



P.O. Box 18984, Huntsville, AL 35804 | [www.alabike.org](http://www.alabike.org)

Date: October 25, 2018

To : Alabama Bicycle Riders !!

**Alabama ranked as 39<sup>th</sup> Bicycle Friendly State by the League of American Bicyclists**  
***Community involvement and increased ALDOT involvement result in a ranking of 39<sup>th</sup>,  
after 8 years of 47-50<sup>th</sup> position.***

The League of American Bicyclists (League) released its 2017 Bicycle Friendly State ranking. This is the League's 9th Bicycle Friendly State rank and first since 2015. **Alabama was ranked as the 39<sup>th</sup> Bicycle Friendly State (BFS<sup>SM</sup>).**

A review of the attached BFS Report card shows that Alabama is ranked #27 Education and Encouragement, which is due in great part to the efforts of the Organized Ride Directors, Community Programs in Mobile, Fairhope, Opelika, Auburn, Dothan, Montgomery, Birmingham, Huntsville, and other communities Statewide.

**Alabama is ranked #29 for Policies and Programs, due to the efforts of ALDOT, and the many MPO's throughout the State.** According to federal data, very few people commute by bike in Alabama and those who do experience some of the least safe conditions in the United States. In recent years, Alabama has done a better job of addressing bicyclist safety and mobility through the increased use of federal funds for biking and walking. This is reflected in the Infrastructure & Funding category being Alabama's best category. These decisions are likely within the control of Alabama's Department of Transportation. Over the past 2 years, AlaBike has enjoyed a solid and growing relationship with ALDOT, and we will continue to build this positive and complimentary relationship.

The worst category for Alabama is "Legislation and Enforcement," "Laws tend to restrict the behavior of people who bike and walk." AlaBike is now partnering with multiple statewide bicycle, walking, health and other advocacy groups to create and present a viable Vulnerable User Law in the 2019 or 2020 Legislative Session.

AlaBike believes that The Federal Data showing 31 fatalities per 10,000 bike commuters is flawed, and AlaBike is continuing to partner with ALDOT to help provide a better method to accurately determine and report this number.

Jeff Feet

Alabama Bicycle Coalition