



## Mandela Barnes

### Responses to the Wisconsin Bike Fed Governor Candidate Questionnaire - Spring 2026

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**Do you support proposed legislation like AB694/SB690 (restoring eminent domain)? Please share a brief rationale for your position.**

As a proud member, I am committed to ensuring we advance the cause of creating more cycling friendly infrastructure. Yes, I support this legislation and I am committed to building out the bike and pedestrian infrastructure our communities need. I'll work closely with the Governor's Bicycle Coordinating Council and local leaders to make sure those policies respect property rights and reflect what communities actually want. Every Wisconsinite deserves safe ways to get around their community—whether that's by bike, walking, or in a car.

**Do you support proposed legislation like AB334/SB343 (complete streets)? Please share a brief rationale for your position.**

Yes, I support legislation that ensures our streets reflect the needs of our communities. For too long, we've built roads that work great if you're in a car and are far too dangerous if you're on a bike or walking. Complete streets legislation offers bipartisan, commonsense proposals that make our communities more livable, our streets safer, and ensures that every Wisconsinite can get where they're going safely.

**Do you support proposed legislation like AB 371/SB375 (Milwaukee traffic safety camera)? Please share a brief rationale for your position.**

Traffic deaths are preventable deaths, and we need to do everything we can to bring down road safety deaths and make our streets safer for all Wisconsinites. Reckless driving is a real concern, especially in the city of Milwaukee, and we need to take tangible steps in order to make our streets safer for drivers as well as cyclists and pedestrians. This is a goal shared by legislators on both sides of the aisle, and I'll look to create and enforce laws that bring down traffic accidents and fatality rates, including commonsense steps like adopting safety cameras that enforce red-lights.

**Emotos (and other OCEVs) are an increasing concern in communities, and many are adapting local ordinances that create a patchwork of varying laws. Should Wisconsin define e-motos in legislation, should there be regulations on the sale and use of these Vehicles?**

Inconsistent rules doesn't work for anyone—riders or communities. I support clear, statewide definitions that treat high-speed e-bikes the same as mopeds and motorcycles with the same

licensing requirements and safety standards. As Governor, I will work closely with the Bike Fed and the greater Bicycle Coordinating Council to utilize their research to adopt a definition and create commonsense regulations to protect consumers and communities.

**What is your position on the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Fund?**

For decades, Wisconsin has been protecting public lands and waters from private purchase through this program. The legislature's failure to extend it was a serious mistake, and as Governor I'll restore the program with permanent, sustained funding that keeps Wisconsin's public lands free for all Wisconsinites for generations to come. In recent years, visits to our State Parks and Trails have increased while funding for the DNR has decreased. This has resulted in the inability to maintain facilities, and in some cases lead to closures.

**What do you think is an appropriate funding mechanism for Wisconsin's State Parks and Trails?**

Wisconsin has some of the most beautiful natural treasures in the country—the Apostle Islands, Devil's Lake, the Northwoods, the Driftless Area. These are the places where we fish, hunt, and where generations of Wisconsin families have made memories. One of my priorities as Governor will be to make Wisconsin an outdoor recreation capital of the world. That can't come close to happening without strong, permanent funding sources for our state parks and the Department of Natural Resources. As Governor, I will restore the funding needed to keep Wisconsin's lakes and forests intact for hunting, fishing, and recreation for generations to come.

**Are you familiar with Minnesota's Legacy and Trust Funds, and would you support legislation of that nature for Wisconsin?**

I'm familiar with this policy, and I agree with the outcome—we need dedicated, sustained funding sources for Wisconsin's natural resources and public recreation. However, I do believe that the funding mechanism should not raise taxes on middle-class families and would look for alternative revenue streams.

**The Governor's Bicycle Coordinating Council was established in 1977 by then Governor Patrick Lucey. What do you see as the mission and purpose of the council?**

As an avid cyclist, I know firsthand that cyclists are too often an afterthought when we build and fund infrastructure in this state. Wisconsin ranks 44th in the country in per-capita spending on biking and walking. That's embarrassing, and the Bicycle Coordinating Council exists to change that by keeping bike infrastructure on the radar when roads are being planned and when budgets are being written. As Governor, I'll fight to make sure the voices of that council, cyclists, and all those seeking more multimodal transportation are at the table as we craft transportation policy.