The 2012 BikeWalkKC Annual Report

The unified voice for active living, promoting a healthy, safe and accessible outdoor experience for all in a vibrant, engaged community.

In our second full year we have accelerated the pace of making Greater Kansas City a better place to walk, bike, and live. BikeWalkKC is building a better community by leading the charge on advocacy, education, public policy, and programming to elevate bicycle and pedestrians to the forefront of the agenda for the future of Kansas City. Our members, volunteers, donors, and champions are helping us build a movement to change the culture of the community.

Bike Share comes to KC
Kansas City B-cycle powered by Blue KC rolled in July to provide an innovative new option for transportation, recreation, and economic development. More than 200 volunteers helped us build and launch the world’s first and only advocate-owned bike share system.

Advocacy
New bike lanes and sharrows on Southwest Boulevard marked the first step in a bi-state effort to create a complete street linking Kansas City, MO and Kansas City, KS. New plans and projects are in the works across the metro area, setting the stage for significant progress in 2013.

During the 2012 National Bike Summit our Executive Director, Eric Rogers, was honored as Advocate of the Year by the Alliance for Bike and Walking.

Safe Routes to School
Today’s kids are the first generation of Americans with a lower life expectancy than their parents, so we are working hard to get kids more active by walking and biking to school. This year we expanded our Safe Routes to School programming with new initiatives that included professional development for teachers and school personnel.

Our BLAST (Bike Lesson And Safety Training) helped over 1,000 local kids learn to safely and confidently to school and around their neighborhood.

A new pilot project funded by the Health Care Foundation of Greater Kansas City kicked off this fall at James Elementary in the KC Public Schools. We are developing a new local model for comprehensive safe routes to school programming and policy reform.
Bicycle Dreams
We hosted this national tour of the documentary about the legendary Race Across America, bringing together the racing and touring communities for a special screening and silent auction.

Bike and Walk Friendly Kansas City
This year Lee’s Summit its recognition as the first local Walk Friendly Community by becoming a Bronze Bike Friendly Community, the first in the region to achieve this double honor.

Consulting
We offer professional expertise for training, consulting, and technical assistance to regional governments, schools, transportation planners. Our consulting program is raising the bar for bike/ped professionals and building a solid foundation for the organization’s fiscal future.

Committees
BikeWalkKC is your voice at the table with decision makers across the metro area. Our professional advocates and educators serve on many committees shaping the future of the region:

• MARC Bike/Ped Advisory Committee
• MARC Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality
• KCMO Bike/Ped Advisory Committee
• Health Communities Wyandotte County
• Cleaver Boulevard Streetscape
• Missouri Council on Activity and Nutrition
• MO Safe Routes to School Statewide Network

This year we began co-chairing a new committee, MARC’s Pedestrian and Bicycle Task Team, to convene bike/ped professionals and coordinate regional programs like Bike Month and International Walk to School Day.

Bike Prom
A fun, new event to celebrate Bike Week and help build a stronger bike culture in Kansas City.

Best Practices around the country
BikeWalkKC was part of a regional delegation of mayors and transportation planners that visited Cleveland, OH to learn about their light rail, bus rapid transit, and bicycle infrastructure.
2012 By the Numbers

4,000,000 calories burned in the Car Free Challenge

82,000 pounds of CO2 saved from our air by the Car Free Challenge

1,800 adults and children received bicycle and pedestrian safety and skills instruction

3,000 kids walked or biked to school on International Walk to School Day in October

1.1 million local residents living a community with a Complete Streets policy, which includes eleven communities and represents 56% of the metro population.

1,000 fifth-graders graduated from our BLAST (Bicycle Lesson And Safety Training Program) at 11 schools in 4 school districts

148 people became new members of BikeWalkKC, for a total of 343

1 city nationally recognized as a Walk Friendly Community (Lee’s Summit)

3 cities nationally recognized as Bicycle Friendly Communities (Kansas City, MO; Shawnee, KS; and Lee’s Summit, MO)

7 local business recognized as Bicycle Friendly Businesses

4 FTEs worth of professional bike/ped advocates and educators dedicated to changing our communities

Kansas City B-cycle by the Numbers:

5,320 trips taken by 2,173 people

13,622 miles travelled, offsetting 12,941 pounds of carbon and burning

544,898 calories burned
On the horizon in 2013

Ciclovia/Open Streets
We are hard at work to bring this international movement to Kansas City. Temporarily repurposing automobile space for people space is a great way to give local residents new options for recreation. Stay tuned for big news in 2013.

Safe Routes to School
Our programming, policy, and technical assistance initiatives are taking off. Next year we will be leveraging new federal funding to expand our work in the Hickman Mills School District and Kansas City Public Schools.

Bike share returns in March for its first full operating season. We are excited to help Kansas Citians discover new ways to see our amazing city.

Thanks to our members, volunteers, donors, and an amazing list of partners and sponsors

Alliance for Biking and Walking, Health Care Foundation of Greater Kansas City, Children’s Mercy Hospital and Clinics, Burns and McDonnell, Lockton, Spencer Fain, Missouri Bank, Jackson County, Missouri Bicycle and Pedestrian Federation, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas City, Johnson County Bicycle Club, Kansas City Bicycle Club, OfficePort, 360 Architects, Chipman Design, City of KCMO, SPIN! Neapolitan Pizza, Rosedale Development Association, Family Bicycles, Patti Banks Associates, KC Cyclists Calendar, New Belgium Brewery, Kansas City Walking Tours, Olin School of Business at Washington University in St. Louis, Screen Tee Gallery, KC Healthy Kids, Livable Streets Lee’s Summit, LISC, KCMO Parks, City of Raytown, Women’s Intersport Network, KC Tweed Ride, Mid-America Regional Council, Small Step Energy Solutions, Whatsoever Community Center, Missouri Livable Streets, KanBikeWalk, Boulevard Brewing Company, and many more wonderful partners, members, donors, and volunteers!