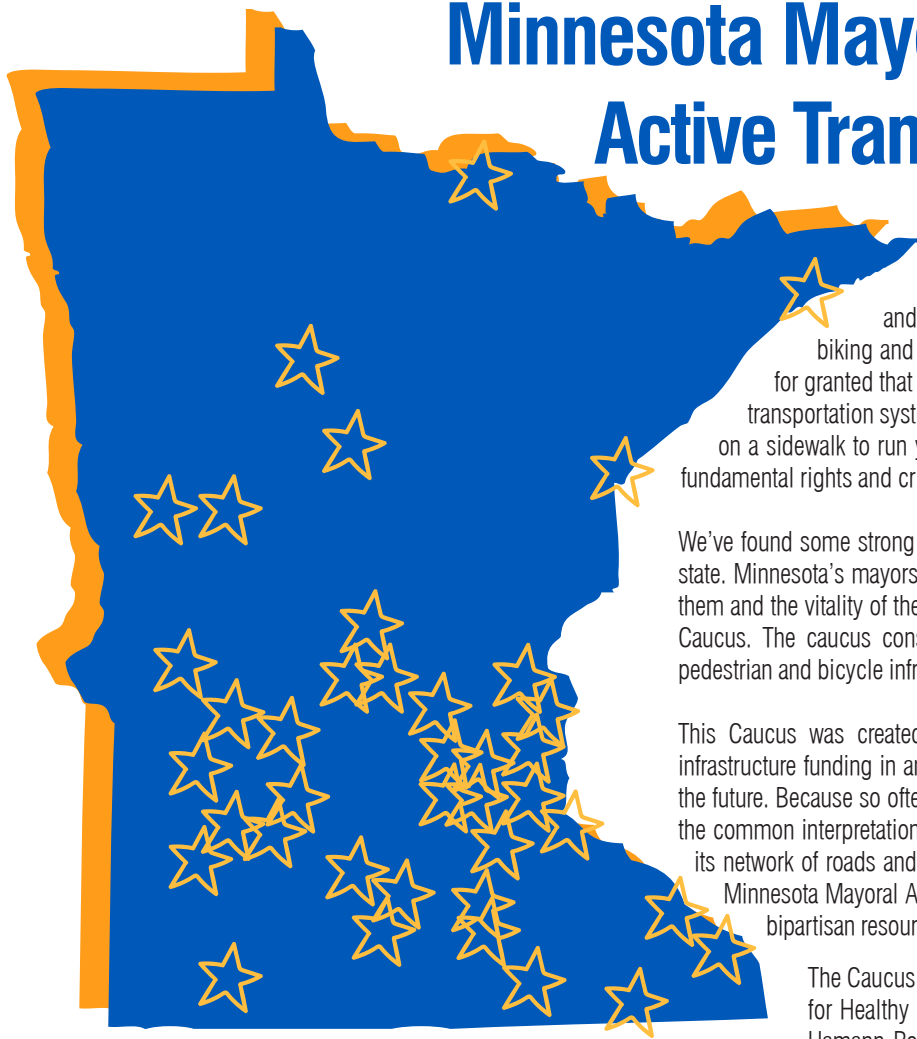


Minnesota Mayoral Active Transportation Caucus



Something exciting is happening in our state. Mayors from Grand Marais to Worthington and many places in between are coming forward in support active transportation—such as biking and walking—in their cities. “So what?” you might ask, “everyone likes biking and walking.” But the truth is that biking and walking are so often taken for granted that they don’t even come to mind when our leaders think of Minnesota’s transportation system—and that needs to change! The ability to hop on your bike or walk on a sidewalk to run your errands, visit a friend, or get wherever it is you need to be, are fundamental rights and critical to the health and wellness of a community.

We’ve found some strong advocates in our fight for bicycling and walking infrastructure in our state. Minnesota’s mayors are stepping up and saying that active transportation is important to them and the vitality of their town and have joined the Minnesota Mayoral Active Transportation Caucus. The caucus consists of Greater Minnesota and suburban-based mayors for whom pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure and programs are important in their communities.

This Caucus was created to advocate for including pedestrian and bicycle program and infrastructure funding in any transportation funding deal reached by the legislature—now and in the future. Because so often, when people and policymakers refer to investing in transportation, the common interpretation is roads and bridges. While Minnesota needs to repair and improve its network of roads and bridges, the state also needs to invest in improving all modes. The Minnesota Mayoral Active Transportation Caucus will exist for years to come to serve as a bipartisan resource for legislators who represent constituencies throughout Minnesota.

The Caucus began as an idea at a meeting between BikeMN and the Minnesotans for Healthy Kids Coalition and gained momentum from there when Mayor Mary Hamann-Roland of Apple Valley, Mayor Hank Ludtke of Frazee, and Mayor Ardell Brede of Rochester signed on as the first Co-Chairs. Since then more than 50 mayors have signed on to support active transportation and three new co-chairs - Mayor Maria Regan Gonzalez of Richfield, Mayor Kim Norton of Rochester, and Mayor Jed Shaw of Walker - have joined.

Is your mayor missing from the list? Let us know by emailing info@bikemn.org and we’ll reach out to your Mayor again to remind them of the important work this group is doing. Want to read more about the Caucus? Visit bikemn.org/caucus for more details and to check out the most up-to-date list of members.

caucus members to date:

Co-Chairs

Maria Regan Gonzalez, Richfield
Kim Norton, Rochester
Jed Shaw, Walker

Robert Beussman, New Ulm
Mark Dehen, North Mankato
Lois M. Nelson, Medford
Ron Anderson, Milan
Fred Froehlich, Nicollet
Rhonda Pownell, Northfield
Suzanne M. Hilgert, Olivia
Thomas Kuntz, Owatonna
Brent E. Frazier, Pelican Rapids
Tim Meehl, Perham
Tom Quackenbush, Redwood Falls
Duane Willenbring, Rockville
Andrea Lauer, Royalton
Sandy Martin, Shoreview
Scott Zerby, Shorewood
Bruce Williamson, Spring Park
Dave Kleis, St. Cloud
Jake Spano, St. Louis Park
Jo Emerson, White Bear Lake
Marv Calvin, Willmar
Mark Peterson, Winona
Mike Kuhle, Worthington

Mayoral Members

Mary Hamann-Roland, Apple Valley
Dave Stiehm, Austin
Rita Albrecht, Bemidji
Terri Collins, Benson
Mary Wingfield, Birchwood Village
Dave Bartholomay, Circle Pines
Jerry Koch, Coon Rapids
Emily Larson, Duluth
James Hovland, Edina
Hank Ludtke, Frazee
Jay Arrowsmith DeCoux, Grand Marais
Dave Smiglewski, Granite Falls
Shep Harris, Golden Valley
Steve Donney, Harmony
Molly Cummings, Hopkins
Bob Anderson, International Falls
George Tourville, Inver Grove Heights
Mike Poellinger, La Crescent
John Keis, Little Canada
Bob Byrnes, Marshall
Sheldon Giese, Morris

“ Transportation improvements are important for the Marshall region, and pedestrian and bicycle safety are part of the improvement equation.
Mayor Byrnes of Marshall ”

“ Apple Valley is a walkable, bicycle-friendly community that connects people to where they live, work and play.
Mayor Hamann-Roland of Apple ”