



BFC_Spring_2014_open Submitted by Alex DeSmidt on 2014-02-17 18:23:07

Application Tips

- The application will be referring to your type of jurisdiction as "community" throughout the application due to the great variety of types of jurisdictions applying, which does not include bicycle amenities, services and other resources outside your boundaries.
- The word limits for open ended questions are just guidelines as the system is actually using a character limit. Ensure that your entered text does not get cut off, even if you stay within the word limit.
- Ensure to log out using the Log Out button. Closing the browser will not log you out completely and will trigger a warning that another user is logged in next time you sign in. If this occurs, and you are certain that no other user is logged in at the same time, you can just disregard the warning and it will disappear within 24 hours.
- At the end of the application, you can upload any documents that you would like to provide in support of your application, including at least five high resolution photos (1-2MB). You can submit up to 5 files at the time and there is no limit on how many files can be submitted. Please note that the files will upload immediately to a separate server and will not appear as an attachment.

Name of Community

Name of Community

Rapid City

County/Borough/Parish

Pennington County

State

South Dakota

Has the community applied to the Bicycle Friendly Community program before?

No

If yes, what was the result of the community's last application?

If designated, what year was your community first awarded a Bronze or higher award?

Mayor or top elected official (include title)

Mr. Sam Kooiker

Phone

(605) 394-4110

Email

mayor@rcgov.org

Address

300 Sixth Street, Rapid City, South Dakota 57701

Website

<http://www.rcgov.org/>

BFC Contact Profile

Note: This person will receive any future BFC related communication and will be listed as the contact person for the community on the award web profile, if designated.

Name of BFC contact

Alex DeSmidt

Title

Landscape Designer

Department

Parks & Recreation

Employer

City of Rapid City

Address

515 West Blvd

City

Rapid City

State

South Dakota

Zip

57701

Phone

(605) 394-4175

Email

alex.desmidt@rcgov.org

Is the BFC contact also the Bicycle Program Manager?

No

If no, does your community have a Bicycle Program Manager?

No

If different from above, what is the Bicycle Program Manager's contact information (email and phone)?

Applicant name and email, if different from BFC contact or Bicycle Program Manager contact

Community Profile

1. Type of Jurisdiction

Town/City/Municipality

2. For purposes of comparison, would you describe your community as largely

urban

3. ClimateAverage daytime temperature (in °F)

January

22.8

April

45.1

July



72.1

October

49.1

Average precipitation (in inches)

January

0.4

April

1.9

July

2.1

October

1.0

4. Size of community (in sq. mi.)

Total area

55.05

Water area

.41

Land area

54.64

5. Total Population

67,956

5a. College/University student population (during semester)

10% or less

6. Population Density (Person per sq. mi. of land area)

1,272.5

7. Median Household Income

44,740

8. Age distribution (in percent)

Under 5

7.8

Age 5-17

15.8

Age 18-64

62.5

Age 65+

13.9

Totals (should equal 100)

100

9. Race (in percent)

White

81.5

Black or African American

1.2

American Indian and Alaska Native

10.9

Asian

1.2

Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander

0.0

Some other race

0.6

Two or more races

4.6

Totals (should equal 100)

100

Hispanic or Latino (of any race)

4.4

10. How many government employees (including the Bicycle Program Manager), expressed in full-time equivalents, work on bicycle issues in your community?

2

11. What percentage of the community's Bicycle Program Manager's time is spent on bicycling issues?

N/A

12. Do you have an officially recognized Bicycle Advisory Committee?

No

12a. How often does it meet?

N/A

12b. How many members serve on the committee?

12c. Which of the following groups are represented or regularly attend the Bicycle Advisory Committee? Check all that apply.

12d. Name and email of Bicycle Advisory Committee Chair

13. List all bicycle advocacy groups in your community

West River Trails Coalition, Black Hills Mountain Bike Association, Steven's Cycling Club, Pioneering Healthy Communities, South Dakota School of Mines & Technology Cycling Club, Black Hills Bicycling, Sustainability Committee

13a. List the name and email of the primary contact for each bicycle advocacy group. If a primary contact is the applicant or BFC contact, list an alternative contact.

West River Trails Coalition, Mike Stanley - mikes@42ndstreetdesignstudio.com; Black Hills Mountain Bike Association, Roger St. Pierre - rstpski1@rushmore.com; Rapid City Stevens High School Cycling Club, Seth Keene - Seth.Keene@k12.sd.us; Pioneering Healthy Communities, Roger Gallimore - roger@rcymca.org South Dakota School of Mines & Technology Cycling Club, Jace Doan - jace.doan@mines.sdsmt.edu Black Hills Bicycling - http://www.blackhillsbicycling.com Rapid City Sustainability Committee, Eirik Heikes - eheikes@4front.biz

13b. Do you contract with any advocacy groups for services or programs? Check all that apply.

Volunteer

13c. List all advocacy groups that are working with you on this application.



Rapid City Stevens High School Cycling Club Provided assistance with the Rapid City Schools Bike Parking Inventory.

14. What are the primary reasons your community has invested in bicycling? Check all that apply.

Improved quality of life, Improving public health, Community connectivity, Transportation options, Reduce car-parking demands, Climate change/environmental stewardship concerns, Increase tourism, Economic development, Traffic and bicycle/pedestrian safety

15. What was your community's most significant achievement for bicycling in the past 12 months? (500 word limit)

Our Light the Night Initiative in which the City installed 58 solar lights along a section of our primary bike path to improve safety for users.

16. If you have applied to the BFC program before, describe any improvements that have occurred for cycling in your community since your last application. (500 word limit)

17. What specific improvements do you have planned for bicycling in the next 12 months? (250 word limit)

The Rapid City Police Department is focused on public safety and promoting safe cycling through their continuing public awareness campaign using commercials, billboards, TV & radio advertisements. The City Planning Department is seeking grants to improve the safety at seven (7) of our mid-block crossings along our 8 mile bike path. The Parks Department is repairing concrete throughout specific sections of the bike path; has a consultant designing several trailheads for parking and access to the Skyline Wilderness Park Area and is seeking a design/build contract for a Professional Trail Builder to develop an official 10 mile natural surface trail system in the Skyline Wilderness Park Area; is completing the design for a bike path extension along Deadwood Avenue; is seeking a SDDOT TAP grant to complete a bike path extension & Mako Sica rail trail project, as well as working with Destination Rapid City and other City staff to develop a bike share program.

Engineering

18. Does your community currently have any of the following policies in place? Check all that apply.

Neither

18a. When was it adopted?

18b. Provide a link or attach a copy of this legislation or policy

18c. What tools are in place to ensure implementation? Check all that apply.

None of the above

19. Does your community currently have any of the following additional policies in place? Check all that apply.

None of the above

20. How do you ensure your engineers and planners accommodate bicyclists according to AASHTO, MUTCD and NACTO standards? (Check all that apply.)

Require project consultants to have bike/ped qualifications, Other

If other, please describe (100 word limit)

Infrastructure Design Criteria Manual is reviewed, revised, updated, and adopted by City Council.

21. Which of the following significant physical barriers to cycling exist in your community? Check all that apply.

No significant physical barriers

22. How do you ensure that there are end-of-trip facilities for bicyclists? Check all that apply.

None

23. Do your standards for bike parking conform with APBP guidelines?

No standards

24. What is the total number of public and private bike parking spaces in your community?

2500

24a. What percentage of bike racks conform with APBP guidelines?

11-25%

24b. Of the total bike parking available, please specify the percentage of bike parking spaces that are:

Bike lockers

None

Parking spaces in bike depots (i.e. Bikestation)

None

Parking spaces in bike corrals (on-street bike parking)

More than 30%

25. Approximately what percentage of the following locations has bike racks or storage units? Answer all that apply.

Public and private schools

51-75%

Higher Education Institutions

Less than 10%

Libraries

Less than 10%

Transit stations and major bus stops

Less than 10%

Parks & recreation centers

10-25%

Other government owned buildings and facilities

Less than 10%

Event venues (e.g. convention center, movie complex)

Less than 10%

Hotels & restaurants

Less than 10%

Office buildings

Less than 10%

Retail stores

Less than 10%

Multi-family housing

N/A

Public housing

N/A

26. Does your community have transit service (bus, light rail, heavy rail)?

Yes

26a. What percentage of buses are equipped with bike racks?

All

26b. Are bikes allowed inside transit vehicles?

No

27. What is the centerline mileage of the existing off-road bicycle network within your community?

45.89

27a. How many miles of the following off-road bicycle accommodations do you have? Answer all that apply (in centerline miles)

Paved shared use paths (?10feet)

25.01



Natural surface shared use paths (?10feet)

Singletrack

30.5

27b. What percentage of all natural surface trails and singletrack are open to bicyclists?

All

27c. What are the exceptions? (100 word limit)

None.

28. What is the centerline mileage of your road network (including state owned and private roads)?

499.3

28a. What is the street network density of your road network? (centerline miles of road per sq. mi. of land area)

5.1 - 10.0

28b. What percentage of roads has posted or design speeds of 25mph and lower?

51-75%

28c. What percentage of roads has posted or design speeds of 35mph and higher?

11-25%

28d. What percentage of the existing on-street bicycle network meets or exceeds current AASHTO, MUTCD and NACTO standards?

More than 90%

28e. List your existing on-road bicycle accommodations that meet or exceed AASHTO, MUTCD and NACTO standards. Answer all that apply (in centerline miles)

Conventional bike lanes (ridable surface ?4feet)

2.77

Shared lane markings

.73

Contra-flow bike lanes

Protected or buffered bike lanes (one-way)

Protected or buffered bike lanes (two-way)

Raised cycle tracks

.38

Left-side bike lanes

Bike boulevards or Neighborhood Greenways

29. What other ways have you improved conditions for bicyclists? Check all that apply.

Signed bike routes, Bike/pedestrian overpasses/underpasses, Speed tables to calm traffic

30. What percentage of arterial streets has dedicated space for cyclists (e.g. bike lanes, paved shoulders ?4feet, cycle tracks, etc)?

25%

31. Which of the following broader transportation policies and programs are in place in your community? Check all that apply.

Paid public parking

32. What maintenance policies or programs ensure the on-street bicycle network (including shoulders) remains usable and safe? Select all that apply.

32a. Street sweeping

Same time as other travel lanes

32b. Snow clearance

Same time as other travel lanes

32c. Pothole maintenance

Within one week of complaint

32d. Describe any other maintenance policies or programs for the on-street bicycle network (including shoulders). (100 word limit)

33. What maintenance policies or programs ensure the off-street bicycle network remains usable and safe? Select all that apply.

33a. Path sweeping

Monthly

33b. Vegetation maintenance

Weekly

33c. Snow clearance

Same time as roadways

33d. Surface repair


Within one week of complaint

33e. Describe any other maintenance policies or programs for the off-street bicycle network, if applicable. (100 word limit)

34. Is there a mechanism in place for cyclists to identify problem intersections or areas to traffic engineers and planners? Check all that apply.

None

35. How do you accommodate cyclists at intersections in your community? Check all that apply.

Demand activated signals with loop detector (and marking) or bike accessible push-button, Path crossing with high visibility markings or signs , Other

If other, describe (100 word limit)

The bike path adjacent to Rapid Creek uses underpasses at 12 major road intersections.

36. Describe any other amenities or infrastructure improvements that your community provides or requires that create a comfortable and attractive bicycling environment. (500 word limit)

Bike Path underpass lighting has been implemented at major road intersections and solar lighting has been implemented in specific unlit high traffic areas.

Education

37. What percentage of your public and private schools offer bicycle education, e.g. through a Safe Routes to School or similar program?

Elementary

1-25%


Middle School

None

High School

None

38. Outside of schools, how are children taught safe cycling skills? Check all that apply.

Youth bike clubs, Bike clinics or rodeos , Youth recreation programs, Helmet fit seminars, Trail riding classes



39. Do you have a ticket diversion program? Check all that apply.

No

40. What have you done in the last 18 months to educate motorists and bicyclists on sharing the road safely? Check all that apply.

Public service announcements, Share the Road educational videos on community website/TV channel, Community newsletter/magazine article, Flyer/handout, Newspaper column/blog on bicycling, Dedicated bike page on community website, Billboards, Share the Road Signs, Other

If other, describe (250 word limit)

<http://www.rcgov.org/Police/crosswalksafety.html>

41. How many times per year are the following adult bicycling education classes held within your community? Answer all that apply.

Traffic Skills 101 classes or equivalent (full-day training course, including classroom and on-bike instruction)

Cycling Skills classes (three to four hour classroom training courses)

Commuter classes (one to two hour classes)

Bicycle maintenance classes or workshops

42. Do you offer regular Smart Cycling courses for your community engineers and planners that include on-bike instruction and in-traffic cycling?

No

43. Has your community hosted a League Cycling Instructor seminar in the past two years?

No

43a. How many League Cycling Instructors are there in your community?

43b. List League Cycling Instructors that have taught at least one class during the past 12 months. (250 word limit)

44. Which of the following groups of professional drivers have training that includes information on sharing the road with cyclists? Check all that apply.

City staff, Transit operators, School bus operators

45. Describe any efforts your community has made to ensure your education programs reach traditionally underserved populations, particularly seniors, women, youth and adult minorities and non-English speakers, and persons with disabilities of all ages. (250 word limit)

NA

46. Describe any other education efforts in your community that promote safe cycling. (500 word limit)

Since 1995, the Don't Thump Your Melon program has been a joint venture of the Rapid City Regional Hospital (RCRH) Foundation, Rapid City Regional Hospital Auxiliary, and Kohl's Cares. The Program is focused on bicycle education and free helmet giveaways and selects three elementary schools each year to encourage safe cycling to K-5th graders. <http://www.regionalhealth.com/Community-Outreach/Community-Partnerships-Programs/Kohls-Dont-Thump-Your-Melon.aspx>

Encouragement

47. How do you promote National Bike Month/your own dedicated Bike Month? Check all that apply.

Public Service Announcements, Videos promoting bicycling on community website/TV channel, Bicycle-themed festival/parade/show, Trail construction or maintenance day

47a. What percentage of the population participate in Bike Month events?

Less than 5%

47b. Do you actively promote Bike to Work Day or other bicycle commuting incentive programs?

Yes

If yes, describe (500 word limit)

Bike to Work Day is promoted in the weekly Mayor's Update email which is distributed to all City Staff and through the City Parks & Recreation Facebook page.

47c. Approximately what percentage of the community workforce do you reach on Bike to Work Day?

1-25%

48. How do you promote bicycling outside of your official Bike Month? Check all that apply.

Videos on bicycling on community website/TV channel, Public Service Announcements, Trail construction or maintenance day, Triathlons and bicycle races, Bicycle-themed festivals/parades/shows, Public education campaign relating to cycling (e.g. with a focus on public health or environmental benefits)

49. List the signature cycling events that occur in your community. (250 word limit)

Fat Tire Festival, Fat Tire Tour de Rapide, Strider US National Championships, Strider World Championships, Black Hills Back 40, Cyclocross Races, Annual Yellow Bike-a-thon - a fundraiser to help with repair of bikes for the Yellow Bike Program & Reconditioned Bikes for Kids, Inc.

49a. How does the municipality sponsor or actively support these events?

Organize the event, Fund event, Contribute in-kind funding (i.e. police presence, closing roads, etc), Assist in promoting the event, Other

If other, describe (100 word limit)

The City Parks and Recreation Department issues special event permits and coordinates and promotes local bicycling events with several groups. The City also develops leases and agreements with non-profit organizations for development of biking related facilities within Parkland; a Bike Skills Park and a BMX track for example. The City has also implemented "Strider Camp", a stride to ride program, which was developed by Strider Sports International, Inc., a Rapid City, SD based company, that teaches kids to learn to stride using balance bikes before they learn to ride pedal bikes.

50. Does your local tourism board or chamber of commerce promote bicycling in your area?

Yes

If yes, describe (250 word limit)

The Rapid City Convention and Visitors Bureau supports local bike events financially and with marketing, they promote and encourage path and trail head development, and help recruit more cycling events to the community. The Rapid City Chamber of Commerce promotes bicycling in the area through its "Visit Rapid City" website, <http://www.visitrapidcity.com/>, which provides information about trails, trail locations and maps, and videos about biking opportunities.

51. Are there cycling clubs in your community? Check all that apply.

Recreational bike clubs, Mountain bike clubs, Friends of the Trail groups, Other

If other, describe (100 word limit)

High School & College Bicycling Clubs

51a. List the names of the clubs. (500 word limit)

Black Hills Mountain Bike Association, BMX, Inc., Rapid City Stevens High School Cycling Club, South Dakota School of Mines & Technology Cycling Club, West River Trails Coalition

52. How many specialty bicycle retailers (shops dedicated primarily to selling bikes and bike-related equipment) are there in your community?

4

52a. List their names. (250 word limit)

Acme Bikes, Black Hills Bicycles, Cranky Jeff's, Two Wheeler Dealer

53. Which of these bicycling amenities do you have in your community? Check all that apply.

BMX track , Cyclocross course , Mountain bike park, Pump tracks

53a. Is there a skate park in your community?

Yes

If yes, do bikes have access to the skate park?

Sometimes

54. Are there opportunities to rent bicycles in your community?

No

55. Does your community currently have a bike sharing program that is open to the general public?



Launching this year

55a. If yes, please provide details about the system below.

How many bikes are in the system?

How many stations are in the system?

How many trips are being made annually?

56. Do you have any current League of American Bicyclists designated Bicycle Friendly Businesses in your community?

No

57. Do you have any current League of American Bicyclists designated Bicycle Friendly Universities in your community?

No

58. Does your community have a bike co-op or non-profit community bike shop?

Yes

If yes, describe its services (250 word limit)

The Yellow Bike Program and Reconditioned Bikes for Kids, Inc. is designed to enlighten, enhance, and preserve the community spirit through the distribution of bicycles. As a non-profit organization, their mission is to provide bicycles, tricycles, scooters, wagons, and exercise equipment to recipients throughout the Black Hills; they offer bicycles to anyone in need at no charge or through an Earn-a-Bike program in which you volunteers can donate time in exchange for bike. They hold annual races and rodeos at memorial park in which they and give away prizes and awards. The Yellow Bike Program and Reconditioned Bikes for Kids, Inc. has given away over 300 bicycles per year to those in need.

58a. If yes, does the co-op/non-profit community bike shop receive support from the local government?

Grants, Free or subsidized property/space, Contracts for services, e.g. bicycle skills or maintenance education, event support, etc

59. Does your community have youth recreation and/or intervention programs centered on bicycling? Check all that apply.

Recycle a Bicycle, Other

If other, describe (100 word limit)

"Strider Camp" - a program dedicated to teaching children of all abilities the balance needed to enjoy a lifetime of riding adventure. The Program is based on Strider Sports Int'l, Inc. Stride to Ride Program and participants receive a discount to purchase a Strider Bike.

60. What mapping and route finding information is available for your community, which has been updated in the last 18 months? Check all that apply.

Online route finding service, Smart phone app, Online bike map outlining existing bike infrastructure (by type), public restrooms and other bicycle amenities, Printed bike map outlining existing bike infrastructure (by type), public restrooms and other bicycle amenities, Printed mountain bike trails map, Printed greenways and trails map

61. Describe any other programs or policies your community has to encourage cycling. (500 word limit)

Enforcement

62. How does your police department interact with the local cycling community? Check all that apply.

No current formal interaction

63. What kind of training is offered to police officers regarding traffic law as it applies to bicyclists? Check all that apply.

Basic academy training, International Police Mountain Bike Association training

64. What enforcement programs that target improving cyclist safety are in place? Check all that apply.

Helmet giveaways, Targeting motorist infractions, Share the road campaigns, Other

If other, describe (100 word limit)

In 2011, the Rapid City Police Department launched a Pedestrian Safety Campaign to educate both drivers and pedestrians about the rules of the road in an effort to reduce accidents and make Rapid City's streets safer for everyone. As part of this program RCPD has participated in the Don't Thump Your Melon Program to promote bike safety with children. <http://www.rcgov.org/Police/crosswalksafety.html>

65. What percentage of patrol officers are on bikes?

1- 10%

66. Are any other public safety (e.g. EMS) employees on bikes?

No

67. Do police officers report cyclist crash data or potential hazards to traffic engineers and planners to identify sites in need of safety improvements for cyclists?

Yes

68. Which of the following safety services and amenities are available in your community?

Trail watch programs/ Trail patrols, Street lighting on most arterials, Street lighting on most non-arterials, Lighting of most shared-use paths, Stolen or impounded bikes recovery system or assistance, Non-mandatory bike registration

69. Are there any local or state ordinances that protect cyclists? Check all that apply.

Other

If other, describe (250 word limit)

State Law 32-20B-2. Operation on sidewalk or crosswalk--Rights of bicyclist--Duty to stop. A person operating a bicycle upon and along a sidewalk, or across a roadway upon and along a crosswalk, shall have all the rights and duties applicable to a pedestrian under the same circumstances, except as provided in § 32-20B-3, and except that bicyclists must stop before entering a crosswalk or highway from a sidewalk or sidewalk area. 32-20B-3. Operation on sidewalk or crosswalk--Duty to yield right-of-way to pedestrian--Violation as misdemeanor. A person operating a bicycle upon and along a sidewalk, or across a roadway upon and along a crosswalk, shall yield the right-of-way to any pedestrian and shall give an audible signal before overtaking and passing a pedestrian. A violation of this section is a Class 2 misdemeanor. 32-20B-6. Turning, stopping, or starting signals required--Violation as misdemeanor. A person operating a bicycle shall give a continuous signal of intention to turn right or left during the last one hundred feet traveled by the bicycle before turning. The signal shall also be given while the bicycle is stopped waiting to turn. A signal by hand and arm need only be given intermittently if the hand is needed in the control operation of the bicycle. Except as provided in this section, a person operating a bicycle shall comply with the provisions of §§ 32-26-22 and 32-26-22.1. A violation of this section is a Class 2 misdemeanor.

70. Do your local ordinances place any restrictions on cyclists? Check all that apply.

Local law requires that cyclists are required to ride as far to the right of the road as practicable without exceptions, Other

If other, describe (100 word limit)

Rapid City Ordinance 10.64.210 - C. No person shall operate a bicycle upon a sidewalk within a central business district as defined by Chapter 10.04 of this code. 10.04.050 - CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT. That portion of the city bounded by and included within the limits of the following named streets: from Omaha Street on the north to Columbus Street on the south, both inclusive, and from Second Street on the east to West Boulevard on the west, both inclusive, and those portions of the intersecting streets and alleys included within the boundaries of the district. (Entire Ordinance Attached to Application)

71. Describe any other enforcement programs or policies relating to cycling. (500 word limit)

Evaluation and Planning

72. Does your community have a comprehensive bicycle master plan or similar section in another document?

Yes

72a. If yes, please provide details about the plan below.

Provide a link to the plan or describe. (250 word limit)

<http://www.rcgov.org/Transportation-Planning/bikepedestrianplan.html>

When was it passed or most recently updated?

Adopted: June 20, 2011; Last Updated: March 18, 2013

Is there a dedicated funding source for implementation?

No



What percentage of the current plan has been implemented?

10

Are you meeting annual target goals for implementation?

Yes

73. Do you have a trails master plan that addresses mountain bike access?

Yes

If yes, provide the link to the plan or describe. (250 word limit)

The Skyline Wilderness Park Trails Master Plan is currently being implemented by the Parks Department through the development of Trails and Trailheads. See Skyline Wilderness Park Project attachment and the full plan here: <http://www.rcgov.org/pdfs/Parks-and-Recreation/Bids/Skyline%20Master%20Plan.pdf>

74. Is there formal cooperation between the mountain biking community and the community recreation and planning staff?

Yes

If yes, describe (100 word limit)

The Black Hills Mountain Bike Association and the Parks Department have agreements in place for park development, trail construction, and bicycling events.

75. Does your community have an on-going bicycle counting and/or survey program that allows for long-term trend analysis of cycling trips (e.g. participation in the National Bicycle and Pedestrian Documentation Project)?

No

If yes, please describe the most recent results. (250 word limit)

75a. If yes, do the counts capture the gender of cyclists?

76. Does your community routinely conduct pre/post evaluations of bicycle-related road projects?

No

77. Does your community establish target goals for bicycle use, e.g. a certain level of bicycle mode share?

No

78. What is the most current journey-to-work data for your community? Tip: Search for topic B08301 (Means of Transportation to Work) for your community on the American FactFinder website (Advanced Search). Choose the most recent data set available for your community. Divide the total number of bicycle/pedestrian/transit commuters by the total number of commuters and multiply the result by 100.

Bicycling (in %)

1.6

Percentage of bicycle commuters who are women (See topic B08006. Choose the most recent data set available for your community. Divide the total number of women bicycle commuters by the total number of bicycle commuters and multiply the result by 100.)

43.6

Walking (in %)

3.1

Transit (in %)

91.4

79. What is the average commuting distance to work for residents of your community? Tip: This data is not available nationally and needs to be collected locally (or estimated).

5-10 miles

80. What percent of children commute to school by bicycle? Tip: This data is not available nationally and needs to be collected locally.

Elementary

1-10%

Middle School

1-10%

High School

1-10%

81. How many cyclists have been involved in a crash in your community in the past five years involving a motor vehicle?

92

81a. How many cyclist fatalities have occurred in your community in the past five years involving a motor vehicle?

81b. Do you have a specific plan or program to reduce these numbers?

Yes

If yes, describe (250 word limit)

The Rapid City Police Department has a public education/ enforcement program aimed at pedestrian/bicyclist crosswalk safety and reducing accidents which utilizes social media/radio/TV ads to get people to "Play Attention" to pedestrians and bicyclists. In conjunction with the PSAs, RCPD has stepped up enforcement and ticketing of motorists failing to stop for pedestrians and bicyclists crossing the street at designated intersections.

82. Do you measure the Bicycle Level of Service of roads and/or intersections?

No

83. Do you have community-wide trip reduction policies or programs?

No

83a. Does the program use individualized marketing to identify and support current and potential bike commuters in your community?

No

84. Have you done an economic impact study on bicycling in your community?

No

85. Do you have a mechanism to ensure bicycle facilities, programs and encouragement efforts are implemented in traditionally underserved neighborhoods?

No

86. Describe any other programs or policies that your community uses to evaluate and/or plan bicycling conditions, programs, and facilities. (500 word limit)

The City of Rapid City uses the AASHTO Guide for the Development of Bicycle Facilities, the NACTO Urban Bikeway Design Guide, and the design standards of the Rapid City Bike Pedestrian Master plan to design and review bicycle facilities.

Final Overview

87. What are the three primary reasons your community deserves to be designated a Bicycle Friendly Community?

Reason One (250 word limit)

Rapid City's BIKER-tunities - Amenities & Activities: Rapid City is the Gateway to the Black Hills and offers more than a dozen local and national bike events each year. These adult and youth bike events include the Fat Tire Festival, Strider US & World Championships, Black Hills Back 40, Dakota Five-0, Tatanka 100 MTB, Mickelson 100+ mile Trail Trek Black Hills Expedition, Gold Rush Gravel Grinder, 28 Below Fat Bike Race, the Knife Blade Rock n Roll MTB Race, the Tour de Rapide and countless other locally organized trail rides like "Sunday Services" and the Chilly Cheeks, the Snowflake and Snowcone fat bike rides which require a little snow on the ground and little extra moxie! Rapid City offers over 30 miles of wilderness hiking and biking trails within a 10 minute bike ride of Downtown Rapid City, allowing visitors and residents alike a unique opportunity to go from bed to trailhead, restaurant, or bike shop without a vehicle. The major feature that allows for this ease of access to and from recreational opportunities is the 8-mile contiguous greenway and bike path that runs East-West through Rapid City along Rapid Creek connecting nearly 1,500 acres of park and open space with the Central Business District.

Reason Two (250 word limit)

Rapid City Plans for Bikes & Pedestrians: Rapid City has completed a major City-wide Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan which is an inventory and analysis of existing conditions and outlines for improvement. The City is now in the implementation stage to complete the goals outlined within the Plan to create a more bike and pedestrian friendly community. The adoption of this Plan by the Mayor and Common Council has given City Staff a clear direction to make the policy and design changes necessary



to achieve a greater network of trails, roads, and sidewalks to support active transportation as a viable and safe mode of commuting and recreation. Subsequently, the Rapid City Comprehensive Plan update (currently in progress) has outlined 4 of 7 "Core Values" for the Community's future vision with bicycle and pedestrian friendliness as their major element. 1. A vibrant, Livable Community 2. A Safe, Healthy, Inclusive, and Skilled Community 3. Efficient Transportation and Infrastructure Systems 4. Outstanding Recreational and Cultural Opportunities The Comprehensive Plan takes the goals other City Plans and outlines priority levels and the specific departments responsible for specific projects, such as the following identified as immediate action priorities; Multimodal Balance, Current Standards and Plans, Bicycle Accommodations, Complete Streets Guide, Multi-Modal Marketing, Bicycle Network, Major Pedestrian Crossings, Pedestrian Links, Sidewalk Improvements, Transit Accessibility among others. The implementation of the above policies and projects will be the key to maintain and achieving the goals of Rapid City's tenets for bike and pedestrian friendliness.

Reason Three (250 word limit)

Rapid City has an Active and Involved Biking Community: Although Rapid City does not have a designated Bicycle Program Manager (BPM) or an officially recognized Bicycle Advocacy Committee (BAC), the City and its constituents have established several groups and committees to address bicyclist and pedestrian issues and opportunities. These groups including the Rapid City Area Metropolitan Planning Organization - Bike/Run/Walk Committee, the Pioneering Healthy Communities committee, the Sustainability Committee, the West River Trails Coalition, the Stevens High School Cycling Club, the South Dakota School of Mines Cycling Club, and the Black Hills Mountain Bike Association. Rapid City also boasts four local thriving bike shops, one International Bike Manufacturer and Distributor, and BMX, Inc. which are major advocates and promoters of local biking opportunities for adults and youths. All these groups combined have been influential in promoting bike events, bike safety programs, and bicycle related park and trail development projects. The designation of a BPM and the convening of a BAC committee are currently being discussed for implementation to take the collective efforts of these groups to create a City Committee to address all City/County bike and pedestrian related issues.

88. What are the three aspects of your community most in need of improvement in order to accommodate bicyclists?

Aspect One (100 word limit)

The Bike Pedestrian Master Plan identifies the first aspect in need of the most improvement as a formalized on-street bike way system. At the local City level we have begun and will continue implementation of several priority pavement marking, signage, and signal improvement projects as well as a continued collaboration with the SDDOT to incorporate bicycle facilities on all state highway road projects within Rapid City. The Bike Pedestrian Master Plan identifies the first aspect in need of most improvement is the formalized on-street bike way system.

Aspect Two (100 word limit)

The Bike Pedestrian Master Plan identifies the second aspect in need of most improvement as completing gaps within the existing sidewalk and trail system. The implementation of the identified improvements has begun and in 2012 the Rapid City Greenway Trails and Pedestrian Facilities Project completed the top priority infill projects.

Aspect Three (100 word limit)

The Bike Pedestrian Master Plan identifies the third aspect in need of most improvement as upgrading intersections for safer trail crossings. The planning and development of this project is underway and Rapid City is currently seeking TAP funding from SDDOT to complete major improvements to the major bike path road crossings.

89. Has completing this application made you more aware of what your community needs to do to be bicycle friendly?

Yes

If yes, describe (250 word limit)

We need to continue our implementation of our Bike Pedestrian Master Plan, by completing the actions and benchmarks to; 1) Support bicycling and walking as viable transportation modes in Rapid City, 2) Promote bicycling and walking in the Rapid City area by improving awareness of bicycle and pedestrian facilities and opportunities, 3) Integrate bicycle and pedestrian planning into Rapid City's Planning Process.

90. Are you planning any new projects based on your completion of the Bicycle Friendly Community application?

Yes

If yes, describe (250 word limit)

The completion of the BFC application has reiterated several projects within the Bike Pedestrian Master Plan for Rapid City to address immediately in an effort to endorse a MORE bike friendly community. The following projects will be pursued in 2014 as part of this continued effort: • Bike Path Survey and Documentation • Bike Month Event Planning and Promotion • Designate a Bike Program Manager • Establish and Convene a Bicycle Advisory Committee • Create and Implement a Wayfinding Signage Plan along our Greenway and Bike Path (this has already been completed throughout Downtown for Motor Vehicles) • Updates to Community Bike Parking • Continued encouragement of Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety • Review of Bicyclists and Pedestrian related Ordinances

Submit any documents that you would like to provide in support of your application, including at least five high resolution photos (1-2MB) here. You can submit up to 5 files at the time and there is no limit on how many files can be submitted. By submitting photos, the League of American Bicyclists has the right to use your photos to promote bicycling. Please note that the files will submit immediately and will not appear as an attachment.

We often get requests for model BFC applications from aspiring communities. Would you be willing to share your application?

Yes

How did you hear about the BFC program?

Seeking designation as a Bike Friendly Community is a major goal outlined within the adopted Rapid City Bike and Pedestrian Master Plan.