



Bicycle Access Council News & Digest

www.BicycleAccess-PA.org

December 2014

Hello Members and Supporters of the Bicycle Access Council.

It's a beautiful day in Pennsylvania!

WE KNOW WHO THE NEXT GOVERNOR WILL BE, ...

But who will be the Transportation Secretary in Governor Wolf's cabinet? At a recent event, BAC Executive Director, Joe Stafford, spoke with Barry Schoch to ask if he intends to stay on. His future as the transportation head will be measured in months, not years, *if* he stays on. He has not been asked yet or made a personal decision to accept. In a lighter moment, BAC asked former Governor Ed Rendell what advice he'd offer Gov-elect Wolf for a transportation secretary—"Keep the one you've got" was the short gruff reply in Rendell style.

THE 2014 ELECTIONS...

Will have a big impact on transportation as committee chairmanships and member changes take effect in January. Now that the General Assembly is a Republican majority, who knows what will take priority in legislative actions? BAC is committed to working with all former and new key legislators to improve accommodations for Pennsylvania bicyclists.

A SHARE-THE-ROAD LICENSE PLATE BILL...

Will be re-introduced by Representative Dave Maloney (R- Berks) who was prime sponsor for HB 1415 that failed to get final approval in the last legislative session. Rep Maloney circulated a Member Memo on December 8 seeking sponsors to begin the bill process, again. There will be a new bill number assigned. House and Senate Transportation Committees will be asked to approve the new bill for full House and Senate votes to pass on to the governor for passage.

BIKE SHARE™ IN PHILADELPHIA...

Moves closer to a launch date by doing innovative market studies and outreach to potential users. In a comprehensive analysis by the Bicycle Coalition of Greater Philadelphia, Bike Share is considering many new ideas and approaches for attracting as many user groups as possible in the metro area and beyond. Bike Share also wants to serve those who aren't the typical user group as in New York City or Washington, DC. Bike Share hopes to be a viable option for students and what are called the "unbanked" — those persons who do not have a credit card to rent bikes on a daily or annual basis.

Financial challenges must still be overcome by securing sponsorships and funding to support a business model. With the current decrease in gasoline prices, any form of bicycle commuting, including Bike Share, is less of an economic incentive even though it aids the environment and has healthy benefits. Comparing SEPTA fares with Bike Share fees will be a deciding factor.

PENNDOT POSTS A BICYCLE-PEDESTRIAN COORDINATOR POSITION,...

Finally. The individual will be responsible for managing the Department's statewide Bicycle/Pedestrian (BP) program and ensuring the BP projects at the local level meet statewide goals. This position has not been filled for years and has only had part time support. Applicants have until January 6, 2015. Selection should be made by March. Details at: <http://bit.ly/13ws7qC>
The position was posted internally at PennDOT and advertised nationally.

PPAC SELECTS DATES FOR 2015,...

Which are: March 12; May 14; September 10; December 10. The quarterly meetings of the Pedalcycle & Pedestrian Advisory committee are usually held in Harrisburg. Revised dates and locations will be announced in advance. All meetings are open to the public.

BICYCLE STAMPS ARE STILL AVAILABLE...

At USPS.com/shop in a special package including envelopes and a single sheet of 20 stamps with four distinct designs. Local post offices no longer have single sheets at Forever pricing.

'TIS THE SEASON FOR GIVING...

So, please help BAC have a cheerful holiday. Memberships and donations are needed now more than ever to carry on BAC's mission. Support what we do in the spirit of holiday giving.

YEAR END DONATIONS are appreciated and tax deductible as allowed by law. The Bicycle Access Council is a 501(c)3 charitable organization. A letter verifying donations is sent for amounts of \$250 or greater, or for any lesser amount upon request.

Dates to remember...

Feb 8 Bike Swap, Westminster, MD. <http://stopswapandsave.com>
Feb 21-22 Endurance Sports Expo, Greater Philly Expo Center, Oaks, PA

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.

Joe Stafford, Executive Director
Bicycle Access Council
Dallastown, PA
www.BicycleAccess-PA.org
(717) 417-1299

