



Bicycle Access Council News & Digest

www.BicycleAccess-PA.org

September/October 2014

Hello Members and Supporters of the Bicycle Access Council.

It's a beautiful day in Pennsylvania!

THE LIGHT AT THE END OF THE TUNNEL(S) ...

Is getting brighter for the **Pike-2-Bike Trail**, an 8.5 mile section of abandoned Pennsylvania Turnpike that is seeing renewed effort for future development. Situated in Bedford and Fulton Counties, this corridor links two historic tunnels that provide a unique bicycling experience and has been considered as an off-road route for BicyclePA Route-S; however, not signed as such.

Although the roadway portions have become badly deteriorated since 1968 when last used as a toll road, the tunnels are in relatively good condition. The Southern Allegheny Conservancy (SAC) acquired ownership of the trail in 2001 with the goal of developing a non-motorized trail. After some initial progress and a 2005 feasibility study, economic setbacks halted plans.

Now, a newly released economic impact study by Bedford County has drawn the attention of several state lawmakers, DCNR and others into serious strategic planning for progress. BAC was involved in the initial transfer to SAC and has been invited to take part in the upcoming strategic planning needed to move forward. The project was recently featured in *Pennsylvania magazine*, September/October 2014

PITTSBURGH CREATES A SERIES OF 'PROTECTED BIKE LANES'...

Just in time for the ProWalk/ProBike event September 8-11. Mayor Bill Peduto advocates for a more 'bikeable' city and delivers on that promise. Not all residents and city commuters are in favor of the changes as described in some of the links below. Bike Pittsburgh and the previous city Bicycle/Pedestrian coordinator worked to get these single and two-way protected bike lanes in place before PWPB. Traffic patterns for motorists and bicyclists are now drastically different — introducing some confusion and new conflict points. Bike Pittsburgh recognizes the new need for educational videos and literature to help explain how these unique facilities are to be used safely and in accordance with current PA Vehicle Code rules-of-the-road.

See: <http://tinyurl.com/ngnvr3v> <http://tinyurl.com/morb5cl> <http://tinyurl.com/nelem5n>

Be sure to read through the comments — very educational and entertaining.

THE SEPTEMBER 11TH NATIONAL MEMORIAL TRAIL ...

Needs local bicyclists' input at these public meetings/workshops. The goal of creating a non-motorized trail connects the three 2001 cash sites— Pentagon, Flight 93 and the WTC.

Thursday October 16, 7-9 pm: Victory Fire House, 205 Webster Street, Bethlehem, PA

Tuesday October 21, 7-9 pm: Hollidaysburg YMCA, 1111 Hewitt Street, Hollidaysburg, PA

Monday October 27, 7 to 8:45 pm: Bosler Library, 158 West High Street, Carlisle, PA

PHILADELPHIA BIKE SHARE IN 2015...

Is closer to a reality. Plans were announced at PWPB to install approximately 600 bikes at 60 docking stations. A public comment period is open until October 20 for locating dock stations. Go to phila.gov and bicyclecoalition.org — use key word search 'Bike Share' for more info.

HARRISBURG TO GET ITS FIRST BIKE LANE...

Along Front Street from Division to Herr St. The city announced plans to reduce Front Street to two lanes from three, which leaves ample room for a bike lane. This allows bicycle travel (southbound) away from the Riverfront Park shared use path. See: <http://tinyurl.com/oma939d>

THE 'PAPER TRAIL' RIDE ENDS...

For the Harrisburg Bicycle Club newsletter, *The Spokesman*. After the Nov/Dec 2014 issue, all club information will be accessed by the website (and, likely social media). *Ed note: Oh, Sigh!*

NAIC developed WreckCheck™...

A free mobile app for iPhone® and Android® smartphones that outlines what to do following a crash and walks users through a step-by-step process to create your own accident report. The app directs you to capture photos and helps document and share only what is necessary to file an insurance claim. Useful to email completed reports to your insurance agent.

Dates to remember...

Oct 11 Valley Preferred Cycling Center, Fall Velofest (Swap Meet) 8:30 AM-2 PM
Nov 8-9 Bike Philly Expo, Convention Center (Broad Street entrance)
Dec 11 PPAC, 12-3 PM, Harrisburg. Open to the public. Contact BAC for details.

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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