

**APPENDIX M**  
**BICYCLE FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES APPLICATION**



# LEAGUE OF AMERICAN BICYCLISTS



Bicycle Friendly Community Application

## Name of Community

\* Name of Community  
**Reno-Sparks Washoe County**

\* State  
 **Nevada**

\* Mayor or top elected official  
**Reno-Mayor Bob Cashell, Sparks-Geno Martini, Washoe County Commissioner John Breternitz (Chairman)**

\* Phone  
**Reno - (775) 334-2001 Sparks - (775) 353-2311 Washoe County - (775) 328-2005**

\* Email  
**Reno - cashellr@reno.gov Sparks - gmartin@cityofsparks.us Washoe County - jbreternitz@washoecounty.u**

\* Address  
**PO Box 1900, Reno, NV 89505 | 431 Prater Way, Sparks, NV 89431 | 1001 E. 9 St, Bdg A, Reno, NV 89512**

\* Website  
**www.reno.gov/index.aspx?page=108, http://cityofsparks.us, www.co.washoe.nv.us/bcc/bios.html**

## Applicant Profile

\* Applicant Name  
**Marchon Miller**

\* Title  
**Project Manager**

\* Employer  
**Washoe County Regional Transportation Commission (RTC)**

\* Address  
**1105 Terminal Way**

\* City  
**Reno**

\* State

**Nevada**

\* Zip  
**89502**

\* Phone  
**(775) 335-1867**

\* Email  
**mmiller@rtcwashoe.com**

## 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  
**421407**

3. Square milage of community

\* Total area  
**6551**

\* Water area  
**209**

\* Land area  
**6342**

\* 4. Population Density  
**2657.8**

5. Climate

- \* Average temperature for January  
**45**
- \* Average temperature for April  
**64**
- \* Average temperature for July  
**91**
- \* Average temperature for October  
**70**
- \* Average precipitation for January  
**1.06**
- \* Average precipitation for April  
**0.35**
- \* Average precipitation for July  
**0.24**
- \* Average precipitation for October  
**.42**

\* 6. Median Household Income  
**53036**

7. Age distribution

- \* % under 5  
**7.3**
- \* % age 6-17  
**17.1**
- \* % age 18-64  
**63.4**
- \* % age 65+  
**12.2**
- \* Totals  
**100**

8. Race

- \* % White  
**76.9**
- \* % Black or African American  
**2.3**
- \* % American Indian and Alask Native  
**1.7**
- \* % Asian  
**5.2**
- \* % Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander  
**0.6**
- \* % Some other race  
**9.5**
- \* % One race  
**96.2**
- \* % Two or more races  
**3.8**
- \* Totals  
**100**
- \* % Hispanic or Latino (of any race)  
**22.2**

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

**Chris Louis**

\* 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

**(775) 335-1864**

\* Bicycle Program Manager Email

**clouis@rtcwashoe.com**

\* 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?

\* 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?

\* 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

**Several advocacy groups regularly attend the Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee such as the Reno Bike Project, Truckee Meadows Bicycle Alliance, the Nevada Bicycle Coalition, and Reno Metro Bicycle Advisory Group. In addition, the committee invites interested community members such as the community bicycle couriers to the committee to give testimony about bicycling issues/observations.**

\* 14d. Name of Bicycle Advisory Committee Chair

**Debbie Leonard**

\* Email of Bicycle Advisory Committee Chair

**dleonard@mcdonaldcarano.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)

**Nevada Bicycle Coalition Truckee Meadows Bicycle Alliance Reno Bike Project Reno Metro Bicycle Advisory Group Tahoe Pyramid Bikeway**

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

Yes

No

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

**Nevada 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?

**Terry McAfee**

\* 15g. Email of primary contact of advocacy group  
**tmcafee@gmail.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

**The Reno Sparks region is investing in bicycling for several reasons and wants to become as friendly as possible to encourage people of all ages, abilities, and means to bicycle. Improved conditions for bicyclists will create a pleasant, thriving, healthy, and sustainable community that meets the needs of all of its citizens in an environmentally sensitive manner. Investments in bicycling are aimed at improving the quality of life for people in the region by encouraging an active lifestyle and reducing automobile traffic and its associated noise, pollution, congestion, and reliance on foreign oil. In addition, the area has been promoting active lifestyles and active recreational opportunities. For the last several years the tourism authority has been promoting the area as Americas Adventure Place. People have been visiting the region and moving to the region to take advantage of outdoor opportunities including bicycling.**

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

**In 2010, the City of Reno, City of Sparks, and Washoe County added 28.7 miles of bikeways to their network in the form of sharrows, bicycle lanes, widened shoulders, shared-use paths, and cycletracks. In 2009, the region added 13.2 miles of bikeways to their network for a combined total of 41.9 new bikeway miles over the past two years. The region also invested over \$250,000 in the Reno Sparks Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan, which sets forth a blueprint for a system of bikeways and bicycling programs in the Reno, Sparks Washoe County area.**

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

**Several roadways including Wells Avenue, Holcomb Avenue, California Avenue, Arlington Avenue, Mayberry Drive, and 1st Street have been or are in the process of being converted from four vehicle lanes to three vehicle lanes with bicycle lanes. Approximately 20 miles of new bicycle facilities are planned as part of routine maintenance projects in 2011. Bike facilities are also being planned for all of the major roadway construction projects in the region including the Southeast Connector project and Pyramid Highway project.**

## Engineering

19. Does your community have

a [complete streets policy](#)?

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

Neither

19a. When was it adopted

2011

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

**Policy CC1.1 of the Sparks Comprehensive Plan states that the City will adopt the principles of Complete Streets which includes such improvements as sidewalks, bike lanes, wide shoulders, plenty of crossing opportunities, refuge medians, bus shelters, possible special bus lanes, raised cross walks, audible pedestrian signals, sidewalks bulbouts, effective/efficient lighting, and aesthetic elements (landscaping, public art, etc.). Further policies specify that bicycle and pedestrian facilities will**

be integrated into transportation planning; the City will adopt revised street standards that incorporate Complete Streets principles; the City will require the dedication of right-of-way necessary for improvements to implement multi-modal transportation system improvements; and the City will require that proposed roadway improvement designs be reviewed to ensure compliance with Complete Streets standards. Towards the implementation of complete streets, the Reno Master Plan specifies that autos, transit, bicycles, commercial trucks, and pedestrians each place varied and sometimes conflicting demands on a street system. Street space should be allocated among these uses in conformance with the following goals: balance the needs of commuter traffic with the goal of providing safe, efficient, and attractive roadways; protect neighborhoods by slowing traffic and discouraging through traffic; create bicycle and pedestrian friendly environments; ensure adequate capacity for transit; and encourage the use of transit, car or van pools, bicycling, walking, and other forms of alternative transportation.

19c. How was it adopted?

- Legislation
- Resolution
- Internal Policy
- Other

If other, describe

**Both the Sparks Comprehensive Plan and Reno Master Plan are legislative planning documents.**

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

- Implementation Guidance
- Design
- Manual
- Training
- Other

If other, describe

**Staff at the City of Reno, City of Sparks, and Washoe County are trained on the principles of bikeway design and implementation. Specific design guidance comes from the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD). Additionally, several departments review roadway project designs to ensure that bikeways are implemented appropriately.**

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 addition to the guidance provided by the FHWA Guide for the Development of Bicycle Facilities and the MUTCD, the Reno Sparks Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan includes a Bicycle and Pedestrian Design Manual that is used by several local departments. Engineers and planners receive training on best practices and agencies prefer consultants to have bike/ped qualifications. In addition, agency staff attend the annual Nevada Bike/Walk Conference, which focuses on bicycle and pedestrian facility planning, design, and implementation. The conference is developed by the Nevada Department of Transportation multi-modal division.**

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

65

21a. What are the exceptions?

**Bridges and underpasses were considered accessible to bicyclists if they had a bike lane, a wide shoulder or outside lane (approximately 17 feet or more), or had a low enough speed limit (25 MPH) that most bicyclists would be comfortable taking the lane. Inaccessible bridges and underpasses occur on local roads at each of the following major barriers to bicyclists in the region: Interstate 80, US Route 395, the Union Pacific Railroad, and the Truckee River. In most cases, inaccessible crossings are located near accessible crossings such that bicyclists can alter their route accordingly.**

\* 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

**The City of Renos Land Development Code, Table 18.12-11: Bicycle Parking Requirements, includes standards for the minimum number of bicycle spaces for different types of land use (multi-family, hotels/motels, single room occupancies, schools/colleges/universities, commercial/retail/manufacturing uses, and recreation uses). The area design manual provides guidance for bicycle parking design in accordance with APBP guidelines.**

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

23a. Bike racks

500

23b. Bike lockers

50

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

0

23d. In-street bike parking

1

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

24a. Schools

76-90%

24b. Libraries

61-75%

24c. Transit Stations

less than 15%

24d. Parks & Recreation Centers

61-75%

24e. Government buildings

61-75%

24f. Office buildings

16-30%

24g. Shops

16-30%

24h. Public Housing

16-30%

\* 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

**All RTC RAPID (Virginia Street Bus Rapid Transit), RTC RIDE (intracity bus service), and RTC INTERCITY (commuter service to Carson City) buses have bike racks. Racks accommodate either two or three bicycles; two-bicycle racks are being phased out in favor of three-bicycle racks. RTC RAPID buses have bike racks inside the buses, while others have racks on the front of the bus. The only buses that do not have bike racks are the RTC SIERRA SPIRIT (free downtown Reno circulator); because of the short route serviced by these buses, most bicyclists prefer to bicycle to their destination instead of ride the bus.**

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

1430

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

58

28. List your current and planned bicycle accommodations?

a. [Bike lanes](#)

Current Miles

149

Planned Miles

152

b. [Shared lane markings](#)

Current Miles

1

Planned Miles

30

c. [Bike boulevards](#)

Current Miles

1

Planned Miles

5

d. Signed bike routes

Current Miles

14

Planned Miles

11

e. Paved shared use paths

Current Miles

58

Planned Miles

22

f. Natural surface shared use paths

Current Miles

32

Planned Miles

15

g. [Singletrack](#)

Current Miles

96

Planned Miles

0

\* 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 thru



[Way-finding signage with distance and/or time information](#)



None



Other

If other, describe

**7.5 miles of bike lanes have been implemented via road diets. In the City of Sparks, this includes 0.6 miles of Victorian Avenue. In the City of Reno, this includes 1.7 miles of Arlington Avenue, 1.4 miles of California Avenue, 1.1 miles of Holcomb Avenue, and 2.7 miles of Mill Street. The City of Reno and Washoe County have both implemented narrow vehicle lanes on roadways to create a wider shoulder for bicyclists or bike lanes. This includes 1.7 miles of Dandini Boulevard and 1.6 miles of West 7th Street.**

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

46

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

74

31a. What are the exceptions?

**Most natural surface trails and singletrack are open for bicyclists. Many are only open on a seasonal basis due to erosion control and the presence of special-status species. Trails that are closed year-round to bicyclists are generally busy with hikers or horses, have special-status species, or are in a special management area (for example, the Mount Rose Wilderness is a protected area under the jurisdiction of the National Forest Service).**

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

**Bike lanes and shoulders are swept at the same time as the other travel lanes, once per month. Reno has one extra street sweeper**



available on rotation for any incidents that may require special attention. Reno adds extra sweepers in the winter to ensure bike lane cleanliness and to improve air quality.

\* 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

**Reno has a direct call center where pothole complaints can be reported. Pothole crews are out every day responding to requests; requests are filled within one business day.**

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

**Bike lane stripes are refreshed two times per year; streets are prioritized based on vehicle traffic volume since it causes the most decay to roadway paint. The City of Reno, City of Sparks, and Washoe County maintenance departments work together to share paint when one jurisdiction is in short supply. This ensures that bike lane striping is adequately maintained throughout the region regardless of local supply shortages.**

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

**Regular sweeping of the paths is not necessary given the dry climate and the type of vegetation found along the paths; however, Reno and Sparks Parks Maintenance will send crews to sweep locations as necessary.**

\* 33b. Vegetation maintenance

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

If other, describe

**Regular vegetation maintenance of the paths is not necessary given the dry climate and the type of vegetation found along the paths.**

\* 33c. Snow clearance

- Before roadways
- Same time as roadways
- Within 48 hours of storm

- Never
- Other
- Not applicable

If other, describe

**Reno Parks Maintenance has two four-wheel drive all-terrain vehicles with plows that they use specifically for plowing the paths. Bike paths are plowed at the same time as roadways.**

\* 33d. Surface repair

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

If other, describe

**The City of Reno rarely receives requests for surface repair on its bike paths; however, has rehabilitated pavement on key sections of the path in recent years.**

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

**Reno has spent over \$35,000 over the past few years to rehabilitate the pavement on key sections of paths. Additionally, Reno won a grant to perform noxious weed removal along the paths.**

\* 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)  
20
- b. Middle School (percentage)  
20
- c. High School (percentage)  
0

\* 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

Through the Reno Sparks Kiwanis Bike Program, between 10 and 15 Bike Rodeos are offered each year at various events throughout the region. Typical events include the Tune in to Kids Fair, Make a Difference Day in Reno, and events through the Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northern Nevada. The Bike Rodeos reach up to 2,500 kids each year. The Reno Sparks Kiwanis Bike Program also volunteers through the Washoe County School District Safe Routes to School program. Bicycle education takes place at three area middle schools through an 18-week program. The Safe Kids Washoe County offers a Read to Walk N Roll Summer Camp for six weeks each summer. The program teaches kids the basics of safe bicycling and walking, takes them on rides and field trips, and even shows them how to use the bike rack on a bus. Participating kids have the opportunity to earn a bike, bike lock, helmet, and backpack. Through Safe Kids Washoe County and the Kiwanis Bike Program, free helmets and helmet fittings are available to children at the Kiwanis Bike Program bike shop and showroom. Members of the Reno Police Department give bicycling and walking safety assemblies to local schools throughout the year, upon request. The RTC distributes Lets Go! activity books to children that educate them on the benefits of alternate transportation including bicycling along with safe bicycling practices such as wearing helmets and using hand signals. The books are written in both English and Spanish. The OTS distributes separate pocket guides designed for children and adults. The guides discuss Nevada laws pertaining to bicyclists and how to ride safely. They are distributed throughout the year through bicycle shops and at public events.

\* 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

Share the Road signs are periodically displayed on the backs of RTC buses helping to spread the share the road message . The RTC, the Reno Police Department, and local advocacy groups hand out educational pamphlets to bicyclists and motorists. City and County engineering departments and local police departments have coordinated to write share the road articles for the Reno Gazette; a special news release was developed for Bike to Work Week. Various websites by local organizations emphasize the importance of safety by all road users including: Truckee Meadows Bicycle Alliance - [www.bikenevada.org](http://www.bikenevada.org); City of Reno - <http://www.reno.gov/Index.aspx?page=2027>; the RTC - <http://www.rtcwashoe.com/public-transportation-22-124.html>.

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

**Traffic Skills 101 classes are usually available two times per year. Local LCIs offer the classes per request to groups.**

\* 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

**Throughout April and May, the Truckee Meadows Bicycle Alliance offers Confident City Cycling clinics aimed at improving commuter skills. Each clinic lasts approximately an hour and a half. Topics covered included preparing to commute to work (items needed, route planning, plus how to perform an ABC Quick Check), safely sharing the road, a video on safety by the League of American Bicyclists, and emergency road repairs. Over 100 people participated in this years clinics. The most popular clinics were held at the University of Nevada, Reno and REI.**

\* 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?

4

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

**Melissa Krall Dan Allison Tim Rowe Bianca Montenaudo**

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.

**All RTC bus drivers watch a video educating them on bicyclist needs.**

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

**Educational information is produced in both English and Spanish to reach all types of communities. The Reno Bike Project offers free women-only wrenching classes.**

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

Yes

No

\* 46a. If yes, describe

**Bicycle educational material is taken to events year round, with the primary outreach occurring from March through May, as a part of Bike to Work Week promotion. The RTC provides booths at many community events and distributes materials that educate the public on safe bicycling. RTC staff and other members of the Truckee Meadows Bicycle Alliance attend interviews with local news crews to promote cycling and discuss bicycle safety. RTC SMART TRIPS, the travel demand management program administered by the RTC, includes an on-line trip matching service that makes it quick, easy and convenient for people to look for Bike Buddies along with carpool partners and walking companions. Through the service, new riders can connect with experienced cyclists to gather route suggestions and general support. Experienced cyclists can find new friends to ride with and the opportunity to mentor**

inexperienced riders. Approximately 19% of the registered users of the website have signed up for Bike Buddy Matching. Everyone who indicates an interest in bicycling is mailed a packet of information promoting cycling and how to do it safely. The website also includes a Commute Calendar that allows users to record trips made by all travel modes throughout the year and see running totals of the money they are saving, the pollutants they are reducing, and calories they are burning when active forms of transportation such as bicycling are used. Periodic prize drawings encourage taking and recording bicycle trips. The Kiwanis Bike Program also offers bicycle repair clinics on an ongoing basis throughout the year. The clinics teach everything from basic repairs through bike building. Participants can earn a bike through the donation of time to the Kiwanis Bike Program.

## 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

**Bike month is promoted most heavily during Bike to Work Week. The Washoe County Health District hosts a web page for the Truckee Meadows Bicycle Alliance that encourages safe cycling and is the registration tool for Bike to Work Week. The website includes Commuter Challenge information and business registration. Additionally, the website contains information about Bike to School Week and is its registration mechanism. Students from 20 local elementary, middle, and high schools registered in 2011. Bike to Work Week is also promoted via bilingual posters (produced by a local artist), t-shirts, bus tail advertisements, radio ads, TV ads, press releases, blast e-mails, target mailings to area employers, booths at events, and reflective leg band and flashing light giveaways. Local news channels also interview agency staff. Incentives to register and bicycle to work during the campaign include: free bicycle safety checks at participating bike shops, 10% discount coupon on commuter items at participating bike shops, free coffee on Bike to Work Day at participating coffee shops, ten \$50 prize certificates and one \$500 prize certificate for merchandise from participating bike shops. Through the Commuter Challenge, businesses register and compete to have the highest bicycle mode share. Participating businesses are sent information on how to promote the event and cycle safely. Winning businesses receive the bus tail ads which are converted to function as celebration plaques. There is also a prize drawing among the business that register for the Commuter Challenge with one business winning up to \$500 to promote cycling year round. Some City Council members in Reno and Sparks, and Commissioners in Washoe County, host politician-lead rides. One County Commissioner even set up a temporary shower and changing space for commuters to the County buildings. As a part of Bike to Work Month, the Reno Bike Project hosts an annual bike swap at the West Street Market. Over 1,100 people attended this years swap. On Bike to Work Day, the Reno Bike Project hosts a Pancake Feed where they serve pancakes, coffee, juice, fruit, bacon, and free t-shirts to all commuters on their way to work or school. Washoe County School District encourages bicycling to school during Bike to Work Week and during Nevada Moves Day which takes place the last Wednesday in April. Nevada Moves Day is unique because the entire state celebrates walking and bicycling to school through its Safe Routes to School Program. Additionally, SRTS celebrates International Walk to School Day each October which encourages bicycling for students in grades K-8.**

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

**1000**

\* 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 Reno Bike Project has events throughout the year that promote bicycling: The We HeArt Bike Fundraising Art Show is a one-night show celebrating the bicycle as not only an amazing form of transportation, recreation, and exercise, but also a platform for artistic expression. The event is held annually in local galleries and includes live music. There were over 100 art pieces last year; the event attracted over 500 people. As an add-on to Renos Hot August Nights classic car event, the Hot August Bikes**

includes a bicycle show and a large group, police-escorted bike cruise through town. The bicycle Show and Shine is held at the Nevada Museum of Art and is an opportunity to show off rare and/or cool bicycles. Last years group ride attracted over 75 participants of all ages. Bikes and Brews events occur at the Reno Bike Project on the last Thursday of each month. The event includes a Fastest Legs in the West Goldsprints competition, with prizes from local businesses. 20 to 30 participants attend each week. The Reno Bike Project hosts a bike valet at large events throughout the region, especially at the Reno is Artown art walk on the first Thursday of each month. The bike valet usually attracts 50 people.

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

Yes

No

\* 50a. If yes, describe

**Specific Bike to Work Day events includes the Reno Bike Project Pancake Feed and the free coffee giveaway to bicycle commuters. In addition to free coffee, the local Whole Foods Market also offers free water and fruit to bicycle commuters throughout Bike to Work Week including Bike to Work Day.**

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

less than 15%

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

**The Tour de Nez An annual professional and amateur bike race in the Reno area; the professional event is regularly on the National Race Calendar (NRC), which includes the countrys top races. The 2011 version features a professional criterium in downtown Reno and other events including handcycles, masters, clunkers, kids, and alleycat race. In 2009, the Tour attracted approximately 15,000 spectators and 350 participants, while generating an estimated \$1.5 million in print media coverage alone. Reno Wheelmen events the Reno Wheelmen were founded in 1896 and past members include Greg LeMond, the first Tour de France champion from the United States. They host several events throughout the year, including the Road Twilight Series that consists of two time trials and two road races throughout the summer months; the Northern California Nevada Cycling Association Time Trial Championships; the Bloody Rose Mountain Bike hillclimb, a mass-start race up 4,000 feet to the Mount Rose ski area; the Mountain Bike Twilight Series, eight races on Wednesday nights throughout the summer; and the Sierra Cup Mountain Bike Series which includes seven events in 2011. Sagebrush Cyclocross Series a cyclocross race series consisting of multiple races in the fall and winter months Edible Pedal 100 A century through Washoe County, Carson City, and Gardnerville that features the Kingsburg Grade. Rest stops feature food and snacks from Nevada farmers and local food artisans.**

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

Yes

No

\* 52a. If yes, how?

**Where necessary, local agencies assist bicycle clubs with permits. Police agencies also assist with road closure and traffic control.**

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

Yes

No

\* 53a. If yes, how?

**The Reno Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority promotes both road cycling and mountain biking. It offers directions, descriptions, difficulty, and distances for popular road rides and the Reno-Carson City trails and Lake Tahoe trails. It also provides information on family-friendly bike paths, bike parks, and bike rentals.**

\* 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.

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

**Recreational/mountain bike/racing clubs: Reno Wheelmen Team Indoor Power University of Nevada-Reno Procrastinating Pedalers Winning Women Tahoe Pyramid Bikeway Bicycle Co-ops: Reno Bike Project**

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

12

\* 55a. List their names.

**Sierra Cyclesmith REI Reno Cycling & Fitness Bicycle Bananas Scheels All Sports College Cyclery Great Basin Bicycles Peloton Bicycles Inc High Sierra Cycling Reno Bike Project Blackrock Bicycles Velo Reno Bicycles**

\* 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.

**Several Reno-area ski resorts open their terrain in the summer time as mountain bike parks. Mountains include: Homewood Mountain, Eagle Mountain, Kirkwood Mountain, Northstar-at-Tahoe, Sargar Pine Point State Park, and the Resort at Squaw Creek. The City of Reno has four skate parks open to bicyclists: Rattlesnake Mountain Skate Park, Idlewild Skate Park, Silver Lake Skate Park, and Panther Valley Skate Park. The City of Sparks has the Burgess Skate Park.**

\* 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

\* 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

**The Reno Bike Project is a community bicycle shop and advocacy group committed to creating a nationally recognized, cycling-friendly through advocacy, education, and cooperation. The Reno Bike Project assists all types of bicyclists to learn how to bike, from low-income and the homeless to college students and doctors. Through the State Bicycle and Pedestrian Program, the Reno Bike Project hosts a helmet giveaway that gave away 240 helmets last year; kids had to show up to the Project and pass a safety quiz to receive their helmet. The Project has a bike shop with rentable public workstations and used parts available at a discount. The Reno Sparks Kiwanis Bike Program gives away over 1,000 bike per year to schools and youth programs; the receiving agencies decide which students should receive the bikes.**

\* 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

**The RTC publishes the Truckee Meadows Bike Map, which includes bike lanes, bike paths, and bike routes in Reno, Sparks, and Washoe County. The maps are available online and are printed on water resistant paper maps that fit easily into a jersey pocket. Additionally, the Reno Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority Web site offers directions, descriptions, difficulty, and distances for popular road rides and the Reno-Carson City trails and Lake Tahoe trails.**

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

- Yes
- No

\* 63a. If yes, describe

**As a fundraiser, the Reno Sparks Kiwanis Bike Program offers Burning Man Bikes for sale before Burning Man in September each year. Bikes cost between \$30-\$50. Many Burning Man attendees keep their bikes after the festival. All funds from sales go back into the Kiwanis Program to offer bikes and bike education in the community. The City of Reno officially promotes green and sustainable lifestyles to reduce its impact on the environment and to improve residents quality of life. Through their Living Green initiative, they promote bicycling as a healthy and sustainable form of 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

**Sergeant Jim Stegmaier is the point person for the Reno Police Department that interacts with local cyclists. He frequently communicates with local activists to understand issues related to enforcement and accidents. Recently, the Reno Police Department began inviting key local bicycling activists from the Nevada Bicycle Coalition and the Reno Bike Project to participate in car vs. bike accident investigations. Local police regularly monitor local newspapers and blogs to proactively address bicycling issues in the community. Reno Police on bikes are responsible for patrols in downtown Reno and regularly communicate with bicyclists. MJ Cloud, the Washoe County School District Safe Routes to School Coordinator is a sworn police officer.**

\* 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

**Traffic detectives received special training for investigating bicycle and pedestrian collisions. This training includes an in-depth course on the re-creation of bicycle and pedestrian collisions so that officers can objectively assess who is at fault for the accident.**

\* 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

**The Reno Police Department regularly performs sting operations targeted at both bicyclists and motorists; they prefer to issue warnings and hand out educational materials but do write tickets when necessary. To accurately track bicycle collisions, the Reno Police Department completes an accident report for every accident regardless of severity. Police officers regularly distribute driver and bicyclist safety literature to all types of roadway users.**

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

Yes

No

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

5

\* 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

**Reno Administrative Code states that whenever a usable path for bicycles has been provided adjacent to a highway, bicycle riders shall use such path and shall not use the highway. Reno Administrative Code prohibits bicycles from riding on the sidewalk in the Central Business District. Outside of the Central Business District, bicyclists on the sidewalk are required to yield the right-of-way to pedestrians. Nevada's governor and legislature approved legislation which will ban cell phone use and texting while driving effective January 1, 2012.**

\* 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?

**Cyclists are allowed to log trip information as part of the Smart Trips program, although not many trips have been logged to date.**

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

5

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

496

\* 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.

**The Reno Sparks Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan includes a thorough review of safety, collision trends, and actions that the region can take to reduce the number of bicyclist vs. vehicle collisions. <http://truckeemeadowsbikepedplan.fehrandpeers.net/documents/>**

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

Yes

No

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

2011

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

Yes

No

\* 77c. If yes, describe.

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

50%

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

Yes

No

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

**<http://truckeemeadowsbikepedplan.fehrandpeers.net/documents/>**

\* 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.

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

Yes

No

\* 79a. If yes, describe.

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

Yes

No

\* 80a. If yes, describe.

**RTC SMART TRIPS is the marketing name for the RTCs trip reduction program. The program offers a free consulting service to local businesses to assist them in encouraging their employees to use alternate modes of travel and trip reductions strategies. RTC SMART TRIPS business partners employ over 25,000 people. Outreach is also conducted directly to individuals throughout the year. The administrator of the program actively promotes bicycling in many ways. She is an active member of the Truckee Meadows Bicycle Alliance (TMBA) which is responsible for the areas promotion of Bike to Work Week. She distributes bicycling information developed by the program (a brochure on safe cycling in low light conditions, a flyer on the legality and safety issues of bicycling on sidewalks, a flyer on how to trigger traffic lights on a bicycle, and an educational piece for employers on the Bicycle Commuter Benefit). She also distributes bicycling information developed by other organizations including the Nevada Bicycle Coalition, the Nevada Office of Traffic Safety, TMBA, and the Nevada State Bicycle and Pedestrian program. The program includes an on-line trip matching service that makes it quick, easy and convenient for people to look for Bike Buddies along with rideshare partners and walking companions. Through the service, new riders can connect with experienced cyclists to gather route suggestions and general support. Experienced cyclists can find new friends to ride with and the opportunity to mentor inexperienced riders. Approximately 19% of the registered users of the website have signed up for Bike Buddy matching. Everyone who indicates an interest in bicycling is mailed a packet of information promoting cycling and how to do it safely. The trip matching website also includes a Commute Calendar that allows users to record trips made by all travel modes throughout the year and see running totals of the money they are saving, the pollutants they are reducing, and calories they are burning when active forms of transportation such as bicycling are used. Periodic prize drawings encourage taking and recording bicycle trips. While there is not a trip reduction ordinance, the RTC has well-established partnerships with the Cities of Reno and Sparks and city officials understand the need for trip reduction programs at large companies that will have a substantial effect on vehicle miles of travel (VMT) and local congestion. As part of the agency's development review process, the RTC sends letters to the appropriate government entity requesting a trip reduction program be included through conditions in their permitting processes when any business in a new development is anticipated to employ 100 or more people. The conditioned businesses sign agreements to develop employee trip reduction programs that have the potential to reduce employee commute auto trips by six percent within three years after conduction a baseline survey. Employers have many different options in creating their plans including monetarily incentivizing bicycling and providing bicycle facilities.**

\* 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.

**The Reno Sparks Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan prioritized projects based on several factors, including latent demand. Latent demand is derived from several proximity-based factors, including proximity to high-density residential areas. Some of the regions most underserved communities occur in high-density residential areas.**

\* 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.

## Final Overview

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

\* 84a.

**The Reno Sparks Washoe County region has an impressive network of bike paths, bike lanes, and bike routes and is committed to expanding the bikeways network. The Truckee River Trail is a world-class bike path that runs through downtown Reno along the beautiful Truckee River. The region has 149 miles of existing bike lanes many of which have been built in the past few years. Additionally, the region has several skate parks that are frequented by bicyclists. Long-time residents have noticed significant change in the popularity of utilitarian and recreational bicycling over the years as a result of improved infrastructure.**

\* 84b.

**The Reno Sparks Washoe County region is home to a vibrant, grass-roots, bicycling culture. Bicycling events occur throughout the year and attract thousands of attendees. Such events include the Bike Swap, Bikes and Brews, Hot August Bikes, and the We HeArt Bikes Fundraising Show. Bike Month, Bike to Work Week, and Bike to Work Day are very popular in Reno and have grown to include community support such as free coffee from coffee shops and the Bike to Work Day Pancake Feed. The region has several signature cycling events that are well supported and attended by members of the community.**

\* 84c.

**The Reno Sparks Washoe County region encourages and educates riders of all ages, especially children, to ride bikes. The Washoe County School District Safe Routes to School program is one of the most successful programs in the country. Each year, bike rodeos teach over 2,000 local kids bicycling safety and how much fun it is to bike. Through the Reno Sparks Kiwanis Bike Program, over 1,000 kids of various income levels receive a bike each year. The agencies in the region promote active lifestyles and bicycling as an important mode of transportation.**

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

\* 85a.

**The Reno Sparks Washoe County region needs to improve system connectivity and bicyclist accessibility at key barriers throughout the region. Completing key, continuous north-south and east-west corridors would improve regional bicycling. Interstate 80, US Route 395, the Union Pacific Railroad, and the Truckee River all present barriers to bicycling in the region. Although 65% of bridges and underpasses are accessible to bicyclists, many of these barrier crossings could be improved to become more comfortable for novice bicyclists.**

\* 85b.

**The Reno Sparks Washoe County region needs to improve bicyclist accommodation at intersections and interchanges. Especially at actuated signalized intersection, improvements such as loop detectors and loop detector markings will make the intersections easier to navigate. Advanced stop bars could improve bicycle visibility and bike boxes may be appropriate in some locations downtown.**

\* 85c.

**Improve local legislation and planning practices. The Reno Sparks Washoe County region could improve its requirements for bicycle parking and for shower/changing space. Additionally, some local laws (such as the path along highway law) for bicycling are outdated and are in need of amendment. The region needs more paid staff who are 100% committed to improving conditions for bicyclists, including local planning and engineering practices.**

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

Yes

No

\* 86a. If yes, describe.

**We will continue to expand our network of bike paths and on-street bicycle facilities. Each of the jurisdictions needs to review and improve design standards for bicycle accommodation at intersections. We hope to use a bicycle friendly community designation to further our competitiveness on grant applications for bicycle facilities and programs.**

\* 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.

**The Reno Sparks Washoe County region is large and has separate jurisdictions that each bear responsibility for becoming more bicycle friendly. Jurisdictions include the City of Reno, City of Sparks, Washoe County, and the University of Nevada-Reno. The governments and agencies that make up each of these jurisdictions must collaborate on bicycle projects and programs. The region is home to several great organizations, including the Washoe County School District Safe Routes to School Program, the Reno Sparks Kiwanis Bike Program, and the Reno Bike Project. Local jurisdictions should both rely on and empower these organizations to improve conditions for bicycling in the region.**