

## Minutes for RBAC Meeting: January 4, 2023

7:00 – 9:00 pm, virtual Webex meeting

*In attendance online:* Bryan Barnett-Woods, Connie Bertka, Olivia Bobrowsky, Nancy Breen, Sophie Chan-Wood, Joe Gillespie, Peter Gray, Lynda Honberg, Jake Jakubek, Aaron Karnell, Bill Michie, Carl Peterson, Mark Pierzchala, Shannon Brescher Shea, Jonathan Solomon, and Tracy Threefoot.

Nancy started the meeting at 7:01 pm by announcing this meeting will be recorded. She requested approval of last meeting's minutes. Jonathan motioned, Sophie seconded, Jake abstained and the minutes were approved.

Nancy started with introductions and added Old Georgetown as an agenda item.

(1) For the **City Council Update**, Mark announced the next public meeting will be January 9 since they have been off since mid-December. It is currently budget season so continue to request for projects as needed. There will be city elections this year since terms end in November. They will be adding two more council members to represent the diversity of the City. Mark thinks 8 councilmembers are needed.

(2) Jake and Sophie attended the planning meeting for the **Old Georgetown Road** event on Sunday. All cyclists are meeting at 10:30 am at the Medical Center Metro station then biking over to Cedar Lane to meet others. A group will be riding on the bike lanes to show support and review the intersections especially at the I-270 ramps. The petition that is circulating to support the bike lanes has language that suggest "fast, aggressive drivers" may be too strong. (<https://www.change.org/p/support-the-sha-redesign-of-old-georgetown-road>)

(3) Bryan provided the City Update which including mentioning that the **Baltimore Road** project is scheduled to be completed by May. For the **Town Center Road Diets** project, construction will start in February and continue to September. The **Maryland Bikeways Grant** projects for bike counters and bike lanes on Martins Lane are moving along.

The **Twinbrook** project will be presented to the Mayor and City Council next month. The **Fleet and Monroe Complete Streets** is on-going and Bryan will provide a report when ready. Data collection on **Beall Ave** at Maryland Ave and 355 is continuing.

The League of American Bicyclists awarded Rockville with a **Bronze for being a Bicycle Friendly Community**. They provided a report card (see attached) for feedback and suggestions for improvements for the next renewal application.

Tyree Davis IV, a new staff member for JEDI (justice, equity, diversity and inclusion) will be coming to the next RBAC meeting.

(4) Jonathan has no updates on the Tour de Cookie on May 6.

Olivia has no updates on bike parking.

Dave was not present tonight but he is working on a new draft to the Wootton Parkway letter. Bryan said the City trimmed some foliage and brushes to improve the sight lines at Pasture Brook Way.

(5) Carl reported 17 riders participated in the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Holiday Displays Ride on Wednesday, 12/21. He wants to discuss planning for 2023 at the March meeting with a review of 2022 rides.

(6) Since WMATA wanted feedback from bike advocates, Peter referred David Goodman, a consultant, to RBAC. Suggestions may be connections from the Rockville Metro to the Carl Henn Millennium Trail, bike locker (taller) improvements, and better bike parking facilities. Liz Price may be good contact at WMATA who works on the real estate/parking at the stations. RBAC will draft a letter with these suggestions and run it by Peter and Garrett Hennigan at the Washington Area Bicyclist Association (**WABA**).

Peter also said WABA wants to support connecting 355 to the Rock Creek Trail, which may be a project RBAC should think about. Olivia shared the agenda to the meeting she attended with WABA for Montgomery County Advocates.

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/11y67EkLR\\_jZ62XtDo300tbS8\\_n0YDPOaObJOEIfsbIM/edit#heading=h.41maekc3caak](https://docs.google.com/document/d/11y67EkLR_jZ62XtDo300tbS8_n0YDPOaObJOEIfsbIM/edit#heading=h.41maekc3caak)

As for the bike lanes on Old Georgetown Road, WABA has provided feedback to State Highway Administration for improvements. They do not use change.org but has an email campaign supporting the bike lanes (<https://waba.org/blog/2022/12/support-protected-bike-lanes-on-old-georgetown-road/>). SHA usually doesn't engage the public on projects but supporting petition is coming from someone in the neighborhood. Although the flexible posts can be easily removed (like on University Blvd), this has never been done on a state road before.

(7) Shannon is meeting with WABA to discuss youth riding and help with an after-school bike education program. WABA has a consultant working with Montgomery County to review curriculum and education. Another idea is to host a family biking event like this one: <https://waba.org/blog/2022/09/dc-family-bike-fest-2022/>

Shannon and Joe will work on a proposal for family-friendly bike rides, which will need marketing help and support with leads and sweeps. Perhaps working with the County's Safe Routes to Schools coordinator may be a good start for ideas too.

Jim Waslik from the City's Planning Department will attend the next RBAC to discuss an upcoming project to update the zoning ordinance and signage.

Meeting adjourned at 9:02 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sophie Chan-Wood



## Rockville, MD



**Award: Bronze | Fall 2022**

**Award History:**

Bronze since 2012;

Previously Honorable Mention in since 2003.

### Rockville's BFA Program Stats

# of Local Bicycle Friendly Businesses: **3**

# of Local Bicycle Friendly Universities: **0**

# of Local League Cycling Instructors: **2**

Maryland's Bicycle Friendly State Ranking: **#14**

### Community Profile

Population: 67,117

Area: 13.64 square miles

Population Density: 4920.6 people/square mile

Land Classification: Mixed Urban/Suburban

Poverty Rate: 6%\*

Median Household Income: \$111,797\*

Percent of the Population that Speaks a

Language Other Than English at Home: 43.2%\*

Percent with Disability: 8.4%\*

Percent of Households with No Vehicle Available: 3.9%\*

\*Source:

<https://data.census.gov/cedsci/all?q=Rockville%20city,%20Maryland>

### Rockville's Bike Links

**Bike Network Map, if available:**

[https://rockvillemd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/46448/BikeMap\\_v2](https://rockvillemd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/46448/BikeMap_v2)

**Bike Plan, if available:**

<https://www.rockvillemd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6968/Draft-2016-Bikeway-Master-Plan?bidId=>

The 5 Es Category Scores	Rockville	Max Score this round
Engineering	38%	62%
Education	21%	60%
Encouragement	38%	61%
Evaluation & Planning	43%	64%
Equity & Accessibility	19%	57%

Percentages shown above are the points received out of points available in that category. See pages 2-3 for Rockville's subcategory points earned within each Category.

### Key Outcomes

**Commuter Ridership: 0.5%**

(Bicycle Mode Share among commuters, according to the Census Bureau's American Community Survey 5-Year Estimate)

**Overall Bicycle Mode Share: unknown**

(Reported by applicant)

**Annual Average Bicyclist Crashes in last 5 years: 7**

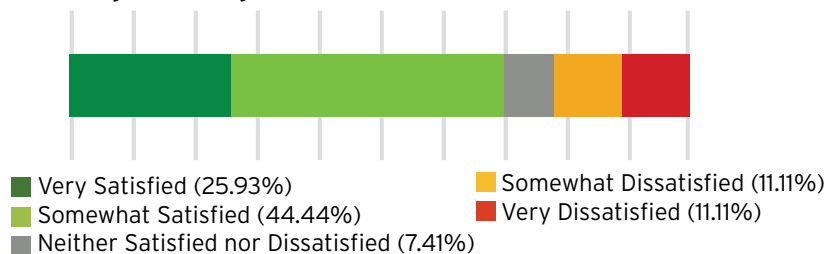
(Reported by applicant)

**Annual Average Bicyclist Fatalities in last 5 years: 0**

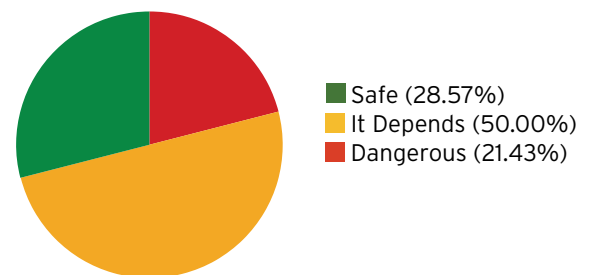
(Reported by applicant)

### Fall 2022 BFC Public Survey Response Summary for Rockville, MD

**How satisfied are you with how this community is designed for making bike riding safe? (n = 27)**



**Is it safe or dangerous to ride a bicycle in your neighborhood, or does it depend? (n = 28)**



**What is the number one change you would most like to see the local government make in this community for bicyclists? (n = 28)**

1. More bike lanes (32.14%)
2. Improve existing bike lanes to protected bike lanes (14.29%)
3. Reduce speeds through traffic calming and/or road diets (14.29%)

## About this Report Card

The following scores are based on the online application submitted by Rockville in the Fall 2022 Bicycle Friendly Community (BFC) submission round. These scores reflect a combination of automatically-generated points earned through the online application, as well as judge-assigned points and bonus points given by BFC reviewers.

The League updated its Bicycle Friendly Community application and awards criteria in the Summer of 2022, after nearly a year of research, focus groups, interviews, listening sessions, and other outreach. The updated application includes a new section on Equity and Accessibility, and other changes throughout. As such, **this Bicycle Friendly Community Report card is a beta version** as we refine our new scoring system and develop a greater understanding of how to convey new information.

All Fall 2022 BFC Report Cards (including this one) will be republished with updated scores if there are changes to the points system after the next round of Bicycle Friendly Community applications. To learn more about the BFC application and awards criteria, please visit <https://bikeleague.org/community>.

<b>ENGINEERING</b>	<i>Rockville earned 38% of the points available in the Engineering Category. Below is the breakdown of points that Rockville earned in each subcategory of the Engineering section compared to the total points available in that respective subcategory from the Fall 2022 BFC application.</i>	
	Engineering Subcategories	Rockville's Subcategory Points in Engineering
	Policies and Design Standards for the Built Environment	6 / 38 pts
	End-of-Trip Facilities	13 / 41 pts
	Bicycle Network	43 / 126 pts
	Network Maintenance	20 / 32 pts
	Bicycle Access to Public Transportation	12 / 22 pts
	Bike Sharing	6 / 25 pts
	Other Bicycle-Related Amenities	0 / 6 pts
	Regional Coordination	14 / 16 pts
Engineering Bonus Points	6 / 9 pts	

<b>EDUCATION</b>	<i>Rockville earned 21% of the points available in the Education Category. Below is the breakdown of points that Rockville earned in each subcategory of the Education section compared to the total points available in that respective subcategory from the Fall 2022 BFC application.</i>	
	Education Subcategories	Rockville's Subcategory Points in Education
	Youth Bicycle Education	1 / 71 pts
	Adult Bicycle Education	21 / 47 pts
	Motorist Education	6 / 28 pts
	Bicycle Safety Education Resources	8 / 22 pts
	Inclusive Education	3 / 22 pts
Education Bonus Points	2 / 8 pts	

<b>ENCOURAGEMENT</b>	<i>Rockville earned 38% of the points available in the Encouragement Category. Below is the breakdown of points that Rockville earned in each subcategory of the Encouragement section compared to the total points available in that respective subcategory from the Fall 2022 BFC application.</i>	
	Encouragement Subcategories	Rockville's Subcategory Points in Encouragement
	Encouragement Policies, Programs and Partnerships	7 / 22 pts
	Route-Finding Support	3 / 10 pts
	Bicycle Culture and Promotion	31 / 99 pts
	Access To Bicycle Equipment and Repair Services	28 / 49 pts
	Reducing Work-Related/Fleet VMT	3 / 10 pts
	Encouragement Bonus Points	2 / 8 pts

<b>EVALUATION &amp; PLANNING</b>	<i>Rockville earned 43% of the points available in the Evaluation &amp; Planning Category. Below is the breakdown of points that Rockville earned in each subcategory of the Evaluation &amp; Planning section compared to the total points available in that respective subcategory from the Fall 2022 BFC application.</i>	
	Evaluation & Planning Subcategories	Rockville's Subcategory Points in Evaluation & Planning
	Staffing And Committees	25 / 42 pts
	Public Engagement for Bicycle Planning	12 / 33 pts
	Planning, Funding, And Implementation	18 / 46 pts
	Evaluating The Bicycle Network	5 / 21 pts
	Evaluating Ridership	2 / 21 pts
	Evaluating & Improving Safety Outcomes	26 / 38 pts
Evaluation & Planning Bonus Points	3 / 8 pts	

<b>EQUITY &amp; ACCESSIBILITY</b>	<i>Rockville earned 19% of the points available in the Equity &amp; Accessibility Category. Below is the breakdown of points that Rockville earned in each subcategory of the Equity &amp; Accessibility section compared to the total points available in that respective subcategory from the Fall 2022 BFC application.</i>	
	Equity & Accessibility Subcategories	Rockville's Subcategory Points in Equity & Accessibility
	Equity & Accessibility Staffing, Committees, & Partnerships	11 / 38 pts
	Equity Data Collection & Goals	0 / 20 pts
	Equity & Accessibility Policies & Plans	7 / 38 pts
	Equity & Accessibility in Engineering	3 / 35 pts
	Equity & Accessibility in Education	3 / 35 pts
	Equity & Accessibility in Encouragement	13 / 35 pts
	Equity & Accessibility in Evaluation & Planning	7 / 35 pts
Equity & Accessibility Bonus Points	5 / 15 pts	



## Rockville, MD

**Award: Bronze | Fall 2022**

**Award History:** Bronze since 2012; Previously Honorable Mention in since 2003.

### FEEDBACK TO IMPROVE:

#### To maintain and improve on Rockville's Bronze-level Bicycle Friendly Community award, BFC Reviewers recommend...

- » Work to lower speed limits and develop safe, low-stress connections across higher speed roads and rail-ways that currently create barriers for cyclists to travel across Rockville.
- » Develop a design manual that meets current NACTO standards or formally adopt the NACTO Urban Bike-way 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.
- » Work with other communities across the state of Maryland to advocate to your State DOT to update ex-isting state-level policies related to motor vehicle level-of-service and bicycle facility standards that can prevent more separate/protected bicycle facilities from being installed, as well as current practices and agreements around sidewalks and separated pathways that exist along state-owned roadways.
- » Continue working with local businesses to increase the amount of high quality, APBP-compliant, bicycle parking throughout the community. Ensure that people arriving by bicycle have a secure and legal place to lock their bikes at popular destinations. Bike corrals, cohesively branded community or business dis-trict bike racks, and off-street bike cages or high capacity parking at transit hubs can be effective ways to increase bike parking.
- » Increase bike safety education and learn-to-ride educational opportunities for youth, including in-school bike education. Continue to work with Montgomery County Public School Board, Montgomery County Safe Routes to School Coordinator, local bicycle groups and interested parents to create Safe Routes to School programming and on-bike learning opportunities at all K-12 schools in Rockville. Providing bicycles in schools for on-bike education is strongly encouraged to ensure that all students can learn to safely ride a bicycle regardless of the availability of a bicycle in their household.
- » Continue to increase the number of local League Cycling Instructors (LCIs) in your community, either by hosting an LCI seminar or sponsoring more City staffers or local bike advocates to attend an existing sem-inar elsewhere. Having several active instructors in the area will enable you to expand cycling education for youth and adults, recruit more knowledgeable cycling ambassadors, deliver Bicycle Friendly Driver education to motorists, and have experts available to assist in encouragement programs. Visit [bikeleague.org/ridesmart](http://bikeleague.org/ridesmart) for more information.
- » Work with local League Cycling Instructors (LCIs) and local employers to offer Bicycle Friendly Driver training to motorists in Rockville, particularly to professional drivers and fleet operators.
- » Renew the City of Rockville's 2015 Bronze-level Bicycle Friendly Business designation earned for City Hall, and continue to 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. Consid-er focusing these efforts on larger employers across the city to scale up the impact of your BFB outreach efforts.
- » 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



## Rockville, MD

**Award: Bronze | Fall 2022**

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### FEEDBACK TO IMPROVE, CONTINUED:

to provide periodic or before/after data related to changes in your community's road or bicycle network. Observational counts and surveys can supplement automated data in order to collect demographic information and examine social equity goals.

- » Continue to make stronger connections between Rockville's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) program and the bicycling/transportation work happening by the city and Bicycle Advisory Committee to integrate the efforts of these respective groups/departments. Reach out to Rockville's new Justice, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion advisor to ensure that bicycling and mobility/transportation are considered as part of the future development of a racial equity plan and a limited English proficiency plan for Rockville. Once a new ADA staffer is hired, do the same for the planned development of a new ADA transition plan so that accessible and adaptive cycling opportunities are considered as part of that forthcoming plan.
- » Consider what other local community groups exist in Rockville who may be good potential partners to reach new audiences and build on existing bike education, encouragement, and engagement efforts. Question F4 on the BFC application provides a wealth of suggested community partners for you to consider, beyond the existing bike clubs and organizations that are already active in this space.

### MORE RESOURCES FOR IMPROVING YOUR COMMUNITY:

- » **League of American Bicyclists:** <https://www.bikeleague.org>
- » **Resources for Building a Bicycle Friendly Community:** [https://bikeleague.org/BFC\\_Resources](https://bikeleague.org/BFC_Resources)
- » **About the BFC Application Process:** <https://bikeleague.org/content/about-bfc-application-process>
- » **The Five E's:** <https://bikeleague.org/5-es>
- » **The League's Benchmarking Project on Biking and Walking Data and Reports:** <https://data.bikeleague.org>
- » **Bicycle Friendly State Rankings and Report Cards:** <https://bikeleague.org/state>
- » **Bicycle Friendly Business Program:** <https://bikeleague.org/business>
- » **Bicycle Friendly University Program:** <https://bikeleague.org/university>
- » **Smart Cycling Education Program:** <https://bikeleague.org/ridesmart>
- » **Advocacy Reports and Resources from the League:** <http://bikeleague.org/reports>
- » **Federal Funding Resources from the League:** <https://bikeleague.org/content/federal-funding-resources>
- » **Pedestrian and Bicycle Funding Opportunities from U.S. DOT Transit, Safety, and Highway Funds:** [https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bicycle\\_pedestrian/funding/funding\\_opportunities.pdf](https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bicycle_pedestrian/funding/funding_opportunities.pdf)