



BYCS

Where can
the bicycle
take us?

The Bicycle Mayor Network

Why did we start the Bicycle Mayor Network?

- Similar challenges, opportunities, and struggles among global bicycle changemakers
 - A need for greater collaboration and knowledge sharing
- Need for collaboration between government and civil society
- Strong belief in the power of civil society to drive lasting, positive changes in our cities
- Similar to concept of “night mayor” - operating between residents, government, and industry to provide a unique perspective



History

2016 - Elected first Bicycle Mayor in Amsterdam

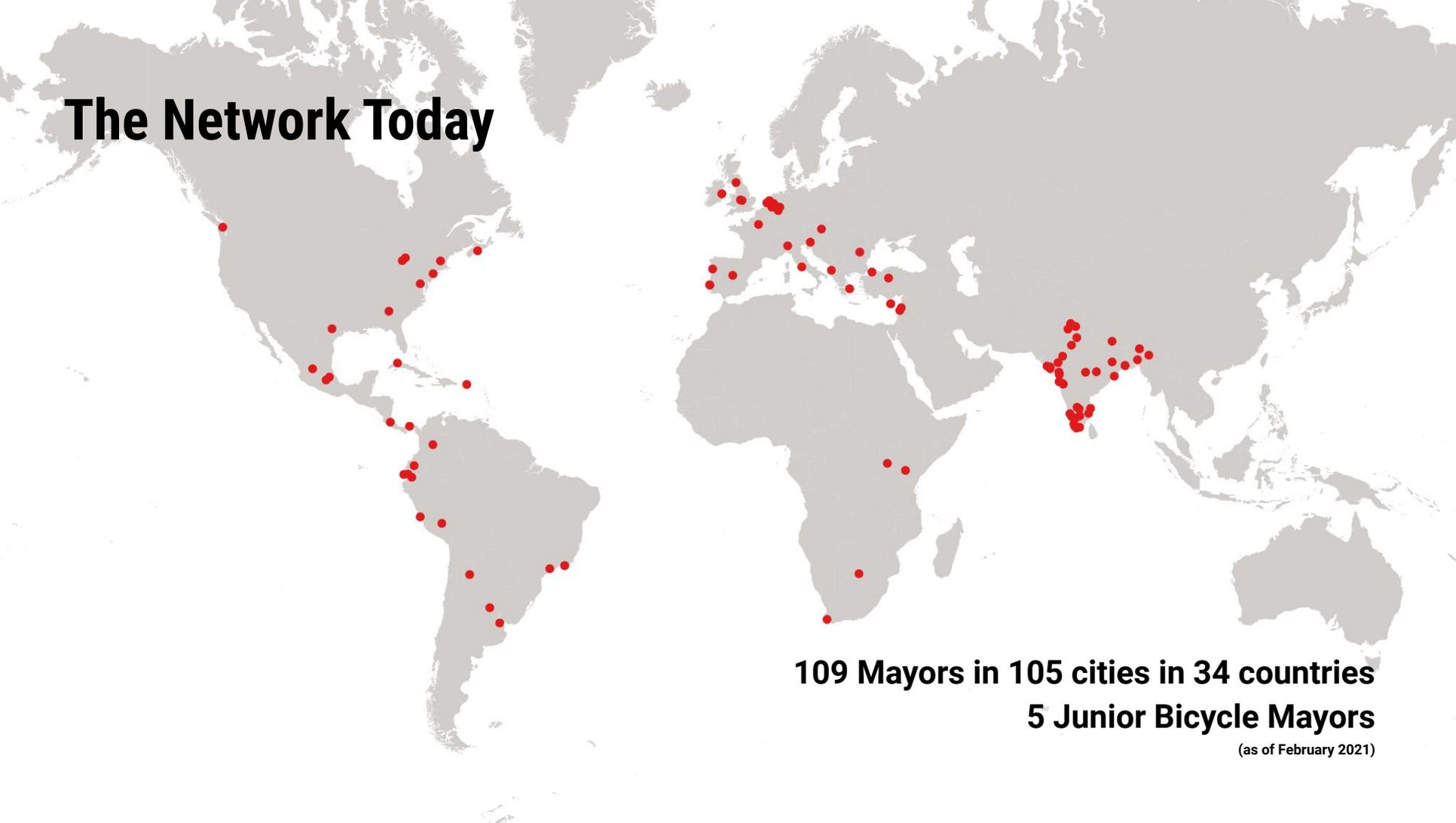
2018 - Elected first Junior Bicycle Mayor

2020 - Reached 100 Bicycle Mayors

2021 - BYCS India Foundation established



The Network Today



109 Mayors in 105 cities in 34 countries

5 Junior Bicycle Mayors

(as of February 2021)

What do Bicycle Mayors do?



[Marina Kyriakou](#), Bicycle Mayor of Nicosia, meets with residents to understand how car congestion affects their quality of life



With the help of local authorities, Bicycle Mayor of Bengaluru, [Sathya Sankaran](#), initiates a COVID-19 recovery plan that prioritises cycling



Mexico City's Bicycle Mayor, [Arelí Carréon](#), recycles and donates bicycles to healthcare workers to ensure safe movement during the pandemic

What do Bicycle Mayors do?

In their city

- Understand and work towards solving core challenges related to cycling
- Collaborate with residents, activists, government, and industry
- Promote the work of others in their city

In the network

- Share best practices and lessons learned
- Collaborate on regional, global efforts

In general

- Two-year term, can be re-appointed
- Promote the network and work of other Bicycle Mayors

What makes a successful Bicycle Mayor?

- Strategic - acknowledges limited time and resources and thus focuses on attainable accomplishments
- Collaborator - works with others to strategically complement skills, experience, resources, connections
- Attune to intersectional issues - sees the bicycle as a piece of the puzzle (alongside public space, transit, housing etc.)
- Connected to, and respected within, the general community as well as the cycling community
- Experience in some or preferably multiple of the following:
 - Stakeholder organizing / engagement
 - Working with government officials (policy, planning, public works, etc.)
 - Communication over multiple platforms
 - Event organization and management

How does the network support Bicycle Mayors?

- **Promote the work of Bicycle Mayors** through a monthly organisation newsletter, social media, and events
- **Facilitate Collaboration** through online platforms, network-wide calls, a network newsletter, and working Groups
- **Provide Resources** through a resource hub, workshops and trainings, and access to events
- **Direct Support** through regular one-on-one check-ins and making our staff available for questions



What does the Network as a whole do?

- Promotes the bicycle as a solution to some of the most complex urban challenges
- Keeps the issues front-and-center and moving forward through global and regional calls-to-action
- Aligns the network (and its cause) to other movements and organizations that are also working to create more liveable cities

Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director General at WHO, and Sao Paulo Brazil Bicycle Mayor JP Amaral rode bikes into the first World Health organization Global Conference on Air Pollution and Health to underline the importance of the shift from car-centric to human-centric cities.



How does someone become a Bicycle Mayor?

- Complete an application, including three endorsements from key local stakeholders
- Application reviewed by BYCS staff and, when relevant, other Bicycle Mayors
 - Be specific about your plans. Demonstrate you know the challenges and solutions
 - Be realistic given your capacity and the scale of the challenge
 - Logically connect the challenges in your city to your plans and the impact
- Approved candidates will receive a Getting Started toolkit and an announcement is made
- <https://bycs.org/our-work/join-the-bicycle-mayor-network/>

How else can I get involved?

- [Help find a Bicycle Mayor in your city](#)
 - Spread the word through (social) media
 - Campaign toolkit available
- [Become a Supporter](#)
 - Sign on for global and regional calls-to-action (e.g. expressing your support for an initiative, helping us gather data or media, or communicating a particular message)
- [Promote the network and our work](#)
 - Spread the word about the work of Bicycle Mayors and the network
 - Material available for download and sharing



Future of the Network

- Decentralisation as a way to connect better with local knowledge and challenges and move past eurocentrism in cycling best practices
 - Have begun in India and Latin America
- Integrating principles of equity in the development of the Bicycle Mayor Network
- Demanding a universal human right to safe, clean, sustainable, affordable mobility





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