



# BIKE MARYLAND

## 2014 Annual Report

### Director's Message

2014 has been a year of change for Bike Maryland. With an expanding board, new staff, and a Strategic Plan in place, we have streamlined our efforts to improve bicycling conditions and accessibility. In addition to hosting fundraising and awareness-raising bike events and promoting free access to safety education through our Bike-Minded program, Bike Maryland is reaching out to cyclists with a redesigned website and increased social media presence. Our organization strives to be the umbrella group for all bicyclists in Maryland whether on or off-road, recreation or transportation. In a short period of time we have travelled across the state to build relationships with local bike groups and offer support when needed through our advocacy program. We will continue to reach additional communities reach far into 2015. It has been a pleasure being on board and I look forward to creating a more bikeable Maryland for everyone.

*Nate Evans*

Nate Evans  
Executive Director



Participants enjoy the scenic view from North Point State Park while supporting Bike Maryland at the 2014 Tour Du Port. The fundraiser ride had 1,000 participants and included a ride to Loch Raven Reservoir, local food trucks, and New Belgium Beer!



Members of Bike-SBY (Salisbury), ESIMBA (Eastern Shore International Mountain Bicycling Association), and Bike Maryland tour a new 'road diet' on Maryland Route 350, which added bike lanes to Salisbury's growing bike network.

## Mission and Strategic Plan

We focused our priorities this year as we developed our Strategic Plan. Created in partnership with local bicycling advocates from across the state, this living document is now available on our website. The Strategic Plan identifies our core initiatives and lays out measurable goals and action items, which will help fulfill our mission.

**OUR MISSION: To be the unifying organization for Maryland bicyclists, advocating for improved cycling conditions through infrastructure, education, encouragement, and enforcement.**

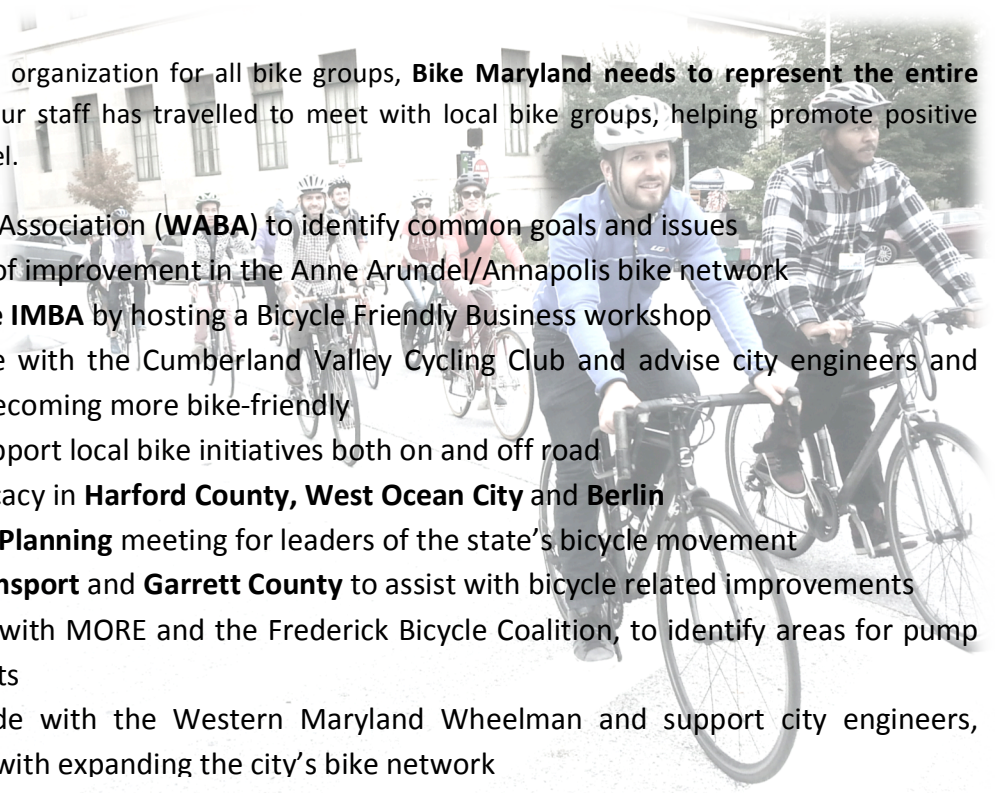
## Goals

1. Unify local bicycle advocates to create more bikeable communities statewide
2. Educate the public on bike accessibility and road safety
3. Advocate for connectivity and specific designation in bicycle infrastructure construction
4. Increase statewide bicycle mode share by 2% in five years
5. Grow membership, diversify funding sources, and promote organizational initiatives

## Building Relationships

In order to become the umbrella organization for all bike groups, **Bike Maryland needs to represent the entire state!** Starting in August 2014, our staff has travelled to meet with local bike groups, helping promote positive changes for biking at the local level.

- Washington Area Bicyclists Association (**WABA**) to identify common goals and issues
- **Bike AAA** to identify areas of improvement in the Anne Arundel/Annapolis bike network
- **Bike SBY** and **Eastern Shore IMBA** by hosting a Bicycle Friendly Business workshop
- City of **Hagerstown** to ride with the Cumberland Valley Cycling Club and advise city engineers and planners on next steps in becoming more bike-friendly
- **Town of Emmitsburg** to support local bike initiatives both on and off road
- Developing local bike advocacy in **Harford County, West Ocean City** and **Berlin**
- Hosted the first **Legislative Planning** meeting for leaders of the state's bicycle movement
- Visiting the Town of **Williamsport** and **Garrett County** to assist with bicycle related improvements
- **Town of Brunswick**, along with **MORE** and the Frederick Bicycle Coalition, to identify areas for pump track and trail improvements
- City of **Cumberland** to ride with the Western Maryland Wheelman and support city engineers, planners, and local cyclists with expanding the city's bike network







Bike-Minded Program Coordinator Carl Peterson leads a bike rodeo for students at Herring Run Elementary School.

## **Education and Outreach**

The **Bike-Minded Safety Program** fulfills Bike Maryland's commitment to educate the public and reduce the instances of bicycle related crashes and fatalities in providing interactive bike safety education workshops to groups of youth and adults.

Our **Bike-Friendly Program** serves communities, businesses, and universities to teach the tools needed to improve bikeability to make Maryland a more bicycle friendly place to live, work, and play.

### **2014 Milestones**

- 155 Bike MINDED Safety Program workshops
- 11,000 youth participated in a Bike-Minded Safety program workshop
- Over 5,000 adults participated in a Bike-Minded workshop or safety demonstration
- 300 volunteers contributed over 500 hours to the Bike-Minded Safety Program
- Hosted eight Bike-Friendly Business and Community workshops across the state
- Held first Maryland Bike-Friendly University Summit representing 15 Maryland universities & colleges
- Hiring a full-time Education Coordinator to manage the expanding programs



Baltimore County Executive Kevin Kamenetz rides the new Towson Bike Loop. A better understanding of cycling conditions is shared when elected officials experience these improvements on two wheels. It is important for bicycling advocates to push for ribbon cuttings and celebrations of new bike lanes, trails, and routes.



Eric Crawford leads the next generation of mountain bikers through Rockburn Park. Bike Maryland partners with Mid-Atlantic Off-Road Enthusiasts (MORE) and other mountain bike groups to provide more sustainable, recreational opportunities for cyclists.

### **2014 Grantors and Sponsors of Bike Maryland**

Bike Maryland wishes to thank our sponsors who have enabled us make our state a better place for bicycling!

State Highway Administration  
Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore  
Baltimore Bicycling Club  
T. Rowe Price  
Race Pace Bicycles  
Valley Motors – Subaru  
AAA Mid Atlantic  
New Belgium Brewery Company  
Towson University  
Agora, Inc  
Edaptive Systems LLC  
Allegis Group  
Myers and Stauffer LC  
Benjamin F. Edwards & Co  
Care First  
Toole Design Group  
Maryland Transit Administration – Red Line Project

### **Staff**

Nate Evans, Executive Director  
Mary Herbranson, Events and Development  
Emily Ranson, Advocacy Coordinator  
Katie Gore, Bike-Minded Safety Program  
Carl Peterson, Bike-Minded Safety Program  
Marla Streb, Bike-Minded Safety Program

### **2014 Board of Directors**

Joe Lynagh, President  
Michael Sonnenfeld, Secretary  
Tamara Bensky, Treasurer  
Alex Obriecht, Board Member  
Bruce Cohen, Board Member  
Gordon Peltz, Board Member  
Kevin King, Board Member  
Rebecca Bainum, Board Member

## **Pedaling Forward**

The coming year holds great promise for Bike Maryland. With new relationships to forge and new staff coming on board, we are excited about our growing capacity. We extend our deepest gratitude to our Board of Directors, Advisors, partner organizations, volunteers, sponsors, donors and last but far from least our **members**.

Bike Maryland membership fosters your belonging in a statewide coalition of believers and activists for improved bicycling conditions, accessibility and legitimacy. Join us as we make Maryland a place we are proud to call home, where everyone can bike safely, as we:

- Partner with Bikemore to ensure that Baltimore City constructs the Maryland Avenue cycletrack, more bike lanes and adapts the new bike master plan
- Work with MORE to allow mountain bikers better access to Loch Raven Reservoir
- Ensure bicycle and pedestrian access over the Susquehanna River between Havre de Grace and Perryville
- Educate elected officials on the value of bikeable communities and the importance of connected trails



**Bike-Minded Safety Program Coordinator Katie Gore ensures riders' helmets fit correctly before taking off on Larry's Ride. Our 2014 events, RecRide, Larry's Ride, and Tour du Port hosted 2,000 riders and raised much-needed funds!**