



# *Bicycle Access Council*

## News & Digest

[www.BicycleAccess-PA.org](http://www.BicycleAccess-PA.org)

May 2011

*Hello Members and Supporters of the Bicycle Access Council.*

**It's a beautiful day in Pennsylvania!**

### **BICYCLE SAFETY LEGISLATION...**

Was passed with a floor vote by the House of Representatives on May 23. It's now up to the Senate to move on a companion bill before it becomes enacted. In summary, HB 170 is one of several bills considered in a "safe driving package" of bills, including cell phone texting while driving restrictions and a teen driving license change. Since first authored by BAC in 2008, HB 170 includes revisions to Title 75, the Vehicle Code, to exempt bicycles from impeding traffic requirements; establishes a minimum safe passing distance (four feet); prohibits motor vehicles from interfering with bicyclists when traveling straight through at intersections and access points; allows crossing a double yellow line to safely overtake a bicyclist.

### **SEPTEMBER 11th NATIONAL MEMORIAL TRAIL...**

Is being planned as a tribute to all those who perished in America's worst terrorist attack. The establishment of a hiking, biking and driving trail will provide a physical linkage connecting the three memorials commemorating the tragic events that occurred at the Flight 93 National Memorial, the World Trade Center, and the Pentagon.

Memorial Trail plans eventually are to create a 1,130-mile non-motorized hiking and cycling trail. Initially it will have on-road sections connecting the memorials. Localities along the planned route would be vital hubs with the trail serving as an important recreational and transportation venue for promoting tourism, economic development, healthy bodies and minds, and cultural and educational opportunities for generations to come. The goal is to have the route established with a number of segments open for use in time for the tenth anniversary of the September 11<sup>th</sup> 2001 attacks.

Meetings were held to gain public input on route alternatives. Anyone with ideas and suggestions should review the website and submit comments. Go to: [www.911MemorialTrail.org](http://www.911MemorialTrail.org)

For further information contact: David Brickley, President and CEO, September 11<sup>th</sup> National Memorial Trail Alliance, [911Trail@comcast.net](mailto:911Trail@comcast.net) 703-590-3569

### **PPAC RESTRUCTURING BILL...**

Is due for "second consideration" on the House floor. House bill, HB 864, would amend the Pedalcycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee (PPAC) statute to allow proposed reorganization changes to take effect. PPAC will still continue to meet under the old structure. Next meeting is June 2 in Harrisburg. Contact BAC for details. PPAC is open to the public.

### US BICYCLE ROUTE SYSTEM...

Will be “the largest bicycle route network on the planet” according to Adventure Cycling Association, which is in the final week of its [Build It. Bike It. Be a Part of It.](#) campaign for 2011. Donations are being sought from individuals and organizations to achieve a \$30,000 goal. So far, \$23,348 has been raised from a relatively small number of donors. Supporters may donate as little as \$10 to help the effort. Donate on-line or by USPS. Mail to: USBRS 2011, Adventure Cycling, 150 E. Pine St., Missoula, MT 59802.

### INTEREST IN ELECTRIC-ASSIST BICYCLE LEGISLATION...

Is still promising; however, no new meetings are scheduled until after a Pennsylvania budget is passed. BAC will play an active role in drafting updates to the Vehicle Code to include this new technology.

### FIRST CAPITAL INSTALLS PERMANENT BIKE LANE...

In York, PA. To the surprise of many in York County and York City residents, a permanent bike lane was installed on east bound King Street just in time for Bike-To-Work Week. King Street was a two-lane one-way street with parking on both sides. Now, the right most lane is for bicycle travel only with bike logos and directional arrows to discourage wrong-way riding. Parking is not affected with the new bike facility. All lane markings and signage conform to state and federal standards on the newly resurfaced street. Also in support of B-T-W week, a temporary bike lane was created on west bound Philadelphia Street using barrels and appropriate signage.

York mayor Kim Bracey supported the bike lane project despite heavy criticism. York’s transit authority, *rabbitransit*, was an active partner in planning B-T-W activities. *rabbitransit* fixed-route buses are all equipped with front mounted bike racks and report a consistent usage. BAC was a planning partner.

*ed note:* York, PA claims to be the “First Capital” of the United States when the newly formed Continental Congress needed a place to meet to draft the articles of confederation and fled west from Philadelphia to evade British forces.

### Dates to Remember

June 2            PPAC, Harrisburg. 1-3 PM  
Aug 21           Lancaster Bicycle Club Covered Bridge Metric Century [www.lancasterbikeclub.org](http://www.lancasterbikeclub.org)  
Pre-registration only—deadline is July 1. No day of ride walk-ins. Limit 2600 riders.

### Mission Statement...

The Bicycle Access Council is a non-profit advocacy organization that serves as a forum for Pennsylvania bicyclists and as an ombudsman for bicycling issues.

It is the objective of the Bicycle Access Council to make bicycling on roadways throughout the Commonwealth safe, respectable and a transportation choice by educating its members and the motoring public.

All funding for the Bicycle Access Council comes from memberships and donations. Annual membership is \$20 per year. BAC does not share membership information.

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