELEAGUE.ORG AWARDS MAP & CONNECT LOCALLY MAP

Marshall's award status and report card has been added to the online **Bicycle Friendly America Award Database** and **Connect Locally Map** at bikeleague.org.

Enter 56258 at http://bikeleague.org/bfa/search/map?bfaq to find our community as well as all other local BFCs, BFBs, BFUs, bike shops, rides, classes, events, LCIs, local bike advocacy organizations, bike clubs, and other local biking resources and potential partners in your region.

Every Bicycle Friendly America awardee also has a customized link on the <u>Connect Locally</u> map, to share that link out to promote our BFC status. To find our map link, navigate to Minnesota and then Marshall on the <u>BFA Award Database</u> and click "map it" next to Marshall's listing below the map. You will be brought directly to Marshall's custom Connect Locally BFC link.

For example:

http://bikeleague.org/bfa/search/map?bfaq=94103¢roid=001G000000w95GjIAI





The Bicycle Friendly Community program is generously supported by Eco-Counter and League Members.