



# 2014 Financials

Thank you for supporting our work to make Montana a safer, friendlier place for walking and bicycling!

When you give to Bike Walk Montana, you support better laws, safer roads, increased education, and the local advocates and organizations working to make Montana communities safer, friendlier, and healthier.

[www.bikewalkmontana.org](http://www.bikewalkmontana.org)

Bike Walk Montana  
PO Box 584  
Helena, MT 59624

[bikewalkmontana.org](http://bikewalkmontana.org)



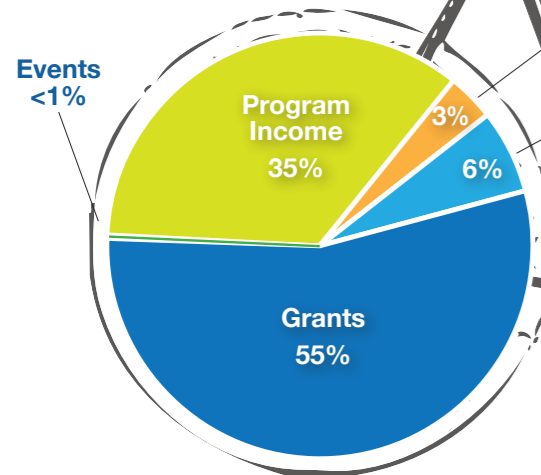
# 2014 Annual Report



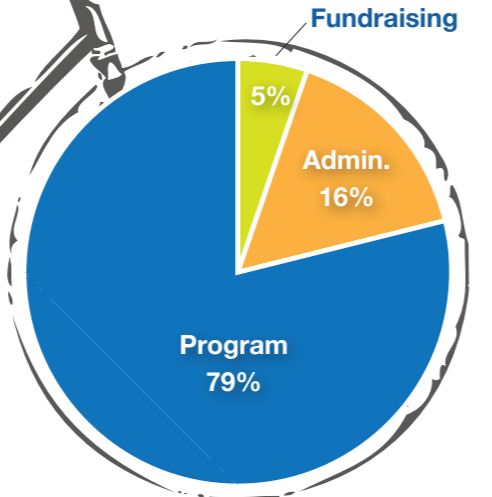
**BIKE WALK MONTANA** is a non-profit organization dedicated to making bicycling and walking safe and accessible for all.

As a statewide advocate for people who bike and walk, **BIKE WALK MONTANA** was developed to support and cultivate a safe environment for bicycling and walking.

**Bike Walk Montana 2014 Income**



**Bike Walk Montana 2014 Income**





# 2014 Highlights

## Guiding Principles

- Bicycling and walking are healthy, safe, economical, and fun.
- Everyone should feel safe while walking or riding a bicycle.
- Everyone has a right to transportation choices.
- We increase safe walking and bicycling through education, appropriate legislation, and improved infrastructure.
- Bicycling and walking provide a simple and inexpensive way to promote public health, ease traffic congestion, and improve the environment.
- Diversity is critical to developing a strong bicycling and walking community.

## 2014 Board of Directors

**Chair:** Taylor Lonsdale, Bozeman

**Vice Chair:** Bill Schneider, Helena

**Secretary:** Darlene Tussing, Sheridan

**Treasurer:** Lisa Schmidt, Helena

Kathy Aragon, Billings  
Gale Frank, Sidney

Marty Basta, Great Falls  
John Juras, Great Falls

John Coulthard, Butte  
Saara Snow, Missoula

Bill Foisy, Red Lodge  
Tom Thompson, Missoula

Larry Volkening, Dillon

[www.bikewalkmontana.org](http://www.bikewalkmontana.org)

Bicycle education classes provide invaluable instruction to children and adults. "I loved this class! It was not only fun, but a great learning opportunity and helped build my biking confidence." – Marcy McLean

## Working Behind the Scenes . . .

The demand for safe places to walk and bike in Montana continues to rise. As a result, significant progress is being made throughout the state. Behind the scenes we are advocating every day for you and your work at the local level. Some of these ongoing efforts include:

- Continual advocacy and conversations with MDT and other state agencies on projects and state-level plans that impact people who walk and bicycle, i.e., rumble strip guidance; bicycle facilities at state parks; and potential state policies.
- Partnering with the MT Nutrition and Physical Activity Program of DPHHS on the Building Active Communities Initiative.
- Participating in the advisory group updating the Comprehensive Highway Safety Plan, which will now include safety strategies for bicyclists and pedestrians.
- Providing Letters of Support for grant applications for agencies and organizations submitting proposal for biking and walking initiatives in their communities.
- Participating in an inter-agency bicycle tourism group to promote and enhance bicycle touring in Montana.
- Working with Glacier National Park to promote and enhance bicycling in the Park.
- Providing technical assistance to communities throughout Montana.
- Presenting at workshops and conferences on bicycling and walking topics.
- Leading and assisting with a variety of walking audits, demonstrations, and workshops to increase community awareness and support for walking and bicycling initiatives.
- Being a resource when communities or advocates have questions or need resources.

We are proud of the work we are doing and thank you for supporting our efforts!

Melinda Barnes  
Executive Director

## "Catch the Momentum" 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Summit, Billings

- 100 participants from 23 communities
- MDT Director Mike Tooley as the keynote speaker
- A variety of mobile sessions
- Half-day workshop on Bicycle Friendly Business Districts by April Economides

"There's no better forum in Montana for inspiration and practical advice on bike/ped issues."

~ Ben Brouwer

## 2014 National Bike Summit

Four Montanans attended the 2014 National Bike Summit in Washington, D.C. Federal policies and federal funding significantly impact local initiatives in Montana.



## Innovation of the Year Award: Cascade County

The purchase of an alternative vehicle such as the ELF is truly an innovative way to replace aging gas powered fleet vehicles.



## Advocate of the Year Award: Deb Sension-Hall, Missoula

Deb's work as a Middle School Health Enhancement teacher is not confined to the classroom. She sponsors an after school "Adventure Club," providing youth the opportunity to practice skills taught in the classroom.

## Great Happenings throughout Montana:

- The Institute for Tourism and Recreation Research (ITRR) released a report indicating that bicycle tourism has a potential \$377 million economic benefit to Montana.
- Five local "Complete Streets" policies passed in Belgrade, Hamilton, Shelby, Sidney, and Dawson County (the first county policy in Montana).

Bike Walk Montana is increasing awareness through walk audits to identify pedestrian safety hazards.

