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# BikeBR

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Community Bike and  
Pedestrian Tool

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User Guide

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BikeBR v3

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Last Revision: July 30, 2014

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## Overview

The BikeBR Mapping Application was developed in 2010, by the City-Parish Planning Commission, in an effort to help citizens and visitors determine which areas of Baton Rouge are easily accessible to bicyclists. In order to achieve this goal, it was necessary to measure how safe, easy, and desirable it is to bike instead of drive on the City-Parish road network. These assessments were based on the physical and built environment of the region. The result of this analysis was a "Bikeability" Index.

Making the website more interactive, users are able to select areas of interest such as businesses, parks, golf courses, hospitals, libraries, police stations, schools, retail centers, bus routes, and the airport. Enhancing the experience, website users have the option of choosing an origin and destination point and have direction results displayed in a dedicated location on the webpage.

As BikeBR has expanded and improved, it has become an interactive component of the Bike and Pedestrian Initiative's primary goal of encouraging biking and walking. Furthermore, it serves to support the [Mayor's Healthy City Initiative](#).

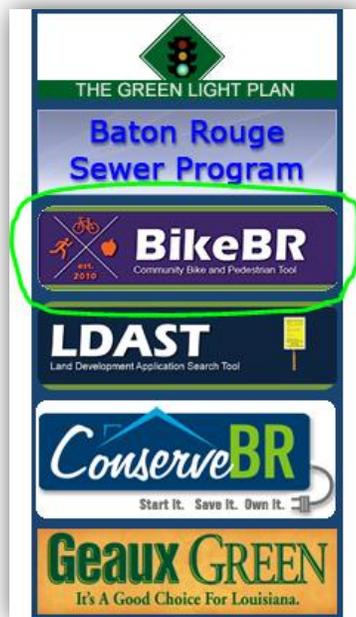
The expansion of the website offers abundant information related to walking, biking, safety, health and fitness, and activities, and events. Users are able to access these options by utilizing the horizontal navigation bar at the top of each interactive webpage. Sub-menus offer additional information.

## Getting Started

Being an Internet-based computer application, to access the BikeBR website, users need a computer with an Internet connection. Once the Internet connection is established, using a Web browser, BikeBR can be located either by navigating through the City of Baton Rouge's homepage to the appropriate link or by the Uniform Resource Locator.

Follow the instructions below to navigate through the Baton Rouge homepage:

- 1) Enter <http://www.brgov.com> into the address bar of your preferred Web browser.  
*(Google Chrome™ or Mozilla® Firefox® browsers are recommended for better performance)*
- 2) Focusing on the right sidebar, scroll down until the BikeBR shortcut button is displayed (See Figure 1).
- 3) Click the button and the BikeBR homepage will open (See Figure 2).



**Figure 1:** Shortcut Button to BikeBR Website

To directly access the BikeBR website by URL, please type

<http://www.brgov.com/bikebr> into your web browser address bar and press the Enter key. Add to your bookmarks for future access.

## Viewing the BikeBR Webpage

The interactive map is centered on East Baton Rouge Parish. All of the original map functions of the latest Google Maps™ Web platform are implemented to maintain familiarity among general users. Custom programming to the source code provides a unique and interactive interface that offers users easy navigation around the website.

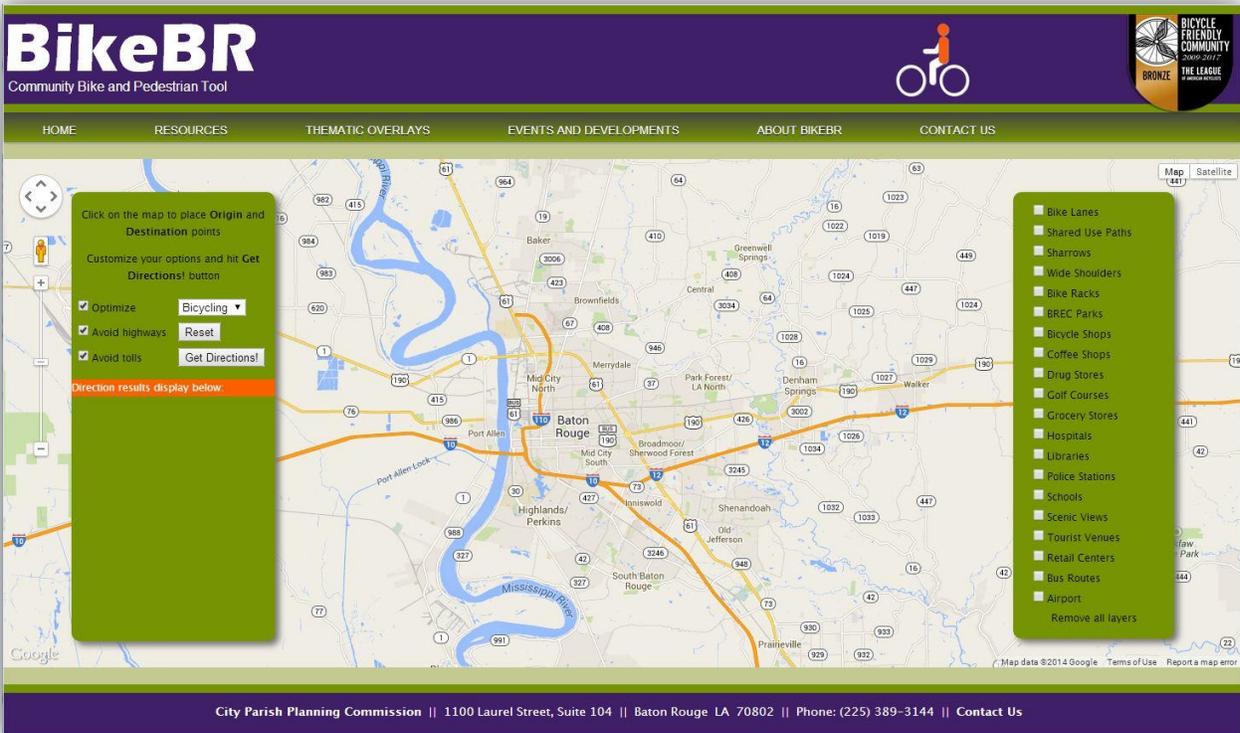
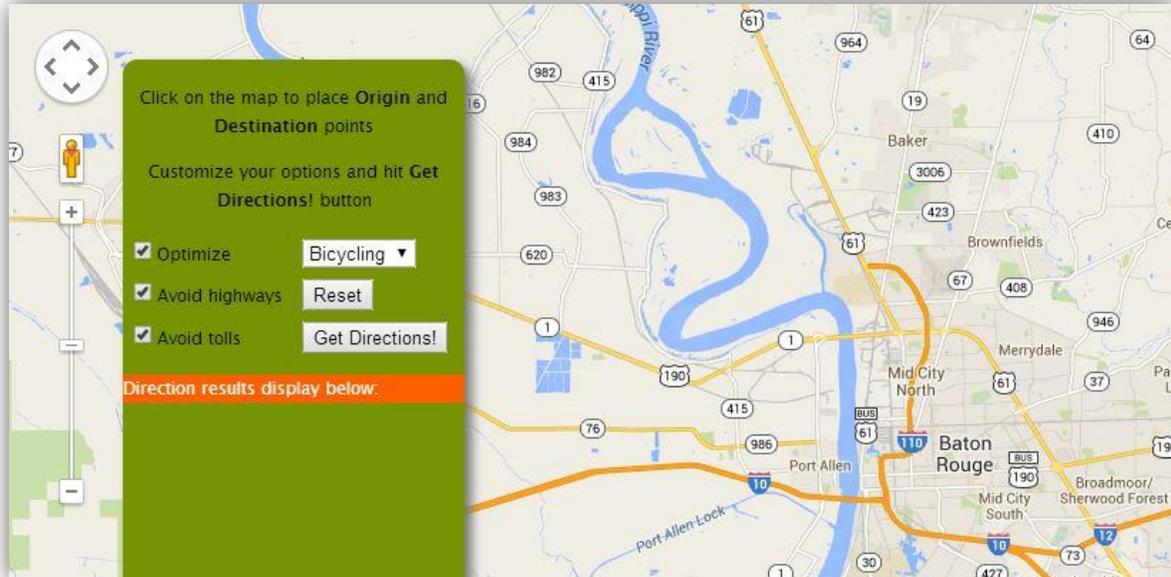


Figure 2: BikeBR Homepage

## Navigating the Map

Navigating the BikeBR map window is as easy as finding your house on Google Maps™, Yahoo!® Maps, or Bing®, because the BikeBR is built on the expandable principles of the robust JavaScript™ engine of Google Maps™. All mouse movements and on-screen tools are basically the same in order for users to enjoy the same and safe way of navigating maps on the Internet (See Figure 3).



**Figure 3:** Google Map Controls

The basic on-screen tools are:

- 1) Zoom bar with (+) and (-) incremental zoom levels
- 2) Street View
- 3) Directional map panning
- 4) Base map choices of Roadmap or Satellite

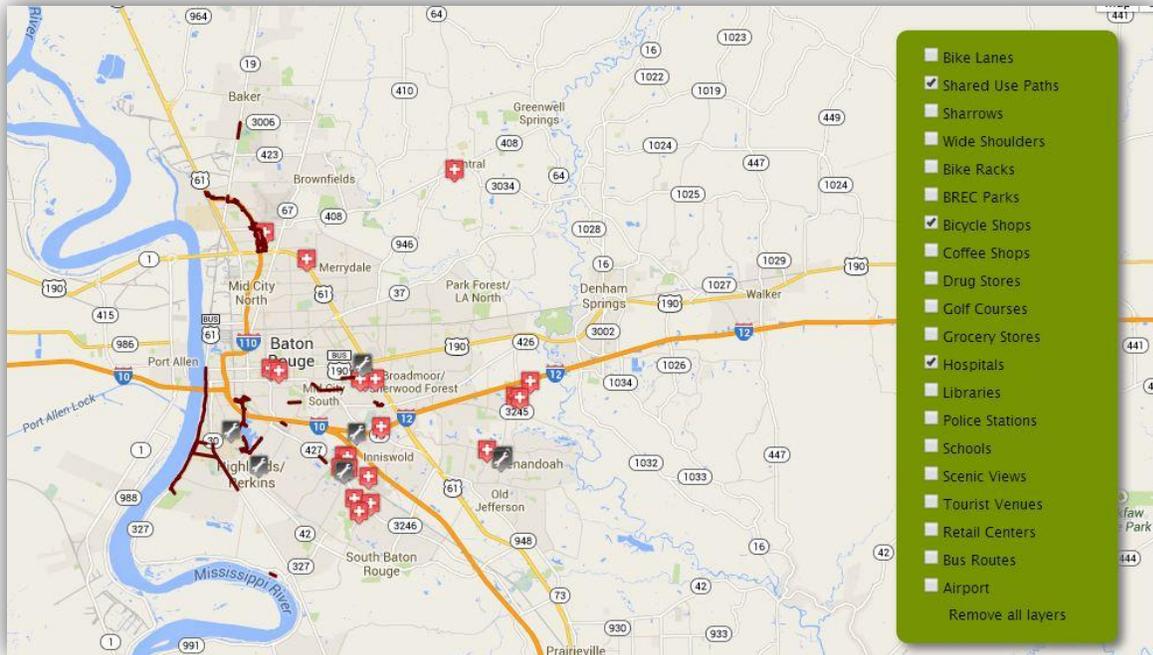
The basic mouse movement tools are:

- 1) Dynamic panning with Grab n' Go technique
- 2) Zoom function by double-clicking

## Using the BikeBR Webpage

### Selecting and Viewing Layers of Interest

Selecting unique layers of interest is easy – simply select the check-box next to the desired layer(s). After a box is checked, the spatial data will be displayed on the map. If preferred, multiple layers may be displayed at the same time (See Figure 4).



**Figure 4:** Layers Displayed by Selecting Check-boxes

Layers may be deselected through two methods

- 1) Individually deselecting a check-box
- 2) Selecting the 'Remove all layers' option at the bottom of the selection box

## Custom Route

Getting directions is quick and easy. Map users are able to click on the location where they want a journey to begin, click where it should end, and select the 'Get Directions' button (Highlighted in yellow) (See Figure 5). Turn-by-turn directions display in the lower left section of the webpage under the heading 'Direction results display here'. The 'Reset' button (above the 'Get Directions' button) will remove all selection points and turn-by-turn directions of the chosen route.

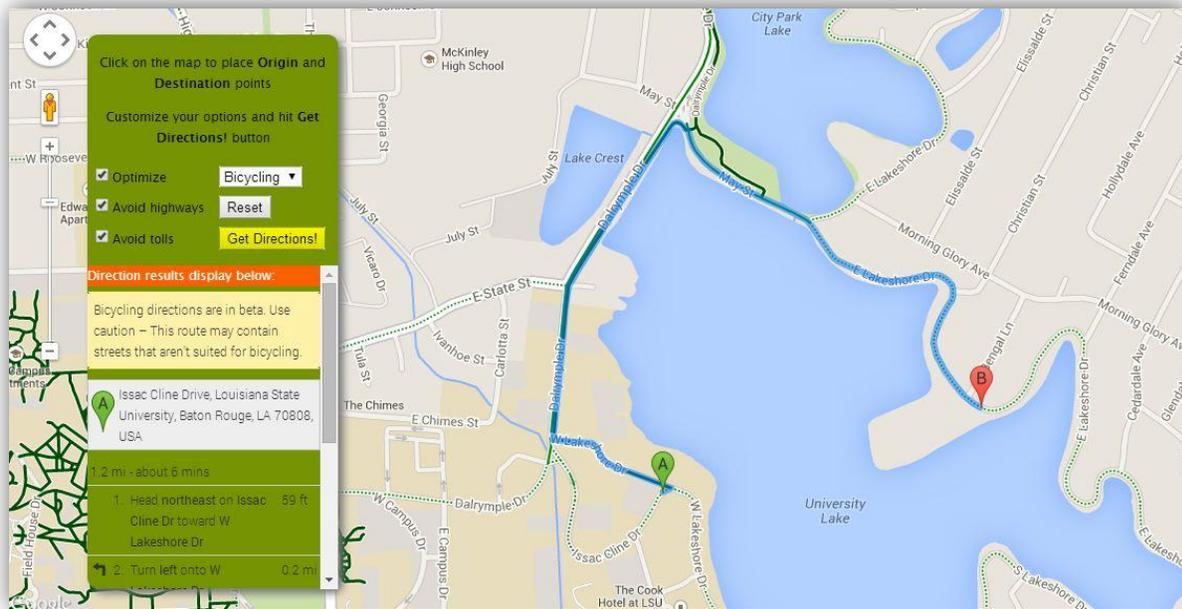


Figure 5: Turn-by-Turn Directions

A maximum of eight waypoints may be selected with the custom route tool.

## Using the Navigation Bar

The navigation bar is comprised of six options and is always present at the top of the page (See Figure 6). Each selection opens a different part of the Community Bike and Pedestrian Tool, BikeBR.

- Home – links to the BikeBR Homepage
- Resources – a page offering health and fitness links, biking links, and walking links
  - Resources Sub-menu – offers videos, safety bulletins, and additional resources
    - Resources Sub- Sub-menu – links to .PDF maps
- Thematic Overlays – Displays ‘Walkability’ and ‘Bikeability’ Index maps
  - Resources Sub-menu – leads to information about ‘Walkability’ and ‘Bikeability’ Index
- Events and Developments – displays a Google™ Calendar of upcoming even pedestrian and biking events
- About BikeBR – offers information about BikeBR, Awards, and Health and Fitness. Additional informational links are displayed on the page
- Contact Us – Maps the location of the City-Parish Planning Commission, and displays contact address and phone number



**Figure 6:** Navigation Bar