



# Bicycle Access Council

## News & Digest

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

October-November 2015

Hello Members and Supporters of the Bicycle Access Council.

It's a beautiful day in Pennsylvania!

### **THE PENNSYLVANIA BUDGET IMPASSE...**

Cuts PennDOT Bicycle/Pedestrian *Engineer* position. The new position that was just created to support the recently filled Bike/Ped Coordinator, Roy Gothie, in PennDOT's central office has been suspended until the end of the year. Brian Sanders, who was to fill the new position, was released with no recall date given.

### **LAB SELECTS A NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR...**

From Pennsylvania. Alex Doty, executive director of the Bicycle Coalition of Greater Philadelphia (BCGP) will replace retiring Andy Clarke. Karen Jenkins, chair of the League of American Bicyclists made the announcement October 20. Details regarding the transition were not included in the announcement. A West Philadelphia resident, Doty is not moving to DC at this time where LAB is headquartered. As BCGP conducts a leadership search, a Legacy Fund to help recruit a new BCGP leader has begun.

### **PA TURNPIKE COMMISSION...**

Hosted a 75th year celebration at the Pennsylvania Historical Museum Commission on October 1st. The nation's first "Superhighway" was opened in 1940 with a fascinating history of vision and construction. Of course, the first completed 160 mile section from Carlisle to Irwin included those two now abandoned 'single-tube' tunnels — Rays Hill in Bedford County and Sideling Hill in Fulton County, which are included in the proposed eight-mile stretch of the **Pike-2-Bike Trail**. At the event, the Museum Commission held a grand opening for an exhibit chronicling the building of the turnpike that includes displays and photos showing the renewed interest in developing the Pike-2-Bike trail. The museum is located at Third and North streets, Harrisburg.

Also recognized at the event was Neal Wood, P.E. (retired), who in 1994, suggested and designed roadway rumble strips that was first used on the Pennsylvania Turnpike to reduce "drift off the road" crashes. The SNAP (Sonic Nap Alert Pattern) was tested for safety results while still allowing snow removal along the unused Pike-2-Bike Trail and can still be seen. Rumble strips, whether edge line or shoulder placement have been the bane of bicyclists throughout Pennsylvania when not placed in accordance with PennDOT policy.

### ACT 3 of 2012 JUST KEEPS ON TRUCKN'...

In the Pennsylvania Commercial Drivers Manual, Pub 223 (rev 12/14). Information for the safe passing of bicyclists is included on pages 2-25,26. It follows the same text as the Driver's Manual (Pub 95) to explain how and why to interact with bicyclists.

### HOUSE BILL 150 IS STILL LANGUISHING...

So, call, write, email, or better yet, ride your bike to your state Senator's district office asking for his or her support and action to move HB 150. Let BAC know the response to help coordinate an effective campaign where needed.

HB 150 authorizes PennDOT to issue a Share-The-Road license plate for motor vehicles at an added cost of \$40 designating all funds to be used for the central office

Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator position and/or bicycle signage projects. The final design for the plate is yet to be determined by PennDOT and PPAC once passed into law. Anyone may submit ideas for the plate to BAC, which created the working draft shown here.



### WAITING FOR A SIGN...

From PennDOT to promote the Four-Foot passing requirement when motor vehicles overtake a bicyclist is under discussion following a request by BAC for a new sign design. The goal at this time is to create an "experimental" sign to be used at locations with typical bicycle activity showing documented driver behavior compliance results. Signs must comply with standards set within the federally approved Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD).

### Dates to remember...

Nov 1 Daylight Saving Time ends at 2 AM. Set clocks BACK one hour.  
Jan ? PPAC, Harrisburg—changed from **December**. Date conflicts not yet resolved.

### 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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