



Bicycle Access Council

News & Digest

www.BicycleAccess-PA.org

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Hello Members and Supporters of the Bicycle Access Council.

It's a beautiful day in Pennsylvania!

BICYCLIST SAFETY LEGISLATION RE-INTRODUCED...

On March 24th by House Representative Ron Miller (93rd).

Initially introduced in the last legislative session, two House bills that would improve conditions for Pennsylvania bicyclists were re-introduced and assigned new bill numbers. These anticipated bills continued to receive more co-sponsors to improve their passage. Representative Miller delayed presenting these bills until now to allow some key legislators to sign on.

House Bill 1109 amends Title 18, the Crimes Code, to specify penalties for harassing bicyclists by motor vehicle operators or their passengers. **House Bill 1110** addresses several issues important to traffic interactions with bicyclists, including proper overtaking procedures, a safe passing distance requirement, redefining impeding traffic and other "technical corrections" as they apply to bicyclists on the roadway. There were 16 co-sponsors to House Bill 1109 and 37 co-sponsors to HB 1110.

To view the actual text of each bill, go to the PA General Assembly website and use the search feature for locating HB 1109 and HB 1110.

A Senate companion bill for HB 1110 is expected to be introduced soon. A Senate sponsor for a companion bill for HB 1109 is still being sought by BAC.

KEYSTONE BICYCLE RALLY DAY...

Is set for May 5. A full day of activities is planned including a press conference on the Capitol steps and lobbying members of the General Assembly for passage of pending legislation to improve bicyclists' safety.

All Pennsylvania bicyclists, bicycle organizations and bike clubs are invited to attend. Plans for a bicycle ride are included. Details are being developed and will be announced as they are confirmed.

Ideas and suggestions should be sent to the Bicycle Access Council.

THE 7th ANNUAL PENNSYLVANIA BIKE CLUB CONFERENCE...

Was held March 14 at PSU-York. Leaders of bike clubs participated in many topics of discussion and shared ideas to benefit all.

Glenn Rowe, Acting Bureau Director for Highway Safety and Traffic Engineering, spoke to the group about PennDOT's new policy of Smart Transportation, bicyclist crash data, edgeline rumble strips, and the proposed US numbered bicycle route system.

NEW BENEFIT OFFERED TO PA BIKE CLUB OFFICERS...

As a thank you for their volunteer service for bicycling. All Pennsylvania bike clubs may submit a list of all officers for a free subscription to the monthly BAC News & Digest. Details will be sent to club presidents with the offer soon. Thanks to Central Bucks Bicycle Club president Bob Rudy for the suggestion.

ON STREET PARKING FOR BICYCLES...

Is a new concept for Baltimore, MD. A single parking space will be converted to accommodate 10-12 bikes using a rack that is bolted to the pavement and have curb stops protecting both ends. Nate Evans, Bike-Ped planner for the city was quoted in the March 19 Baltimore Sun newspaper to describe how this will clear the sidewalk for pedestrians and provide a safe parking area for bicycles in commercial areas. Mayor Sheila Dixon supports this idea to encourage bicycling within the city. The first location is the 3100 block of St. Paul Street. Three other locations are being considered.

Dates to remember:

May 5 **Keystone Bicycle Rally Day.** Watch for details!
May 11-15 Bike-to-Work Week. May is Bike Month

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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