



Bicycle Access Council News & Digest

www.BicycleAccess-PA.org

February 2014

Hello Members and Supporters of the Bicycle Access Council.

It's a beautiful day in Pennsylvania!

HOUSE PASSES HB 1415...

On February 5 with an overwhelming vote of 179 with no dissenting votes! This quickly followed a January 28 House Transportation Committee unanimous vote. That was the first legislative step necessary to move this bill along for a Share-The-Road vehicle registration plate to be issued by PennDOT. The bill has now been sent to the Senate Transportation Committee, which has yet to act on its own version of a companion bill, SB 1153. With such an impressive House vote on HB 1415, the Senate Transportation Committee chairman may opt to simply take up the House bill. Pennsylvania bicyclists may recall that Act 3 of 2012 was passed in a similar process when the Senate voted on HB 170 without its own version.

House Bill 1415 picked up an additional four co-sponsors since last reported by BAC to bring the total to 27. Here is the current list of sponsors (final four were added since last reported): Dave MALONEY (Prime Sponsor), Garth EVERETT, Steve BARRAR, Stan SAYLOR, Patty KIM, Tina PICKETT, David MILLARD, Bernie O'NEILL, Ron MILLER, Peter DALEY, Jerry KNOWLES, Tom KILLION, Tom CALTAGIRONE, Mark COHEN, Mark PAINTER, Bill KORTZ, Kathy WATSON, Tom MURT, Erin MOLCHANY, Mauree GINGRICH, Mark GILLEN, Mike STURLA, Nicholas MIOZZIE, Kevin SCHREIBER, Greg VITALI, Kate HARPER, and Matthew BRADFORD. The total was 16 Republicans and 11 Democrats. That's bike-partisan!

If your representative is listed here and/or a member of the House Transportation Committee, please take time to contact them with a personal *Thank You* for making this possible.

BAC GRASSROOTS CAMPAIGN IS STILL ON...

For a Share-The-Road vehicle license plate to continue through 2014 or until passed. Bicycle clubs and bicycle retailers will be critical partners for BAC's effort to get the General Assembly to send a bill to the Governor allowing PennDOT to issue STR plates. Now that the House has passed HB 1415, it's time to ask your state senator for their support and advice on how to get this passed quickly by the Senate. Please contact BAC with any feedback received.

TAPPING INTO T.A.P. FUNDS...

Will be made possible through a competitive funding cycle that makes \$26 Million available statewide for all eligible "bicycle facilities" projects. A Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) restructured the former Transportation Enhancement Program within the MAP-21 (Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21 Century) congressional Highway Trust Fund Bill.

PROFIT-SHARE IS NOT PART OF BIKE-SHARE COMPANY...

As the world supplier of “bike share” bicycles declares bankruptcy. Try to follow this — yes, it’s complicated. The Canadian company that manufactures and sells bicycles and the terminals to operate the software to rent and return fleets of bikes at docking stations sought protection from creditors. Bike Share™ is the concept of providing bicycles in large urbanized cities for short term on-demand use, by the hour or day. Payment is made by debit or credit card at docking stations and the bikes can be returned to a different location. New York, Washington DC and Paris are the most famous locations operating these bike share operations. Several Canadian cities tout them also. The story reads like a blame-game. View at:

<http://tinyurl.com/jwxarvl> <http://tinyurl.com/ke5yx5v> <http://tinyurl.com/k9ssjme>

Meanwhile, Philadelphia still has plans to operate a very large system by the end of 2014 when funding is secured — a capital investment of up to \$15 Million for potentially 1,500 bikes using 150-200 stations. Development is actively ongoing with financial partners and businesses to locate the bike docking stations. Stay tuned.

QUOTES WE LIKE...

From LAB’s Andy Clark, “Keep Calm and Bike On” (in reaction to the Bike Share bankruptcy).

2014 Dates to remember...

February 9	17th Annual STOP/SWAP/SAVE, Westminster, MD. (web search for details)
Feb 22-23	Endurance Sports Expo, Oaks, PA Sat:10-5, Sun:10-4 (web search for details)
March 3-5	National Bike Summit, Washington, DC.
March 9	Daylight Saving Time begins. Ends November 2
March 11	PPAC meeting, 12-3 PM , Harrisburg. Open to the public. Note new start time.

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 roads 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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