



Bicycle Access Council News & Digest

www.BicycleAccess-PA.org

September—October 2009

Hello Members and Supporters of the Bicycle Access Council.

It's a beautiful day in Pennsylvania!

NO LEGISLATIVE ACTION...

Is expected soon on the two bicycle safety bills introduced earlier this year while Governor Rendell and the General Assembly recover from the budget impasse. The budget delay consumed the time when legislative action would likely have taken place on House Bills HB 1109 and HB 1110.

However, even though legislators are reluctant to introduce Vehicle Code changes in general, there have been Transportation Committee hearings on other bills. The opportunity is still there for passage this session.

CHOOSING UP SIDES OF THE BIKE LANE DEBATE...

Is found here: <http://www.slate.com/id/2232555/> or <http://tinyurl.com/yjudfz8>

Here is the essence of the vehicular cyclists versus the bike lane proponents. Warning: the introduction is disturbing to read, but the writer gets most of the controversial issues well defined. BAC would like to hear from you—send your comments on this article to: ED@BicycleAccess-PA.org

STILL NO NEWS...

When it comes to filling the PennDOT central office position of Bike / Ped Coordinator. No announcement has been made for the position that was abruptly vacated in November 2008.

When filled, the B/P Coordinator will be under the deputy-secretary for Planning. Previously, the job was managed by the Bureau of Highway Safety and Traffic Engineering (BHSTE) under the deputy secretary for Highway Administration. It will be a significant change whenever the position is filled. The impact for Pennsylvania bicyclists is yet to be determined.

Hopefully, there will be an announcement by the next PPAC meeting in December to determine the role and duties of the new position.

BABY ON BORED...

Might be the better caption for this video clip from America's Funniest Home Videos: <http://tinyurl.com/yjeapa9>

BAC RECEIVES RECOGNITION...

From the York County Rail Trail Authority (RTA). At the October 19 monthly meeting, The Bicycle Access Council was honored with the 2009 Trail Organization Award. Executive Director, Joe Stafford, accepted the award.

In a statement he said, "It was a surprise and somewhat ironic to be recognized for this 2009 Trail Organization Award—I am not your typical trail user. However, as a resident of York County, I fully appreciate the benefit of open public trails and the value they bring as a community asset. It has been personally satisfying to support the efforts of the Rail Trail Authority and professionally meaningful to work cooperatively to improve bicycling opportunities in Pennsylvania."

Ed note: Joe is a resident of York County and regularly attends monthly Rail Trail Authority meetings. The Heritage Rail Trail is a 21 mile trail with a five mile extension under development. More trail development is on going in York County under the RTA.

See: www.YorkCountyTrails.org for more details of trail projects.

Dates to remember:

Dec 10 PPAC (Pedalcycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee), 1 PM, Harrisburg.
Open to the public. Contact BAC for meeting location and details.

Spring 2010 8th Annual Pennsylvania Bike Club Conference

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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