

Asheville Bicycle and Pedestrian Task Force 2018 Annual Report

Vision

For Asheville to be a community of connected pathways that is healthy, safe and accessible for people of all ages.

Mission

To educate the public about bicycle and pedestrian transportation. To advocate for the development and maintenance of safe, convenient and inter-connected facilities. To promote the benefits of walking and biking for individuals and community health.



Ongoing Activities, Collaborations and Projects

The Bicycle and Pedestrian Task Force routinely engages with the City of Asheville Transportation, Law Enforcement and Fire Department, the French Broad MPO and, more recently, representatives of NCDOT Division 13 to learn from and to provide expertise and input related to bicycle and pedestrian safety and accessibility. The unique evergreen nature of this task force facilitates sharing information and providing a forum for community members and advocacy groups to make informed and meaningful contributions to MMTC and City planning efforts. Many actions below included input from these groups. Where appropriate, BPTF also provides input and support for activities initiated by other organizations to promote bicycle and pedestrian safety and access.

- Completed application for and received for the Silver Walk-Friendly Community status. Feedback from the Walk-Friendly application will be used to guide future efforts to improve Walking and Biking environment.
- Coordinated the annual Bicycle and Pedestrian Counts that informs COA planning efforts. Members led the project, staff count stations (19 volunteers), and analyzed results ([report found here](#)).
- Develop actions/strategies for incorporation into the new Pedestrian Master Plan RFP, and a member is serving on consultant selection committee.
- Provides expertise and input to COA and relevant agencies on the following:
 - The I-26, I-40, I-240 connector project.
 - RAD TIP Lymon and Amboy Greenway interface.
 - The Bike Share Feasibility Plan.
 - The Asheville Police Department's "Watch For Me NC" efforts to support pedestrian safety.
 - The South Slope Neighborhood Plan.
 - The adjustment of bike lane alignment on Martin Luther King Blvd.
- Facilitated opportunities to inform members of the community on local transportation issues and projects.
- Motions to provide input in Transportation Project planning/ decision-making
 - NCDOT Proposed Intersection treatments on Merrimon Avenue.
- Supported activities initiated by other organizations
 - Bicycle Education: Conducted by Buncombe BikeEd League of American Bicyclists Certified

Instructors, many of whom are BPTF members. BPTF provided input into website and registration to promote increased participation. COA Parks and Recreation provides site for adult education classes and promotes via digital media and flyers.

- Open Streets Asheville: provided input/support in planning and promotion of the second Open Streets Asheville in September 2018 as well as the rescheduled event associated with the Street Tweaks Tactical Urbanism installation on Coxe Avenue.
- Street Tweaks: provided input/support in planning, promotion and implementation of the Tactical Urbanism installation on Coxe Avenue in November 2018 including road diet, protected bike lanes, high-visibility decorative crosswalk, new stops and bulb outs.
- Strive (formally Strive Not to Drive): provided input/support to Land of Sky Regional Council in planning and promotion of newly launched regional event to increase awareness and participation in active forms of commuting/transportation. BPTF provided leadership in event to highlight bicycle and pedestrian challenges on Merrimon Avenue.