

# LEAGUE OF AMERICAN BICYCLISTS



Bicycle Friendly Community Application

## Name of Community

\* Name of Community  
**City of Harrisonburg**  
\* State

**Virginia**

\* Mayor or top elected official  
**Mr. Richard Baugh**  
\* Phone  
**540-432-7700**  
\* Email  
**Richard.Baugh@harrisonburgva.gov**  
\* Address  
**345 S. Main St. Harrisonburg, VA 22801**  
\* Website  
**www.harrisonburgva.gov**

## Applicant Profile

\* Applicant Name  
**Ms. Thanh Dang**  
\* Title  
**Public Works Planner**  
\* Employer  
**City of Harrisonburg, VA**  
\* Address  
**320 E. Mosby Rd.**  
\* City  
**Harrisonburg**  
\* State

**Virginia**

\* Zip  
**22801**  
\* Phone  
**540-434-5928**  
\* Email  
**thanhd@harrisonburgva.gov**

## Community Profile

The data in this section is gathered by the U.S. census. Click [here](#) to find the most recent information on your community.

\* 1. Type of Jurisdiction

**Town/City/Municipality**

**County**

**Metropolitan Planning Organization or Council of Governments**

**Regional Planning Organization**

**Rural Planning Organization**

**Indian Nation**

**Other**

If other, describe

\* 2. Population  
**48814**

3. Square mileage of community

\* Total area  
**17.6**

\* Water area  
**0.4**

\* Land area  
**17.2**

\* 4. Population Density  
**2665**

5. Climate

- \* Average temperature for January  
**32.5**
- \* Average temperature for April  
**53.5**
- \* Average temperature for July  
**75.0**
- \* Average temperature for October  
**55.0**
- \* Average precipitation for January  
**2.64**
- \* Average precipitation for April  
**2.55**
- \* Average precipitation for July  
**3.29**
- \* Average precipitation for October  
**2.91**

\* 6. Median Household Income  
**38695**

7. Age distribution

- \* % under 5  
**6**
- \* % age 6-17  
**11**
- \* % age 18-64  
**75**
- \* % age 65+  
**8**
- \* Totals  
**100**

8. Race

- \* % White  
**87**
- \* % Black or African American  
**6.74**
- \* % American Indian and Alaskan Native  
**0.22**
- \* % Asian  
**3.70**
- \* % Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander  
**0.04**
- \* % Some other race  
**0**
- \* % One race  
**97.7**
- \* % Two or more races  
**2.3**
- \* Totals  
**100**
- \* % Hispanic or Latino (of any race)  
**9**

\* 9. What is the name of your community's bicycle program manager?

**Ms. Thanh Dang**

\* 10. In which department does your bicycle program manager work?

- Engineering/public works**
- Planning**
- Parks and Recreation**
- Transportation**
- Other**

If other, describe

\* 11. Are you the Bicycle Program Manager?

- Yes**
- No**

\* Bicycle Program Manager Phone

**540-434-5928**

\* Bicycle Program Manager Email

**thanhd@harrisonburgva.gov**

\* 12. What percentage of the community's Bicycle Program Manager's time is spent on bicycling issues?

- 10% or less**
- 10-25%**
- 25-50%**
- 50-75%**

75-100%

\* 13. How many government employees, expressed in full-time equivalents, work on bicycle issues in your community?

<sup>2</sup>  
\* 14. Do you have a [Bicycle Advisory Committee](#)

Yes

No

\* 14a. How often does it meet?

Monthly

Every two months

Quarterly

Annually

Other (describe)

If other, describe

\* 14b. How many members serve on the committee?

<sup>5</sup>  
\* 14c. Which of the following groups are represented or regularly attend the Bicycle Advisory Committee?

User group

Law enforcement

Chamber of commerce

Public health

Planning department

Transportation department

School board

Parks department

Recreation department

Transit agency

Other (describe)

If other, describe

**Other groups who have regular representation include: City Council, local universities (James Madison University, Eastern Mennonite University), and one of two of our middle schools' principals.**

\* 14d. Name of Bicycle Advisory Committee Chair

**Mr. Thomas Jenkins**

\* Email of Bicycle Advisory Committee Chair

**tj@shenandoahbicycle.com**

\* 15. Is there a bicycle advocacy group(s) in your community?

Yes

No

15a. What is the name of the advocacy group(s) (if more than one, list them all)

**Shenandoah Valley Bicycle Coalition, New Community Project**

\* 15b. Are any of them working with you on this application?

Yes

No

\* 15c. List the name of the primary group:

**Shenandoah Valley Bicycle Coalition**

\* 15d. Does this group have paid staff?

Yes

No

\* 15e. Do you contract with this group for any services or programs?

Yes

No

\* 15f. Who is the primary contact for them?

**Mr. Paul Johnston**

\* 15g. Email of primary contact of advocacy group  
**ptjohnst@hotmail.com**

\* 16. What are the primary reasons your community has invested in bicycling?

Improved quality of life

Improving public health

Community connectivity

Transportation options

Climate change concerns

Decrease traffic congestion

Increase tourism

Increase property values

Cooperation with adjacent communities

Public demand

Economic development

Traffic safety

Other (describe)

If other, describe

17. What was your community's most significant investment for bicycling in the past year?

**In July 2010, the City Council adopted an updated Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan which had been worked on by a citizen-staff advisory committee for approximately 12 months. <http://www.harrisonburgva.gov/bikeped> In June 2010, City Council added "bicycle and pedestrian matters" to the purview of the City's Transportation Safety & Advisory Commission. The Commission then established a Bicycle & Pedestrian Subcommittee to advise staff, the Commission, and City Council on matters related to bicycling. Following the adoption of the Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan, the City has added 3 new miles of bike lanes and 1 mile of new shared lane markings (sharrows).**

18. What specific improvements do you have planned for bicycling in the following year?

**Implementation of the 2 and 5 year goals outlined in the City's Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan will continue. We will be installing about 3-miles of new shared lane markings, and about 1-miles of new bike lanes in the next year. \* The City's Erickson Ave.-Stone Spring Rd. project's Phase II began in 2010 and continues is part of a 3.1-mile project that will provide connectivity between east and west city limits in the southern portion of the City and will feature bicycle lanes in both directions. Phase III and IV are currently under design by the City.**

## [Engineering](#)

19. Does your community have

[a complete streets policy?](#)

**a bicycle accommodation policy (a policy that requires the accommodation of cyclists in all new road construction and reconstruction and resurfacing)?**

Neither

19a. When was it adopted

**2005**

19b. Provide a link or attach a copy of this legislation or policy.

**City Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan re-adopted, 2010, <http://www.harrisonburgva.gov/bikeped>. The bicycle accommodation policy has been in place since at least 2005. Additionally, the City Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan describes the benefits of "complete streets" and we anticipate "complete streets" to be included as a strategy in the update of the City's Comprehensive Plan which is expected to be adopted in April 2011. City staff is exploring the creation of an formal complete streets policy similar to City of Roanoke, VA.**

19c. How was it adopted?

Legislation

Resolution

Internal Policy

Other

If other, describe

**Adoption of bicycle and pedestrian plan by City Council.**

19d. What tools are in place to ensure implementation?

Implementation Guidance

Design

Manual

Training

Other

If other, describe

20. How do you ensure your engineers and planners accommodate cyclists according to [AASHTO](#) and [MUTCD](#) standards?

Training

Offer [FHWA/NHI Training Course](#)

Hire Outside consultants to train staff

Send staff to [bicycle-specific conferences/training](#)

Require project consultants to have bike/ped qualifications

Internal training or [design manual](#)

20a. Describe each checked

**In 2007, engineering and planning staff from Departments of Public Works and Community Development participated in a webinar titled "Designing Bicycle Facilities" presented by Nazir Lalani.\* In March 2010, City's Public Works Planner attend a trip with a group of citizens to Davis, CA to learn about Davis' facilities and community. \*The City's Design & Construction Standards Manual has bicycle accommodations and design standards for new construction and redevelopment. <http://www.harrisonburgva.gov/dcsn> \* In January 2011, 2 public works staff members attended UVA's Transportation Training Academy's workshop on "Bicyclists & Pedestrians: Meeting the Needs."**

\* 21. What percentage of bridges and tunnels in your community are accessible to bicyclists?

100

21a. What are the exceptions?

\* 22. How do you ensure there are end-of-trip facilities for bicyclists?

Bike parking ordinance

Bike parking ordinance for all new developments

Ordinance requiring showers and lockers

Building accessibility ordinance

On street bike parking

[Ordinance that allows bike parking to substitute for car parking](#)

Standards for bicycle parking that conform to [APBP guidelines](#)

Other

If other, describe

23. How many bike parking spaces are there in your community?

23a. Bike racks

66

23b. Bike lockers

0

23c. Bike depot (i.e. [Bikestation](#))

0

23d. In-street bike parking

0

24. Approximately what percentage of these locations have bike racks or storage units?

24a. Schools

91-100%

24b. Libraries

91-100%

24c. Transit Stations

**Not Applicable**

24d. Parks & Recreation Centers

**46-60%**

24e. Government buildings

**61-75%**

24f. Office buildings

**less than 15%**

24g. Shops

**less than 15%**

24h. Public Housing

**31-45%**

\* 25. Does your community have transit service?

**Yes**

**No**

\* 25a. Are buses equipped with [bike racks](#)?

**Yes**

**No**

25b. What percentage?

**91-100%**

25c. Are bikes allowed inside transit vehicles?

**Yes**

**Sometimes**

**No**

If yes or sometimes, describe

\* 26. What is the mileage of your total road network?

**138**

\* 27. What is the mileage of your total shared-use path network?

**2**

28. List your current and planned bicycle accommodations?

a. [Bike lanes](#)

Current Miles

**7**

Planned Miles

**8**

b. [Shared lane markings](#)

Current Miles

**1**

Planned Miles

**10**

c. [Bike boulevards](#)

Current Miles

**0**

Planned Miles

**0**

d. Signed bike routes

Current Miles

**0**

Planned Miles

**0**

e. Paved shared use paths

Current Miles

**2**

Planned Miles

**5**

f. Natural surface shared use paths

Current Miles

**3**

Planned Miles

**0**

g. [Singletrack](#)

Current Miles

**4**

Planned Miles

**1**

\* 29. What other innovative ways have you improved on-road conditions for bicyclists?

- [Road diets](#)
- [Area wide traffic calming](#)
- [Cycle tracks](#)
- [Contra-flow bike lanes](#)
- Speed limits 20 mph or less on residential streets
- Bike cut thrus
- [Way-finding signage with distance and/or time information](#)
- None
- Other

If other, describe

\* 30. What percentage of arterial streets have bike lanes or paved shoulders?

7

\* 31. What percentage of natural surface, trails and singletrack are open to bicyclists?

100

31a. What are the exceptions?

32. What maintenance policies or programs ensure *bike lanes* and *shoulders* remain usable and safe?

\* 32a. Street sweeping

- More than other travel lanes
- Same as other travel lanes
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Quarterly
- Annually
- Never
- Other

If other, describe

\* 32b. Snow clearance

- Before other travel lanes
- Same time as other travel lanes
- Within 48 hours of storm
- Never
- Other
- Not applicable

If other, describe

\* 32c. Pothole maintenance

- Within 24 hours of complaint
- Within one week of complaint
- Within one month of complaint
- Never
- Other

If other, describe

32d. Other Maintenance policies or programs for bike lanes and shoulders (describe)

**Bicycle lanes and shoulders are maintained as part of the regular street maintenance schedule.**

33. What maintenance policies or programs ensure *shared-use paths* remain safe and usable?

\* 33a. Path sweeping

- Weekly**
- Monthly**
- Quarterly**
- Annually**
- Never**
- Other**

If other, describe

**As reports for needed sweeping are received.**

\* 33b. Vegetation maintenance

- Weekly**
- Monthly**
- Quarterly**
- Annually**
- Never**
- Other**

If other, describe

\* 33c. Snow clearance

- Before roadways**
- Same time as roadways**
- Within 48 hours of storm**
- Never**
- Other**
- Not applicable**

If other, describe

\* 33d. Surface repair

- Within 24 hours of complaint**
- Within one week of complaint**
- Within one month of complaint**
- Never**
- Other**

If other, describe

33e. Other Maintenance policies or programs for shared-use paths (describe)

\* 34. How do you accommodate cyclists at intersections in your community?

- All /Most signals are timed for bicyclists**
- All /Most signals are timed**
- [Loop detector markings](#)
- [Video detection](#)
- [Advance stop line or Bike Box](#)
- [Bicycle signal heads](#)
- Other**



**None of the above**

If other, describe

\* 35. Are there other infrastructure improvements in your community to promote bicycling?

**Yes**

**No**

If yes, describe

### Education

\* 36. Do schools in your community offer a [Safe Routes to School](#) (or comparable) program that includes bicycling education?

**Yes**

**No**

What percentage of schools in your jurisdiction participates?

a. Elementary (percentage)

**60**

b. Middle School (percentage)

**100**

c. High School (percentage)

**100**

\* 37. Outside of schools, how are children taught safe bicycling skills?

**Youth bike clubs**

[Bike clinics or rodeos](#)

**Youth recreation programs**

**Helmet fit seminars**

[Safety town](#)

**Trail riding classes**

**Other**

**None of the above**

If other, describe

**There is a collaborative group of government agencies, health professionals, schools, and local non-profits that collaborate to put on the "Walk Smart, Bike Smart" display area in September of each year at the Harrisonburg International Festival. In past years, the group has included bicycle helmet giveaways and fittings, bicycle safety quizzes for bicyclists and motorists, red flashing safety strobe lights, and free bicycle helmets. Each year we give out and fit between 100-150 bike helmets. Over 6,000 people attend this event each year. [www.harrisonburg-international-festival.org](http://www.harrisonburg-international-festival.org) \* There is also a free Mountain Bike class for kids offered two times a year through the City Parks & Recreation Department.**

\* 38. Do you have a [diversion program](#) for cyclists or motorists?

**Yes**

**No**

If yes, describe

\* 39. What have you done in the last 18 months to educate motorists and bicyclists on sharing the road safely?

**Public service announcements**

**Community newsletter article**

**New resident packet**

**Utility bill insert**

**Bicycle ambassador program**

**Newspaper column/blog on bicycling**

**Dedicated bike page on community Web site**

**Billboards**

**Share the Road Signs**

Share the road information in driver's education

Other

None of the above

If other, describe

"Bike Like Ike" safety PSAs on City Transit buses. See sample at <http://www.biketthevalley.org> \*Widely distributed the "Sharing the Road in Virginia" pocket guide, [http://www.sharingtheroadinvirginia.org/documents/pocketguidefinal\\_2009.pdf](http://www.sharingtheroadinvirginia.org/documents/pocketguidefinal_2009.pdf).

40. What of the following options are available on a regular basis to your community?

\* 40a. [Traffic Skills 101](#) (or equivalent) classes -- including classroom and on-bike instruction.

Weekly

Monthly

Quarterly

Annually

Never

Other

If other, describe

\* 40b. Cycling Skills classes -- three to four hour classroom training courses

Weekly

Monthly

Quarterly

Annually

Never

Other

If other, describe

\* 40c. Commuter classes - one/two hour classes

Weekly

Monthly

Quarterly

Annually

Never

Other

If other, describe

During Bike Month 2010, local bicycling advocates hosted a 1-hour workshop titled "Rules of the Road Workshop: All you need to know about how to be a good bicycle commuter and have a great time." A collection of local bicycling advocates have already begun planning for Bike Month 2011.

\* 41. Has your community hosted a [League Cycling Instructor seminar](#) in the past two years?

Yes

No

\* 42. How many [League Cycling Instructors](#) are there in your community?

0

43. List active League Cycling Instructors (active means they have taught at least one class during the past 12 months).

NA

44. Does your community have driver training for any of the following professional drivers that include information on sharing the road with cyclists?

City staff

Taxi drivers

Transit operators

School bus operators

Delivery drivers

Other

\* If other, describe

\* 44a. If yes to any of the above, describe the program.

**City requires employees to take a Defensive Driving Course that included information about sharing the road with cyclists. The course was developed by the National Safety Council.**

\* 45. Describe any efforts your community has made to ensure your education programs reach traditionally underserved populations.

**There is a collaborative group of government agencies, health professionals, schools, and local non-profits that collaborate to put on the "Walk Smart, Bike Smart" display in September of each year at the Harrisonburg International Festival. In past years, we have included bicycle helmet giveaways and fittings, bicycle safety quizzes for bicyclists and motorists, and red flashing safety strobe lights. Notably, the bicycle safety quizzes are translated into Spanish. Over 6,000 people attend this event.**

**www.harrisonburg-international-festival.org \* Since 2007, the Harrisonburg-Rockingham Metropolitan Planning Organization (HRMPO)'s Bicycle & Pedestrian Education Committee has funded radio PSAs on several local radio stations throughout the year. In 2009, when a new Spanish-speaking radio station began airing in the community (La Grand), the committee put some of its funding towards placing radio PSAs on this station in addition to the other English speaking stations. However, in 2010 this radio station was taken off the air. \* There is a Spanish-version of the "Sharing the Road in Virginia" pocket guide that is being distributed where we find opportunities. \* A group of community organizers called "Transportation for the Public" have assisted the City in identifying information needs for non-English speaking populations and how to better convey this information. \* We recognize that more needs to be done in our community to reach our under-served populations.**

\* 46. Are there other education efforts in your community to promote bicycling?

Yes

No

\* 46a. If yes, describe

**The City of Harrisonburg in collaboration with the HRMPO, the Central Shenandoah Valley Planning District Commission, City Transportation Safety Commission, and James Madison University has initiated the "Bike Like Ike Campaign." A soft launch on the website began in 2009, [www.bikethevalley.org](http://www.bikethevalley.org), and inclusion of information on JMU's PottyMouth fliers and table tents at JMU's dining tables was started in Spring 2009. A larger launch including fliers and public transit bus ads has taken place over the last year. \* The Harrisonburg Fire Department and Safe Kids of the Central Shenandoah Valley teaches bicycle and pedestrian safety to all third grade classrooms as part of the Risk Watch Program. \* A cycling course is taught in middle and high school physical education classes. \* In 2007, Safe Kids received a grant and gave out 4,000 bicycle helmets to all children in city schools. Additional helmets have been purchased by Safe Kids and the Harrisonburg-Rockingham MPO since then. Safe Kids continues to give out helmets to people who stop by their office. Since 2008, Safe Kids have given helmets to each child receiving a bicycle for Christmas from the Salvation Army Toy Drive (approximately 100 helmets each year). \* Safe Kids also hosts a Summer Safety Tour that travels to low-income housing neighborhoods to talk with families about safety. Bicycle, pedestrian, and vehicular safety are included in the program. This program has been going on for about 5 years and has been very successful as the program is being taken to the people rather than requiring people to travel elsewhere.**

## Encouragement

\* 47. How do you promote [National Bike Month](#)?

City Proclamation

Community Ride

Mayor-led Ride

Public Service Announcements

Publish a guide to Bike Month Events

Bike Month Web site

Commuter Challenge

Commuter Breakfasts

Trail construction or maintenance day

Other

No promotion

\* If other, describe

**There was a Bike to Work Day web site created for May 2010, which published information about Bike to Work Day events, promotions, and cataloged team (workplace participant) information. <http://www.hburgbike2work.org/>**

\* 48. How many people participate in [Bike Month](#) events?

75

\* 49. How do you promote bicycling outside of [National Bike Month](#)?

Community Ride

Mayor-led Ride

Public Service Announcements

Trail construction or maintenance day

[Summer Streets/Ciclovia/Sunday Parkways](#)

**Commuter Challenge**

**Commuter Breakfasts**

**Other**

**No promotion**

\* If other, describe

**The Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission (CSPDC) in conjunction with its RideShare program offers a Guaranteed Ride Home Program that people who commute to work by bicycle may also take advantage of. [www.rideshareinfo.org](http://www.rideshareinfo.org)**

\* 50. Do you actively promote Bike to Work Day or other bicycle commuting incentive programs?

**Yes**

**No**

\* 50a. If yes, describe

**Local community groups partnered to promote Bike to Work Day 2010, <http://www.hburgbike2work.org/>, and are gearing up for 2011. \* The Guaranteed Ride Home Program continues to be promoted.**

\* 50b. Approximately what percentage of the community workforce do you reach?

**Not Applicable**

\* 51. List the signature cycling events in your community?

**\* Shenandoah Valley Bicycle Festival, <http://www.ourcommunityplace.org/bikefest/> \* Bike Shenandoah, <http://www.bikeshenandoah.org/> \* Shenandoah Valley Century, <http://www.svbcoalition.org/events/century/> \* Shenandoah Mountain 100, [http://www.mtntouring.com/mountain/htm/home/page\\_home.htm](http://www.mtntouring.com/mountain/htm/home/page_home.htm) \* Massanutten Hoo Ha, [http://go.imba.com/site/TR/Volunteerfundraiser/TeamIMBA?fr\\_id=1200&pg=entry](http://go.imba.com/site/TR/Volunteerfundraiser/TeamIMBA?fr_id=1200&pg=entry) \* Fall Foliage Festival, <http://www.shenandoahbike.org/>**

\* 52. Does the municipality sponsor or actively support any of these rides?

**Yes**

**No**

\* 52a. If yes, how?

**The City's Tourism Department actively promotes and supports these rides.**

\* 53. Does your local tourism board promote bicycling in your area?

**Yes**

**No**

\* 53a. If yes, how?

**The Harrisonburg Tourism Office promotes bicycling in Harrisonburg in a variety of ways. The Tourism Office launched a new webpage that provides visitors with a comprehensive look at area trails, sites, and services for all bicycling enthusiasts. <http://www.harrisonburgtourism.com/v.php?pg=44> \* The Tourism Office also includes an outdoor article highlighting Rocktown Trails in the Visitors Guide. Tourism markets Harrisonburg in Recreation News and Parkway publications among others. The Visitor Center provides a complete collection of bicycling opportunities in Harrisonburg with a kiosk dedicated to outdoor adventure including city, county, and mountain biking trails. All bicycling events held in Harrisonburg and in the surrounding region are promoted on Tourism's online event calendar. The Tourism office recruits big bicycling events that will boost the local economy. Past events have included 2005 and 2010 Bike Virginia; 2006, 2007 Tour of Shenandoah; and 2008 Tour of Virginia. The 2010 Bike Virginia event brought 3,000 bicyclists to the City and downtown Harrisonburg. The Tourism office also works with local bicycle clubs and shops to promote their services to visitors via web and print marketing. In 2009, the Tourism office actually brought the show on the road, picked up a bicycle compliments of the Shenandoah Bicycle Company and provided a demo for the day. Visitors traveling into the Commonwealth via Interstate 81 South at the Clearbrook Welcome Center were provided with a wealth of bicycling opportunities in Harrisonburg, VA. \* In November 2010, the Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission in partnership with area Tourism Departments, the Shenandoah Valley Bicycle Coalition, Shenandoah Bicycle Company and others were awarded a grant from the Virginia Tourism Corporation for the "Bike the Valley" marketing campaign designed to promote the Shenandoah Valley as a key bicycle tourism destination in Virginia. Funding will be used to design, produce, and distribute promotional materials, place print advertising, etc.**

\* 54. Are there cycling organizations in your area?

**Recreational Bike Clubs**

**Mountain Bike Clubs**

**Friends of the Trail Groups**

**National Mountain Bike Patrol**

**Racing Clubs or Teams**

**Bicycle Co-ops**

**Other**

**None**

\* If other, describe.

**Other: James Madison University's Cycle Share program, initiated by university students in partnership with the university and a local bicycle shop, <http://www.jmu.edu/stewardship/bikeshare.shtml> \* New Community Project is a non-profit that takes an**

**active role in bicycle advocacy in our community among other missions. NCP also created the Everyday Bikes Program which provides refurbished bikes to community members, <http://everydaybikes.blogspot.com/>.**

\* 54a. For each type of club checked, list names of the organizations.

**\*Recreational - Shenandoah Valley Bicycle Coalition \* Mountain - Shenandoah Valley Bicycle Coalition \* Friends of the Trails Groups - Shenandoah Valley Bicycle Coalition \* Racing Clubs - USCS Club \***

\* 55. How many [specialty bicycle retailers](#) ( i.e shops dedicated primarily to selling bikes and bike-related equipment) are there in your community?

3

\* 55a. List their names.

**Shenandoah Bicycle Company, Mark's Bike Shop, East Coast Bicycle Academy**

\* 56. Which of these bicycling areas or facilities do you have in your community?

- BMX track**
- Velodrome**
- Cyclocross course**
- Mountain bike park**
- Pump Tracks**
- Other**
- None**

\* If other, describe.

\* 57. Is there a skatepark in your community?

- Yes**
- No**

\* 57a. If yes, do bikes have access to the skatepark?

- Always**
- Sometimes**
- Never**

\* 58. Are there opportunities to rent bicycles in your community?

- Yes**
- No**

\* 59. Does your community have a bike sharing program?

- Yes**
- No**

59a. If yes, of what use is it?

- Public use**
- Private institution**
- Other**

\* If other, describe

**James Madison University's Cycle Share program, initiated by university students in partnership with the university and a local bicycle shop, <http://www.jmu.edu/stewardship/bikeshare.shtml>**

\* 60. Do you have any current [Bicycle Friendly Businesses](#) in your community?

- Yes**
- No**

\* 60a. If yes, list the names of the businesses.

\* 61. Does your community have youth recreation and/or intervention programs centered around bicycling?

- [Recycle a Bicycle](#)
- [Trips for Kids chapter](#)
- [Earn a Bike program](#)
- Co-op or Community Cycling Center**
- Other**

None

\* If other, describe

**Free mountain bike class offered through the Parks & Recreation Department.**

\* 62. What mapping and route finding information is available for your community which has been updated in the last 18 months?

Online route finding service

Online map

Printed on-road bike-routes map

Printed mountain bike trails map

Other

None available

\* If other, describe

\* 63. Does your community have other programs or policies to encourage cycling?

Yes

No

\* 63a. If yes, describe

**New Community Project, Shenandoah Valley Bicycle Coalition, and the Voluntary Gas Tax Group partnered together to create the One Mile Challenge, <http://onemilechallenge.org/>. The One Mile Challenge is a pledge system that encourages people to get out of their cars, and onto their bikes, legs, bus or some other form of sustainable transportation for trips that are within 1 to 2 miles. The Challenge is part of a greater effort to acknowledge the potential we have to respond constructively to climate change through small every day acts. We hope to decrease our dependency on cars and fossil fuels, build peace and community, and make bicycle and pedestrian travel empowering, accessible, safe, and fun for all." \* New Community Project and Our Community Place also created the Everyday Bikes Program, <http://everydaybikes.blogspot.com/>. This program promotes commuter biking for the Harrisonburg community. The project helps people with low or no income get bicycles to use as inexpensive, reliable, and pollution-free transportation.**

## Enforcement

\* 64. How does your police department interact with the local cycling community?

A police officer is an active member of bicycle advisory committee

Identified law-enforcement point person to interact with cyclists

No current formal interaction

Other

\* If other, describe

**We had active participation from the Police Department in the Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan Advisory Committee in 2009-2010. There is also active police department participation in the City's Transportation Safety & Advisory Commission to which the Bicycle & Pedestrian Subcommittee reports to.**

\* 65. What kind of training is offered to police officers regarding traffic law as it applies to bicyclists?

Basic academy training

[International Police Mountain Bike Association](#) or Law Enforcement Bicycle Association training

[National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Law Enforcement Training](#)

Completion of [Smart Cycling course](#) by Police

Presentation by League Cycling Instructor or local cyclist

Institute for Police Training and Development bicycle training

Other

No training currently offered

\* If other, describe

**VA Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) 40-hour police mountain bike school.**

\* 66. What enforcement campaigns are targeted at improving cyclist safety?

Helmet/light giveaways

Targeting motorist infractions

Targeting cyclist infractions

Share the road campaigns

Other

None of the above

\* If other, describe

**Promoting Bicycle and Pedestrian Awareness Week, giving out and fitting bike helmets and being available at Harrison Plaza with giveaways and to answer questions at this time. The Police department also participated in the International Festival's Walk Smart, Bike Smart display area. The Police department also co-sponsors community bike rodeos.**

\* 67. Do you have police department employees on bikes?

Yes

No

\* 67a. If yes, what percentage of police department employees is on bike?

10

\* 68. Are there any other public safety (e.g. fire department or EMS) employees on bikes?

Yes

No

\* 68a. If yes, what percentage of safety department employees is on bike?

\* 69. Do your local ordinances treat bicyclists [equitably](#)? (examples can be found on the [BFC resources page](#)).

There are specific penalties for failing to yield to a cyclist when turning. It is illegal to park or drive in a bike lane (intersections excepted)

There are penalties for motor vehicle users that 'door' cyclists

There is a ban on cell phone use while driving.

There is a ban on texting while driving.

The community uses photo enforcement for red lights and/or speed

There is a state or local law that requires cyclists to use sidepaths regardless of their usability.

There is a state or local law that requires cyclists to use bike lanes where they are provided.

Cyclists are required to ride as far to the right of the road as practicable without exceptions listed in [Uniform Vehicle Code](#).

There is a general restriction on bicyclists riding on the sidewalk.

There are local or school policies that restrict youths from riding to school.

None of the above

Additional information on any of the above mentioned ordinances as it pertains to your community.

\* If Additional Information, describe

\* 70. Are there any additional prohibitions or restrictions on cyclists in your community?

Yes

No

\* 70a. If yes, describe

\* 71. Does your community have other programs or policies to enforce safe cycling?

Yes

No

\* 71a. If yes, describe

## Evaluation and Planning

\* 72. What is the most current journey-to-work data for your community? (this percentage can be found in the [U.S. Census or the American Community Survey](#))

1

\* 73. What additional information do you have on bicycle use for your community?

**We believe that the journey-to-work data for our community currently available from the US Census is not accurate. It is reported that our population is 18,000 and that the percentage for journey-to-work is 1.22%. However, our most recent (2009) population estimates is 45,616. At 1% that estimates that only 450 people ride their bike to work, which we believe is a low number for our community. Unfortunately, we do not have any data collected on bicycle use in our community, but will be exploring the National Bicycle and Pedestrian Documentation Project.**

\* 74. How many cyclist/motor vehicle fatalities have occurred in your community in the past five years?

0

\* 75. How many cyclist/motor vehicle crashes have occurred in your community in the past five years?

30

\* 76. Do you have a specific plan or program to reduce these numbers?

Yes

No

\* 76a. If yes, provide the link to the plan or describe.

**Our plan is to create more on street bike lanes, install sharrows, and construct more shared use path facilities that are separated from the roadway. We are also continuing with our education programs. [www.harrisonburgva.gov/bikeped](http://www.harrisonburgva.gov/bikeped)**

\* 77. Does your community have a bicycle plan?

Yes

No

\* 77a. When was it passed or most recently updated?

2010

\* 77b. Is there a dedicated funding source for implementation?

Yes

No

\* 77c. If yes, describe.

**Since 2005, \$30,000 to \$40,000 has been allocated each budget year into a City Capital Improvement Fund for Bicycle Facilities. Funds not used in one year is rolled over into the next year.**

\* 77d. What percentage of the plan has been implemented?

25%

\* 77e. Are you meeting annual target goals for implementation?

Yes

No

\* 77f. Provide a link to the plan or describe.

**<http://www.harrisonburgva.gov/bikeped>**

\* 78. Do you have a trails master plan that addresses mountain bike access?

Yes

No

\* 78a. If yes, provide the link to the plan or describe.

**Rocktown Trails at Hillendale Park is a mountain bike trail within a city park managed by the Department of Parks & Recreation and Shenandoah Valley Bicycle Coalition, <http://www.ci.harrisonburg.va.us/index.php?id=1105> \* The Shenandoah Valley Bicycle Coalition also has a trails master plan for at Massanutten Four Season Resort, which is not located within the City of Harrisonburg but is 8 miles outside of city limits. \* The George Washington National Forest also has a trails master plan that addresses mountain bike access that SVBC had participated in the process of developing.**

\* 79. Is there [formal cooperation](#) between the mountain biking community and the community recreation and planning staff?

Yes

No

\* 79a. If yes, describe.

**Shenandoah Valley Bicycle Coalition members and volunteers have cooperated and continue to meet with City Parks & Recreation Department staff (as needed) concerning Rocktown Trails in Hillendale Park which is currently a 4-mile mountain bike facility with pump track.**

\* 80. Do you have [trip reduction ordinances, policies or programs](#)?

Yes

No

\* 80a. If yes, describe.

\* 81. Have you done an [economic impact study](#) on bicycling in your community?

Yes

No

\* 81a. If yes, describe.

\* 82. Do you have a mechanism to ensure facilities, programs and encouragement efforts are implemented in traditionally underserved communities?

Yes

No

\* 82a. If yes, describe.

\* 83. Does your community have other programs or policies to evaluate and/or plan bicycling conditions, programs, and facilities in your community?

Yes



No

\* 83a. If yes, describe.

**The Bicycle & Pedestrian Subcommittee serves as an opportunity for city staff to receive citizen feedback on conditions of existing facilities and locations of needed facilities and programs. Subcommittee members, staff, and other participating citizens also collaborate to implement projects and to update the Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan as necessary.**

### [Final Overview](#)

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

\* 84a.

**Proactive cycling Community - The central Shenandoah Valley is a haven for both on and off road cyclists. Hundreds of miles of meandering country roads and twisting single track can be found within minutes of our city. Harrisonburg is at the geographic center and its citizens have been instrumental in nurturing a cycling friendly culture. Through the Shenandoah Valley Bicycle Coalition advocacy efforts have succeeded in establishing close working relationships with the forest service, private land owners and city staff. Over the past three decades our cycling community has been proactive on countless fronts promoting the bicycle for recreation and transportation.**

\* 84b.

**Physical Change - Positive working relationships between city staff and committed citizens have been the catalyst for tangible improvements in the cycling infrastructure. Recent additions of bike lanes, sharrows, and shared use paths underscore the City's commitment to recognize the bicycle as an integral part of its transportation network. The City understands the benefit of a well implemented bicycle plan as the population of the city and both the universities within its limits have grown. Through its most recent actions the City of Harrisonburg has affirmed its commitment to providing a safe way for all of its citizens to navigate the streets by bike.**

\* 84c.

**The Future - The newest city bicycle plan, adopted by City Council in 2010, is far superior to previous documents in its scope and goals. In a creative and unprecedented gesture members of city staff have accepted an invitation from community bicycling advocates for an all expense paid trip to Davis, California in March 2010. The goal of the trip was to witness first hand what a premier cycling community looks like. The willingness of staff, Planning Commission and City Council members to take time from their schedules to attend this trip highlights their commitment to making positive changes for cyclists in the community. This trip was funded 100% by citizen groups and no City government funds were utilized.**

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

\* 85a.

**Funding - The #1 limitation that faces the city is the lack of significant dollars appropriated for the implementation of the current bicycle plan. The \$30,000 budgeted annually, not including capital projects, by the city is not nearly enough cash to pay for the pavement, paint and signage needed for a safe and effective bicycling infrastructure. There is also limited funding currently appropriated for long-term maintenance for facilities. Further, citizens have expressed the need for a full time bicycle (and pedestrian) coordinator on city staff. Although some effort has been made to assign projects in the bike plan as capital improvement projects; there are currently only 7 bike lane/shared use path projects included in the CIP, 3 of which are major road improvement projects.**

\* 85b.

**Education - Harrisonburg and its cycling community would benefit greatly by having a local League Cycling Instructor. Efforts by cycling advocates in the community have been concentrated on making physical improvements by pushing for pavement, paint and signage; education has taken a back seat. Much needs to be done to inform local motorists and cyclists on how to safely share city streets. Although there are annual bike rodeos that target children no formal training for adult citizens has been organized.**

\* 85c.

**Partnerships - We recognize that establishing working relationships with the largest employers and land owners in town is imperative. Namely James Madison University, Eastern Mennonite University and Rockingham Memorial Hospital can all benefit from a well integrated cycling network. Currently members from some of the above institutions participate the Bicycle Advisory Subcommittee; however more needs to be done within each institution to support and promote a bicycling culture.**

\* 86. Are you planning any new projects based on your completion of the Bicycle Friendly Community application?

Yes

No

\* 86a. If yes, describe.

**\* Improving education and outreach to our community, with focus on the underserved. \* Shenandoah Valley Bicycle Coalition's Advocacy Committee will continue discussions about sponsoring a member to become a certified League Cycling Instructor and work with the City and other groups to host Traffic 101, Cycling Skills classes, and Commuter classes. \***

\* 87. Has completing this application made you more aware of what your community needs to do to be bicycle friendly?

Yes

No

\* 87a. If yes, describe.

**As noted in answer 86a. and in last year's application we have continued planning new projects based on the completion of the application. We have also noted gaps that we had not previously recognized which we can continue work to fill. It is also our hope that sharing the answers collected for this application with members of the community will also help generate more awareness and collaboration between individuals and groups that share the interest of creating a bicycle friendly community.**