



## NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release

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### **Knoxville-Knox County Planning named a Bronze Bicycle Friendly Business by the League of American Bicyclists**

**Knoxville, TN - January 16, 2020** - The League of American Bicyclists recently recognized Knoxville-Knox County Planning (Planning) with a Bronze Bicycle Friendly Business (BFB) award, earning a place alongside 1,366 businesses across the country contributing to the movement to build a more Bicycle Friendly America.

By kicking off the New Year alongside 153 new and renewing BFBs, Planning joins local businesses, government agencies, and Fortune 500 companies in all 50 states and Washington, DC, in a commitment to transform American workplaces to be more welcoming to customers and employees who bike.

“When places make it easier for people to choose to bike, they are building safer, stronger, and better-connected communities. The League of American Bicyclists is thrilled when organizations like Planning join us in this movement to build a more Bicycle Friendly America. When more people are biking to work or shop, life is better for everyone,” says Executive Director Bill Nesper of the League of American Bicyclists.

Planning staff have been enjoying the nearby, freshly painted bike lanes and arrive to work energized. Planning encourages bicycling as an easy option for transportation and provides amenities such as an agency bike for nearby meetings and incentives such as Smart Trips Commuter Rewards.

“Everyone reaps the benefits of bicycling to work. Employees can save money, get a workout without the gym, and can avoid typical traffic jams. Both employers and employees save money on health care costs. By biking to work, employees can increase their happiness level and decrease their stress and anxiety. Not to mention they’re breathing cleaner air. It’s a win-win situation for everyone involved!” says Smart Trips Program Coordinator Savannah Robertson.

Moving forward, Planning will have access to a variety of tools and technical assistance from the League to become even more bicycle-friendly. When employees bike, great things happen: decreased carbon footprint, reduced healthcare costs, connected to community, a fun and healthy work culture.

To learn more about the BFB program, or to apply, visit the League online at [www.bikeleague.org/business](http://www.bikeleague.org/business). To learn more about building a Bicycle Friendly America, including the Bicycle Friendly Community<sup>SM</sup> (BFC<sup>SM</sup>), Bicycle Friendly State<sup>SM</sup> (BFS<sup>SM</sup>), Bicycle Friendly Business<sup>SM</sup> (BFB<sup>SM</sup>), and Bicycle Friendly University<sup>SM</sup> (BFU<sup>SM</sup>) programs, visit [www.bikeleague.org/BFA](http://www.bikeleague.org/BFA).

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### **Knoxville-Knox County Planning**

Knoxville-Knox County Planning (formerly Knoxville-Knox County Metropolitan Planning Commission) was established in 1956 by Knoxville and Knox County as the agency responsible for comprehensive county-wide planning and administration of zoning and land subdivision regulations and remains so today (except for the town of Farragut). Funding comes primarily from city and county appropriations and from federal grants for specific studies. The agency prepares and adopts a general plan, reviews subdivision regulations and site plans, prepares and recommends zoning ordinances and maps to the Knox County Commission and Knoxville City Council, reviews proposed zoning amendments, and prepares a capital improvements plan for the City of Knoxville. For more information, visit our website at [knoxplanning.org](http://knoxplanning.org).

The League of American Bicyclists leads the national movement to create a Bicycle Friendly America for everyone. With a history dating to 1880, the League is committed to engaging diverse communities and building a powerful, unified voice for change around protecting and promoting bicyclists' rights. Learn more at [www.bikeleague.org](http://www.bikeleague.org).