



**BICYCLE
COALITION
OF MAINE**

2022 Candidate Questionnaire - Active Transportation

Maine residents throughout the state should all have access to safe places to bike and walk for work, school, recreation, or transportation. Currently, many people report that they do not feel safe walking and biking on Maine's roadways. By providing more active transportation (especially bicycle and pedestrian) facilities, we make every street safer for all users and create vibrant communities.

The Bicycle Coalition of Maine (BCM) invites you to share your position on issues related to making Maine a better and safer place to bike and walk. Your answers will be made public so voters can better understand your position on active transportation.

Candidate Name

Poppy Arford

Candidate Office

State Representative

Town/District

Brunswick/ District 101

Do you think active transportation should be a priority for the state?

Yes

Why do you think active transportation should/should not be a priority for the state?

Three reasons; public health, reduction on dependence on fossil fuels, promotes economic growth. All statewide impacts.

Do you agree that Complete Streets (a design philosophy that provides safe accommodations for all users based on the context of the street) is the approach Maine needs to take when designing and reconstructing roads, even if it means prioritizing people walking or biking in certain contexts?

Yes

Do you support increasing funding for bicycle and pedestrian facilities, even if it means deferring some motorist roadway projects?

Yes

The number of pedestrian fatalities in Maine doubled in 2021 compared to 2020, and eight pedestrians and one cyclist have died on Maine roads in 2022 to-date (August). What will you do to make our streets measurably safer for people biking, walking, and using wheelchairs?

Two priorities; slow automobiles down with infrastructure improvements, speed reductions, and improved enforcement. 2) Stricter regulation of and penalties for distracted driving inc. use of hand held devices by drivers in cars.

How would you support transportation options for the 24% of Mainers who don't or can't drive?

Prioritize the following; creating a much safer and more extensive statewide infrastructure for active transportation (inc. pedestrians and bikers) coupled with investment in e- buses and e-carpool vehicles. There must also be also be affordable, public access to these modes of transportation.

Forty years ago, more than 60% of school children in the US walked or rode a bicycle to school. Today, that figure is less than 10%. This decline in bicycling and walking and physical activity in general has been mirrored by dramatic increases in negative health impacts for kids. What would you do to reverse this trend?

Research and implement the options inc.what other states are doing that is working to activate youth to walk/ ride to school. Also prioritize safety and ensure accessibility for all youth regardless of income. One option is bike buses where youth are offered the option of riding bikes to school in groups supervised by adults to ensure safety.

When was the last time you rode a bike?

Within the last three months

Do you walk?

For errands;For health/recreation;For other reasons

Is there anything else you would like to share about active transportation in Maine?

I support developing the infrastructure needed for statewide increases in active transportation that is affordable and safe for Maine people.