University of Maryland Reaches Gold

The University of Maryland is awarded the gold level Bicycle Friendly University designation.

October 22, 2014. Over the past two years, biking has continued to grow on campus and the University is earning the recognition to prove it. Today the League of American bicyclists announced their award winners for their Bicycle Friendly University (BFU) program. One of only 10 schools to earn the gold level or higher designation and the only Bicycle Friendly University in the state, UMD leads the way for bicycle programming in Maryland and the region as it rises from a silver level BFU to gold.

The bikeUMD program has been integral in helping achieve this honor. bikeUMD is a collaboration between the University of Maryland’s Department of Transportation Services and Campus Recreation Services, which work to promote and support all bicycle related activities and initiatives on UMD’s campus.

With the assistance of many active campus partners including Dining Services, Residential Life, Facilities Management, Public Safety and the Office of Sustainability, bikeUMD continues to implement bicycle recommendations from the Facilities Master Plan. In FY14 bikeUMD installed 82 shared lane markings on campus, installed 7 bicycle repair stations, added almost 700 bicycle parking spaces and increased the semester rental bike fleet by 30%.

Currently, bikeUMD is working on installing electronic bike counters to facilitate accurate data collection, increasing the number of Learn to Ride and Confident Cycling classes and partnering with the City of College Park to bring a bikeshare program to campus. Additionally, bikeUMD offers programming such as regular bike rides to showcase local trails and destination and a Bikes Be Bright safety promotion planned for November 11th where cyclists on campus can pick up a set of bike lights.

“This great achievement is a direct result of the strong support and teamwork from the students, staff and faculty at UMD” says David Allen, DOTS Director. “We look forward to making this relationship even stronger as we work to reach platinum status.”

About DOTS
The Department of Transportation Services will honor the mission and values of the University of Maryland by providing safe, cost effective, and innovative services which anticipate the needs of our campus community and constituents as they relate to accessing institutionally supported facilities and destinations.

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