

Race and Equity Pocket Questions

Title and purpose of this initiative:

Resolution in Support of Bicycle Friendly Community's Application.

Department: Planning

What are the racial and equity impacts?

The League of American Bicyclist's Bicycle Friendly Community program is designed to provide communities with a roadmap for making bicycling a safe and viable travel choice for all residents. According to 2020 Census data, 4% of Carrboro residents have no motor vehicle available, that number increases to 9% for the BIPOC community members. A 2022 report by the American Journal of Preventive Medicine reported sharp disparities for transportation related fatalities based on race or ethnic origin: 75% higher rate for passenger vehicle fatality for non-Hispanic Blacks than non-Hispanic whites, 118% higher rate for pedestrian fatality and 384% higher rate for cycling fatality.¹ Improving bicycling facilities benefits all community members, but the benefits may be greater for the BIPOC community considering the likely correlation that BIPOC members may be more likely to bicycle for transportation because a car is not available and are more likely to be involved in an accident associated with cycling per the American Journal of Preventive Medicine study.

Who is or will experience community burden?

No community burden is anticipated. The Town is currently a Silver level Bicycle Friendly Community. There are not specific requirements/enforcement relating to participation. Communities need to re-apply every four years to remain in good standing.

Who is or will experience community benefit?

As noted above, all residents benefit from a community with robust bicycling infrastructure that allows bicycling and rolling to be a safe and available transportation and recreation option. For people who do not have access to a vehicle and/or who are unable to drive and therefore bicycle or roll out of necessity, safe and accessible bicycle infrastructure is even more important. In addition, the Bicycle Friendly Community program use the 5E framework: Equity and Accessibility, Engineering, Education, Encouragement and Evaluation and Planning (<https://bikeleague.org/bfa/5-es/>).

What are the root causes of inequity?

Inequity can occur from a combination of structural racism in government and governmental processes, including not having a seat at the table. Lack of information about transportation projects and processes, a conform and concerns about possible including the collection of traffic counts.

¹ [Disparities in Activity and Traffic Fatalities by Race/Ethnicity - American Journal of Preventive Medicine \(ajpmonline.org\)](https://ajpmonline.org/); [Motor Vehicle Fatality Disparities by Race or Ethnic Origin - Injury Facts \(nsc.org\)](https://www.injuryfacts.org/)



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FACING RACE, EMBRACING EQUITY

Working individuals, particularly shift workers, families with young children or caregivers may find it difficult to attend public meetings, may be reticent to speak in a public setting and may have an overall distrust in government.

What might be the unintended consequences of this action or strategy?

The Bicycle Friendly Community program is an honorary recognition program; participation is voluntary. It's possible that staff efforts toward programs in the BFC program may mean that staff are not available to do other activities. However, participation may lead to more people cycling and/or walking.

How is your department planning to mitigate any burdens, inequities, and unintended consequences?

As noted in the 5E framework, the Bicycle Friendly Community program includes Equity and Accessibility as one of the essential elements. Ensuring that programs and infrastructure are made available for all neighborhoods and communities will be an essential part of the success of the program.