

# LEAGUE OF AMERICAN BICYCLISTS



Bicycle Friendly Community Application

## Name of Community

\* Name of Community

**Morgantown**

\* State

**West Virginia**

\* Mayor or top elected official

**Mr. Jim Manilla**

\* Phone

**304-284-7439**

\* Email

**citycouncilward2@cityofmorgantown.org**

\* Address

**389 Spruce St., Morgantown, WV 26505**

\* Website

**http://www.morgantown.com**

## Applicant Profile

\* Applicant Name

**Frank Gmeindl**

\* Title

**Chairman, Morgantown Municipal Bicycle Board**

\* Employer

**Self**

\* Address

**491 Wilson Av.**

\* City

**Morgantown**

\* State

**West Virginia**

\* Zip

**26501**

\* Phone

**304-376-0446**

\* Email

**frank.gmeindl@comcast.net**

## 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

**29660**

3. Square milage of community

\* Total area

**10.2**

\* Water area

**0.32**

\* Land area

**9.8**

\* 4. Population Density

**2736**

5. Climate

- \* Average temperature for January  
**31.1**
- \* Average temperature for April  
**53.5**
- \* Average temperature for July  
**74.6**
- \* Average temperature for October  
**55.4**
- \* Average precipitation for January  
**3.27**
- \* Average precipitation for April  
**3.71**
- \* Average precipitation for July  
**4.24**
- \* Average precipitation for October  
**2.87**

\* 6. Median Household Income  
**25720**

7. Age distribution

- \* % under 5  
**2.7**
- \* % age 6-17  
**5.1**
- \* % age 18-64  
**83.6**
- \* % age 65+  
**8**
- \* Totals  
**99.39999999999999**

8. Race

- \* % White  
**89.7**
- \* % Black or African American  
**4.1**
- \* % American Indian and Alask Native  
**0.1**
- \* % Asian  
**3.4**
- \* % Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander  
**0.1**
- \* % Some other race  
**0.6**
- \* % One race  
**97.99999999999999**
- \* % Two or more races  
**2**
- \* Totals  
**99.99999999999999**
- \* % Hispanic or Latino (of any race)  
**2.6**

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

**Frank Gmeindl**

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

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

If other, describe

**We do not have a "bicycle program manager". Frank Gmeindl, entered under question 9, is Chairman of the Morgantown Municipal Bicycle Board. Damien Davis, Assistant City Engineer is the liaison between the City Manager's office and the Bicycle Board. The Bicycle Board is an advisory board of the Traffic Commission. The Traffic Commission advises City Council. City Council governs the City.**

\* 11. Are you the Bicycle Program Manager?

- Yes**
- No**

\* Bicycle Program Manager Phone

**304-376-0446**

\* Bicycle Program Manager Email

**frank.gmeindl@comcast.net**

\* 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?

1  
\* 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

**The Bicycle Board as a whole meets monthly. Subcommittees including education, map & signage and parking meet more frequently.**

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

17  
\* 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

**In addition to the 17 voting members reported in question 14b, the Bicycle Board has 8 ex-officio members that represent agencies such as Positive Spin, a local transportation coop, Metropolitan Planning Organization (different from the City Planning Department), City Council and legal counsel.**

\* 14d. Name of Bicycle Advisory Committee Chair

**Frank Gmeindl**

\* Email of Bicycle Advisory Committee Chair

**frank.gmeindl@comcast.net**

\* 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)

**Positive Spin, Monongalia Bicycle Club, Country Roads Cyclists, WVU Cycling**

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

Yes

No

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

**Positive Spin**

\* 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?

**Nick Hein**

\* 15g. Email of primary contact of advocacy group

**director@positivespin.org**

\* 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?

**Thousands of hours of effort and approximately \$30,000 (20% City, 80% State) in the Confident City Cycling education program.**

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

**The Greater Morgantown Bicycle Plan, <http://db.tt/2NaSiSZ4> lists more than 60 improvements for bicycling. The schedule for implementing the improvements depends on the annual City budget, which is variable, and on winning grant funding.**

## 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

**2007**

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

**City of Morgantown Complete Streets Resolution R07-31 adopted December 5, 2007: <http://db.tt/gdrMqx2Z>**

**Morgantown Monongalia (County) Metropolitan Planning Organization Complete Streets Resolution 2008-02 adopted April 17, 2008: <http://db.tt/0yJunCB4>**

19c. How was it adopted?

**Legislation**

**Resolution**

**Internal Policy**

Other

If other, describe

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

Implementation Guidance

Design

Manual

Training

Other

If other, describe

**The Morgantown Monongalia Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) also adopted a Complete Streets policy and will work with the City and the State to ensure adoption of both the City's and the County's Complete Streets policies.**

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

**The City Engineer's Office sent a representative to training in Charleston, WV sponsored by the WV DOH. The classes were FHWA-NHI 142045 and 142046 Pedestrian and Bicycle Facility Design on Oct. 27 29, 2009. Also, an Engineering representative attended the WVDOH 2010 Statewide Trails Conference in Wheeling, WV.**

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

**100**

21a. What are the exceptions?

**None**

\* 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

**Besides on street parking, the City has purchased 2 secure bike lockers that each accommodate 2 bikes. The lockers will be placed in or adjacent to 2 of the City's 6 parking garages. The bike lockers will be available to rent on a monthly basis. This is a pilot project that will be used to guide expansion of secure bicycle parking.**

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

23a. Bike racks

**265**

23b. Bike lockers

**4**

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

less than 15%

24b. Libraries

91-100%

24c. Transit Stations

**91-100%**

24d. Parks & Recreation Centers

**16-30%**

24e. Government buildings

**16-30%**

24f. Office buildings

**46-60%**

24g. Shops

**16-30%**

24h. Public Housing

**Not Applicable**

\* 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

**Bicycles are allowed inside the public transit vehicle when outside racks are full.**

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

**133**

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

**55**

28. List your current and planned bicycle accommodations?

a. [Bike lanes](#)

Current Miles

**0**

Planned Miles

**6**

b. [Shared lane markings](#)

Current Miles

**0**

Planned Miles

**20**

c. [Bike boulevards](#)

Current Miles

**0**

Planned Miles

**0**

d. Signed bike routes

Current Miles

**0**

Planned Miles

**165**

e. Paved shared use paths

Current Miles

**58**

Planned Miles

**0**

f. Natural surface shared use paths

Current Miles

**50**

Planned Miles

**40**

g. [Singletrack](#)

Current Miles

**37**

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 thrus
- [Way-finding signage with distance and/or time information](#)
- None
- Other

If other, describe

**Replacing hazardous drainage grates with bicycle friendly grates. City-wide traffic calming plan, <http://www.morgantown.com/traffic-docs/2009%20v2%20Plan%20City%20wide%20traffic%20calming.pdf>**

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

**45**

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

**100**

31a. What are the exceptions?

**None**

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

**Morgantown has no bike lanes and only a few miles of paved shoulders. The paved shoulders are all on State maintained highways and receive no special maintenance and do collect debris. The City however does sweep the paved shoulder along a 3/4 mile stretch of Monongahela Blvd. on a monthly schedule. This maintenance is specifically for the many bicycles that use this climbing shoulder.**

\* 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)

**Morgantown has no bike lanes and only a few miles of paved shoulders. The paved shoulders are all on State maintained highways.**

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

\* 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

**The Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners (BOPARC) employs a fulltime staff member dedicated to the daily maintenance of the rail trails. Where safety is a concern, complaints are addressed immediately.**

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

**A regular maintenance plan is in place for both the rail trails and the trails in the parks, although the latter depends on volunteer effort. BOPARC, the City Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners, maintains all 56 miles of the rail trails. County Commission provides \$50K annual budget to BOPARC exclusively for trail maintenance and the City provides \$20K to maintain the trails but cost of maintenance is approximately \$100K. As in many infrastructure areas, the City has 3-party cooperative agreements between the City, Monongalia County and appropriate not-for-profit groups. In the case of the rail trails, the Monongalia Rails to Trails Conservancy is a third party not-for-profit group that supplements City / BOPARC maintenance with planning, organizing, guidance and volunteer workforce. Additional contributions are made for grant matches, special events, and other initiatives as opportunities are realized.**

\* 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

**Parking Authority approved and the City purchased bicycle lockers for 2 city garages and plans to install bicycle lockers in all 6 parking garages when funding becomes available.**  
**WVDOH replaced in-line drainage grates by WVU Coliseum and along University Ave with bicycle-friendly grates**  
 ;(<http://bikemorgantown.com/articles.php?str=2011/08/wvdoh-replaces-in-line-grates.html>  
<http://bikemorgantown.com/articles.php?str=2011/11/drainage-grates-replaced-near-coliseum.html>).  
**WVDOH installed Share the Road signs on South University Avenue and WV Rte 705**  
 (<http://bikemorgantown.com/articles.php?str=2011/04/wvdoh-installs-share-road-signs-on.html>).  
**Installed 22 Post-and-loop bicycle racks on parking meters in the downtown area**  
 (<http://bikemorgantown.com/articles.php?str=2010/09/bike-parking-installed-downtown.html>).

## 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)
- b. Middle School (percentage)
- c. High School (percentage)

\* 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

**Morgantown's Confident City Cycling program (BikeMorgantown.com) offers Kids I and Kids II classes on an on-demand basis. Children above 14-years of age are permitted to take Traffic Skills 101 with parental permission. March-September, TS101 is taught at least one weekend every month and in 1-hour segments every Monday evening. Special on-demand TS101 classes are also arranged.**

**Schools in the community offer a Health Fair at schools in the evening. Local bike shops attend the health fairs and teach children about bicycling. The topics in the past have included, proper helmet fit, changing a tire, riding correctly on the trail, and basic bicycle safety. These classes are taught at least once a year.**

**Children were taught safe bicycling skills as part of training for the Uphill Struggle called Max's Challenge. A nine-year-old boy challenged cyclists to ride up the Monongalia Boulevard. Students were given safe bicycling skills each Sunday afternoon before they rode up the trail as part of their training. The training was to increase their endurance as well as to learn how to ride in a group before going out on the main road while completing the Uphill Struggle.**

\* 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

**BikeMorgantown.com is the City's informational hub for its Confident City Cycling education program and contains information about the above checked items plus other Morgantown bicycling education products. The homepage contains links to CCC courses; a course calendar; educational articles; educationally relevant news in Morgantown; a Morgantown bike route map and resources such as local area laws. Most pages on the website include a blog. The website is linked to the BikeMorgantown Facebook page. Morgantown completed seven 15-second educational video spots and has broadcast them regularly throughout each day by Comcast on networks Discovery, tbs, CNN, Comedy Central, CMT and Travel Channel as well as irregularly on random other channels. The spots are also broadcast regularly throughout every day on the Morgantown public access channel 15. Closed caption versions of the spots are shown regularly on WVU information kiosks as well as on monitors at WVU Personal Rapid Transit stations. Watch the spots at <http://bikemorgantown.com/articles.php?str=2010/08/psas-complete.html> Morgantown also produced a 10-minute Lets Start Biking <http://bikemorgantown.com/articles.php?str=2012/02/lets-start-biking-video.html> to train children on the elementary (5-10 year old) school age level. The video will be placed on the Morgantown City website for use in training children in the schools, small group settings, and for individual viewing. The video will also run on the local city TV channel. In addition to Articles on BikeMorgantown.com, monthly bicycling education articles have been published in the Morgantown Dominion Post newspaper. In addition to BikeMorgantown.com, the City maintains on its website, <http://www.morgantown.com/> a page dedicated to bicycling: <http://www.morgantown.com/bike-board.htm> . The City has displayed the Same Roads, Same Rights, Same Rules message on 7 electronic billboards, [http://bikemorgantown.com/articles.php?str=2010/09/same-roads-same-rights-same-rules\\_30.html](http://bikemorgantown.com/articles.php?str=2010/09/same-roads-same-rights-same-rules_30.html), located on each of the major arterials leading into Morgantown. In response to requests from the City, the WVDOT has erected Share the Road signs on three of the 4 major arterials that ring the City. <http://bikemorgantown.com/articles.php?str=2011/04/wvdoh-installs-share-road-signs-on.html> The City has developed Share the Road information cards that Morgantown and WVU police distribute to motorists and bicyclists. The card folds up to a business card size but unfolds to the approximate size of a traffic citation. On one side it contains motorist duties and on the other, bicyclist duties (<http://bikemorgantown.com/articles.php?str=2012/01/ticketing-cyclists.html>) The City has developed and distributed bumper stickers of two designs: Share the Road with Bicycles! Its the Law! (<http://bikemorgantown.com/articles.php?str=2010/10/share-road-its-law-bumper-stickers.html>) and I Share the Road with Bicycles (<http://bikemorgantown.com/articles.php?str=2012/01/new-bumper-sticker.html>). The City purchased 1,000 copies of Street Smarts and provides them to local bike shops. The bike shops give one with each new bicycle sold. In collaboration with the League of Illinois Bicyclists, Morgantown developed a Driver Ed class that High School physical education teachers use to teach high school driving students how to drive around bicycles. In the Mountaineer Yellow Pages phone directory, the City publishes a Community Page that provides tips for better cycling.**

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

**March - September, Morgantown provides Traffic Skills 101 one weekend each month. Also, March - September every Monday night Morgantown delivers TS101 in 1-hour segments. TS101 as well as Commuter and classes customized to participant requests are provided by special arrangement. For example, for a WVU Sustainable Living class, Morgantown LCIs asked the 30 students what they wanted to learn about bicycling. The LCIs then developed a special lecture to address those wants. Consequently, 5 of**

those students signed up for the full TS101 class. Beginning 2012, Morgantown LCIs will teach a 1-credit Cycling Basics, a combined TS101 and Commuter course, in the WVU College of Physical Activity and Sports Sciences. Two sessions are scheduled: one a weekend and the other Tuesdays and Thursdays for 80 minutes.

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

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

If other, describe

In the spring of each year, Morgantown LCIs offer a streamlined version of TS101 for experienced cyclists. This course emphasizes maintenance, law, riding skills and cycling in traffic. The course addresses bicycle selection, fit, clothing & equipment and nutrition in response to class discussion.

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

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

If other, describe

\* 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?

5

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

**Frank Gmeindl Ryan Post Gunnar Shogren**

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.

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

**Positive Spin is a center for sustainable transportation in Morgantown. It supports area citizens who choose to walk, bike, use transit or carpool to get places car-free without sacrificing mobility. It raises funds by repairing donated bicycles (about 1,000 each year), and making them available to anyone for a suggested donation. The proceeds support its bike education outreach and transportation advocacy efforts. It is a volunteer-based registered non-profit (501-c3) organization. It also works with other local charities and environmental organizations that share its vision for a more liveable Morgantown through Sustainable Transportation. In 2011, Positive Spin sold about 300 bikes, produced an education bike-safety video for youth, taught classes to 100 grade school children and provided support, education and volunteer opportunities for many members of the community who share their vision for sustainable transportation in Morgantown.**

**Positive Spin was also part of the Christian Help Toy Drive. They delivered 100 bikes and inspected another 10 that were donated on-site. By the end of the day all except 5 were gone. They've also given bikes to several Christmas Angel programs, and several for bike commuters. They have also provided bicycles and helmets for the homeless individuals in the Morgantown area.**

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

- Yes
- No

\* 46a. If yes, describe

**The MPO and BOPARC partnered to host Morgantown's first Transportation Education Week in 2011. The week educated children**

participating in the BOPARC Junior Employment Development Program about the transportation network, the strain on resources, what modes of transportation are available, how to find modes of transportation, and how to choose alternate modes of transportation over a single occupancy vehicle, with an emphasis on using bicycles as a form of transportation. They offered bicycle safety courses at Positive Spin. The week finished with a Transportation Fair at Marilla Park where the Morgantown Municipal Bicycle Board and Positive Spin were both present. Mountain Line Transit was also there to show participants how to use the bike rack on buses and other safety measures for riding in traffic. The target audience was everyone; it was about educating across the generations. Further, at the annual WVU Employee Fest two members of the Morgantown Municipal Bicycle Board worked a booth to raise awareness of the goals and efforts of the BB to promote cycling in Morgantown. At this same event, the MMMPO worked with the WVU Parking and Transportation Office to promote alternate forms of transportation (commuting by bicycle) and the multi-modal center on Evansdale, where they have showers and lockers that cyclists can use. During Mountaineer Week at WVU, Morgantown's Transportation Demand Management Coordinator represented the Morgantown Municipal Bicycle Board in an effort to promote bicycle commuting in Morgantown. Beginning 2012, Morgantown LCIs will teach a 1-credit Confident City Cycling, a combined TS101 and Commuter course, in the WVU College of Physical Activity and Sports Sciences. Participants can either take the course for credit or can enroll through the WVU Lifetime Activities 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

The mayor-led ride is not an annual event but has happened several times in the last five years. The MPO's Transportation Demand Management (TDM) program encouraged WV705 Corridor Employers (a high congestion area) to promote Bike to Work Week and Bike Month to their employees.

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

850

\* 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 Morgantown Bicycle Board has placed share the road and bicycle awareness notices in local newspapers and on local TV stations. There are several billboards displaying similar messages. Two bumper stickers have been produced that promote bicycling ("I share the road with bicycles" and "Share the road; its the law"). Police Information Cards have been produced and given to city and campus police to distribute along with citations for violations. The WVU Department of Transportation displays messages encouraging cycling on video panel displays at various campus and community locations. The local cycling club has multiple weekly group rides for different skill levels.

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

- Yes
- No

\* 50a. If yes, describe

**WVU Wellness has sponsored Bike to Work Week program for University employees. Participants are asked to log their mileage and report the results to the Wellness Office. The most recent Bike to Work Week promotion resulted in 30 documented participants taking their bike to work. Besides Bike to Work activities, Mountain Line Transit promotes bicycle commuting through their Bike and Bus program and the MPO has recently created a position to promote Transportation Demand Management activities including bicycle promotion through the Transportation Fair and local employer Health and Employee Benefits fairs.**

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

less than 15%

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

**Appalachian Spring Spectacular has been held almost every year since the early 70s. Approximately 100 cyclists usually participate. It usually consists of 20-, 40- and 60-mile road tours but has also included mountain bike trail and back road rides. In recent years, the event has been the first Sunday in May and has been expanded to a 2-day event with the Saturday bonus ride a very challenging long road ride.**

**Mon River Trails Conservancy Trail Day first weekend in June.**

**Mountaineer Med Express Triathlon last weekend in June.**

**Habitat for Humanity and BOPARC Sprint, Splash and Spin mini-triathlon fourth weekend in August. This event also has a kids triathlon to encourage kids to train for the adult version.**

**Appalachian Bicycle Racing Association (<http://abraracing.com/>) sponsored roughly 25 bicycle races in 2011 and has 30 races listed on their 2012 schedule. Although not all races are in Morgantown a large percentage of the entrants are from Morgantown or the surrounding area.**

**West Virginia Mountain Bike Association (WV MBA), (<http://wmba.com/rideswv/>) sponsors the following mountain bike races in the area each year: Big Bear Lake Classic, Big Bear Lake Big Bear 2x12 Big Bear Ultra Adventure Tri Xterra Henry Clay 30k, Coopers Rock State Forest Mountain Duathlon**

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

Yes

No

\* 52a. If yes, how?

**The Morgantown City police provide an escort that leads the riders in the Appalachian Spring Spectacular out of town to quieter county roads. They also close some roads and post officers at the bicycle races that are organized in and around Morgantown.**

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

Yes

No

\* 53a. If yes, how?

**The Morgantown Convention and Visitors Bureau distributes Rail-Trail maps for visitors enquiring about cycling in the area. They also direct visitors to Wamsley Cycles for 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.

**Monongalia Bicycle Club: <http://groups.google.com/group/monbikeclub?pli=1> Club rides for all levels. Saturday & Sunday morning and weekday evening rides. Sunday mountain bike trail rides in winter.**

**Country Roads Cyclists Club: <http://crcyclists.org/> Recreational riding, overnight tours, local weekend rides.**

**WVU Cycling club - <http://www.wvucycling.com/> College racing team and club.**

**Positive Spin: <http://www.positivespin.org/home2/> Community bicycle shop, support for other forms of alternative transport.**

**Mon River Trails Conservancy: <http://www.montrails.org/> Supports the construction, maintenance and promotion of 46 miles of rail trail.**

**Appalachian Bicycle Racing Association (<http://abraracing.com/>) These listed bicycle teams regularly train and participate in local races and other organized rides: Dynamic Physical Therapy Cycling Team Team Pathfinder Mylan Cycling Team Team Motown Velo Mountain Mommas Wamsley Cycles Team Morgantown Multi-Sport South Middle School Bicycle Club**

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

\* 55a. List their names.

**Wamsley Cycles The Pathfinder of WV**

\* 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.

**Positive Spin has an indoor cycling area that is used for indoor bicycling education and innovative bicycle testing.**

\* 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.

**Wamsley Cycles US Forest Service Northeastern Research Station**

\* 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

\* 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

**Bicycle parking code (373.09); WVU installed Mountaineer Station, which is a multimodal facility housing indoor storage for bicycles and showers. MountainLine bus service has already installed or plans to install racks on every bus in the city; if a bus does not have a rack, they permit bringing it into the bus.**

### 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

\* 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

**All Morgantown officers go through the Field Training Program. During the training program they are required to take weekly tests on City Ordinances and State Statutes. Approximately two hours is dedicated to sections of the State and Local Code that deal specifically with bicycle laws. In addition, every officer is issued a field guide, that is updated as necessary that deals with both bicycle and motor vehicle offenses.**

\* 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

**Two Morgantown Bicycle Police officers appeared in and narrated seven 15-second video spots that address the most frequent causes of crashes between bicyclists and motor vehicles. The common theme of all the videos is Same Roads, Same Rights, Same Rules.**

**The Morgantown Police, as well as the WVU Police distribute Share the Road information cards to motorists and bicyclists. The card folds up to a business card size but unfolds to the approximate size of a traffic citation. On one side it contains motorist duties and on the other, bicyclist duties (<http://bikemorgantown.com/articles.php?str=2012/01/ticketing-cyclists.html>).**

**The Morgantown Police Department does not have a targeted enforcement program that is designated for bicycle safety. Instead, the department is partnered with the Governors Highway Safety Program and as such routinely enforces both bicycle and motor vehicle infractions. Examples are riding without helmets, lights, reflective devices or riding on sidewalks or unapproved areas.**

\* 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?

10

\* 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

**Penalties for vehicle users that door cyclists** If done intentionally constitutes a battery (WVC 62-2-9), which is a misdemeanor punishable by incarceration and fines.  
**Texting while driving for operators of commercial motor vehicles (WVC 17E-1-14a) is specifically prohibited.**  
**State and local laws require mandatory use of sidepaths (WVC 17C-11-5) and (City Code 373.05) if they are useable.**  
**Cyclists are required to ride as far to the right of the road as practicable under (WVC 17C-7-1) and (City Code 373.05) without exceptions as provided by the UVC.**  
**Morgantown City Code establishes general restrictions prohibiting the use of bicycles on sidewalks (City Code 373.08).**

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

Yes

No

\* 70a. If yes, describe

**The State of West Virginia (WVC 17C-11a-4) mandates that anyone under the age of 15 is required wear a helmet when operating a bicycle. Additionally, Morgantown (City Code 373.07d) requires all operators and passengers of bicycles to wear an ANSI Z90.4 approved helmet. Morgantown (City Code 373.07) also mandates the use of lights, reflectors, brakes and similar safety equipment. Morgantown (City Code 373) is a comprehensive code regulating the use of bicycles. This particular local ordinance limits the number of personnel that can be on a bicycle to the number of seats actually present on the bicycle, restricts activities such as attaching bicycles to vehicles while they are being operated by a cyclist as well as requiring bicycle operators to adhere to all traffic regulations in the same manner as the driver of a motor vehicle.**

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

Yes

No

\* 71a. If yes, describe

**The West Virginia University police department employs 7 bicycle police officers that are extraordinarily active at both promoting bicycling and at enforcing safe cycling. Some WVU bicycle police officers, including the Captain race bicycles when off duty. The WVU police actively train using the International Police Mountain Bike Association program. They patrol campus on bikes and distribute information cards that describe motorist and bicyclist rights and duties pertaining to bicycling and driving around bicycles.**

## [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?

**There are traffic counts and traffic classification counts from the City and from the MPO that include axle widths for class 1 vehicles that can be used to determine Cyclists usage.**



\* 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?

9

\* 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 Bicycle Board and police have identified crashes involving bicycles and are beginning to analyze the data to identify the root causes and take action to eliminate them. Actions can be enforcement, infrastructure modifications and education. Actions such as information cards that Morgantown and WVU police distribute to motorists and bicyclists are already addressing one of the root causes: lack of understanding of motorist and bicyclist rights and duties. The Greater Morgantown Bicycling Plan, <http://db.tt/2NaSISZ4> contains actions in the areas of education, enforcement, engineering, encouragement, evaluation and equity to increase cycling as well as to reduce crashes.**

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

Yes

No

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

2012

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

Yes

No

\* 77c. If yes, describe.

\* 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.

**The Greater Morgantown Bicycle Plan, <http://db.tt/2NaSISZ4> provides a vision, goal and objectives for making Morgantown a bicycle friendly community. For each objective, the plan includes one or more actions that are necessary to accomplish the respective objective.**

\* 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.

**The Morgantown Bicycle Board has developed a Bicycle Plan that identifies policies and programs to promote bicycle use. The City of Morgantown has within their development code requirements for new high-density residential development to provide bicycle parking as part of the overall project.**

**The Morgantown Monongalia Metropolitan Planning Organization recently hired a Transportation Demand Management Coordinator with the responsibility of developing and promoting programs that reduce automobile trip demand. This program includes the development of Vanpool and Carpool programs, and working closely with major employers in the development of bicycle commuter and walking programs. The regions long-range transportation plan has a stated goal of reducing the demand on automobiles by investing in alternative transportation including bicycle use.**

**West Virginia University has worked in conjunction with the Morgantown Bicycle Board on a program that provides free tuition for WVU students, faculty, and staff that complete the Confident City Cycling program as a way to reduce on-campus automobile parking demand.**

\* 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.

**Positive Spin is a center for sustainable transportation in Morgantown. It supports area citizens who choose to walk, bike, use transit or carpool to get places car-free without sacrificing mobility. It raises funds by repairing donated bicycles (about 1,000 each year), and making them available to anyone for a suggested donation. The proceeds support its bike education outreach and transportation advocacy efforts. It is a volunteer-based registered non-profit (501-c3) organization. It also works with other local charities and environmental organizations that share its vision for a more liveable Morgantown through Sustainable Transportation. In 2011, Positive Spin sold about 300 bikes, produced an education bike-safety video for youth, taught classes to 100 grade school children and provided support, education and volunteer opportunities for many members of the community who share their vision for sustainable transportation in Morgantown.**

**Positive Spin was also part of the Christian Help Toy Drive. They delivered 100 bikes and inspected another 10 that were donated on-site. By the end of the day all except 5 were gone. Theyve also given bikes to several Christmas Angel programs, and several for bike commuters. They have also provided bicycles and helmets for the homeless individuals in the Morgantown area.**

\* 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 number one reason Morgantown deserves to be designated a bicycle friendly community is to keep the momentum going that our Bicycle Board has created. The last few years have shown improvements in infrastructure and education. Our new city manager is dedicated to implementing our comprehensive bicycle plan. We are at the tipping point for big changes and success breeds success.**

\* 84b.

**The second reason Morgantown deserves to be designated a bicycle friendly community is it is already serving as a model for the rest of the state (twice achieving bicycle friendly state rank of 50). WV is almost always last in polls for positive state attributes, but Morgantown's Bicycle Board has already established relationships with the state Department of Transportation that may change that. We need to show the state that making not only Morgantown but also other communities and the state bicycle friendly will yield benefits to the health of the population as well as drive its economy.**

\* 84c.

**The third reason Morgantown deserves to be designated a bicycle friendly community is to provide an example for other communities nationally that are challenged by extreme geography and outdated infrastructure. It's easy to get people on bikes in flat areas that have wide roads and room to build dedicated trails but a practically impossible task in an area like ours that also lacks a larger tax base. The out-of-the-box and creative ideas we implement can help communities with problems similar to ours.**

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

\* 85a.

**The first improvement is to implement the Shared Lane Marking and Bicycles May Use Full Lane sign plan that the Bicycle Board developed and that the City approved in 2008. That will not only give commuters more and visible options, but it will also reinforce the education program we have been implementing since 2007 and give credence to bicycles as vehicles both to motorists and cyclists.**

\* 85b.

**The second improvement would be to develop and expand the bike route that has been mapped with signage, select roadway improvements and better connectors to get more commuters to more locations around town.**

\* 85c.

**The third improvement would be enforcement. Not only do we have in the past year a new city manager, but also a new police chief. Both are receptive to improved integration of bicycling into the Morgantown transportation mix and we have hopes of great improvement in enforcement over the next year.**

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

Yes

No

\* 86a. If yes, describe.

**We are answering Yes because answering No does not permit us to explain. Our 2007 application and the LAB feedback guided us in creating the current Greater Morgantown Bicycle Plan that addresses the feedback. Approximately half of the projects we have planned are in process.**

\* 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.

**Again, we are answering Yes because answering No does not permit us to explain. Our 2007 application and the LAB feedback made us more aware of what our community needed to do to be bicycle friendly. Consequently, we created the Greater Morgantown Bicycle Plan that addresses the feedback. Approximately half of the projects we have planned are in process.**

\* 88. We often get requests for model BFC applications from aspiring communities. Would you be willing to share your application?

Yes

No