



May 14, 2012

It is a great honor for the city of University Heights to receive a bronze level Bike Friendly Community designation award. We are thrilled to be joining Iowa City as only the second city in Johnson County to receive such a tribute. Past and present University Heights City Councils have promoted bicycle friendliness in many ways over the years. The Melrose Ave. wide sidewalk project completed in 2010 will be joined with a Sunset Street wide sidewalk project scheduled to be completed next year. Additionally our city officials have supported cyclists through the placement of bike racks at many destinations throughout the city. The UHPD leads bike safety classes for local scouts and Horn elementary school students. This summer, bike route signs will be added through the city connecting to the other Johnson County metro communities and trails. These projects also address safety issues for all users, bicyclists as well as pedestrians, and support active lifestyles.

The University Heights community itself is also very supportive of bicycle friendliness. According to the 2010 US Census 15% of University Heights workers commute to work by bicycle and 28% of University Heights workers walk to their jobs - rates that place our community among the most accessible nationwide. We hope to inspire even more citizens to join their neighbors with our Bike to Work Week Breakfast on Wed. May 16th in front of the city office 1004 Melrose Ave. from 6:30-9:00am. We are honored to be officially designated as a Bike Friendly Community and will continue to seek new and innovative ways to encourage active living in University Heights in the years to come.

Louise From, Mayor

University Heights



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***University Heights is named a Bronze Bicycle Friendly Community
by the
League of American Bicyclists***

Washington, D.C. – May 14, 2012 – May is National Bike Month with hundreds of events and thousands of riders celebrating bicycling nationwide. And a growing number of U.S. communities are taking steps to encourage residents to ride all year round – including University Heights. Today, the League of American Bicyclists announced the latest round of Bicycle Friendly Communities (BFC) and University Heights was named a Bronze BFC.

“We are not surprised that this was the largest number of new and renewing applicants that we’ve ever had,” said League President Andy Clarke. “The popularity of this program is clear evidence that investment in bicycling is a major catalyst in creating the kind of vibrant communities people want to live, work and visit. University Heights recognizes that simple steps to make bicycling safe and comfortable pay huge dividends in civic, community and economic development.”

The BFC program is revolutionizing the way communities evaluate their quality of life, sustainability and transportation networks, while allowing them to benchmark their progress toward improving their bicycle-friendliness. With this impressive round, there are now 214 BFCs in 47 states across America. The Bronze BFC award recognizes University Heights’s commitment to improving conditions for bicycling through investment in bicycling promotion, education programs, infrastructure and pro-bicycling policies.

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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 500 distinct communities have applied and the four levels of the award – platinum, gold, silver and bronze – provide a clear incentive for communities to continuously improve.

To apply or learn more about the free BFC program, visit bikeleague.org/community.

About the Bicycle Friendly America Program

The Bicycle Friendly Community, Bicycle Friendly State, Bicycle Friendly Business and Bicycle Friendly University programs are generously supported by program partners Bikes Belong and Trek Bicycle's One World, Two Wheels Campaign. To learn more about building a Bicycle Friendly America, visit <http://www.bikeleague.org/programs/bicyclefriendlyamerica/>

The League of American Bicyclists promotes bicycling for fun, fitness and transportation, and works through advocacy and education for a bicycle-friendly America. The League represents the interests of America's 57 million bicyclists, including its 300,000 members and affiliates. For more information or to support the League, visit www.bikeleague.org.

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