

**University Heights named a Bronze Level Bronze Level Bicycle Friendly CommunitySM
by the League of American Bicyclists**

Designation Renews 2012 Award; U-Heights 2nd smallest city recognized

Today, the League of American Bicyclists recognized University Heights with a Bronze Level Bicycle Friendly Community (BFCSM) award, University Heights was part of the largest application round in the BFC program's 13 year history. In total, 140 communities applied for recognition, a 62 percent increase from the previous largest round of applicants.

With the announcement of 26 new and 77 renewing BFCs today, University Heights joins a leading group of communities, in all 50 states, that are transforming our neighborhoods. There are now 404 communities currently recognized for their efforts to make biking better with a BFC award. University Heights, with an official population of 1051, is the second smallest U.S. city to be recognized, and one of only 7 communities in Iowa designated. The City was first recognized as a Bronze Level community in 2012.

“In this largest BFC round ever, we are excited to see the number of communities that have improved since their last application,” said Ken McLeod, State & Local Policy Manager at the League of American Bicyclists.

The Bronze Level BFC award recognizes University Height's commitment to improving conditions for bicycling through investment in bicycling promotion, education programs, infrastructure and pro-bicycling policies. The BFC program provides a benchmark for communities to evaluate these conditions and policies, while highlighting areas for improvement. The national scope of the program also promotes competition and comparison between communities - with 404 currently recognized BFC there is always a model for your community to be found.

“While we are grateful for the recognition, we know we have many improvements yet to enact. Said University Heights Councilor Mike Haverkamp. “Our community vision program has identified bike infrastructure improvements as a goal, and we plan to initiate a bike friendly business program with the opening of the One University Place development.”

The BFC program provides a roadmap to building a Bicycle Friendly Community and the application itself has become a rigorous and an educational tool in itself. Since its inception, more than 800 distinct communities have applied and the five levels of the award — diamond, platinum, gold, silver and bronze — provide a clear incentive for communities to continuously improve.

View the [University Heights Bike Friendly City Report Card](#)

To apply or 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 Business and Bicycle Friendly UniversitySM programs are generously supported by program partner Planet Bike. 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.

