



# Bicycle Access Council News & Digest

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

June 2012

Hello Members and Supporters of the Bicycle Access Council.

It's a beautiful day in Pennsylvania!

## **PENNDOT SECRETARY REVIEWS *BicyclePA*...**

**Touring route network.** A meeting was held with PennDOT Secretary Barry Schoch to discuss the *BicyclePA* route marking system. BAC executive director, Joe Stafford and PPAC vice-chair Bill Hoffman met with the Secretary and other executive staff. A brief history of BicyclePA, which began in 1999 that was created by a Transportation Enhancements (TE) application, was presented to the Secretary. Several issues were discussed: actual ownership of the system; coordination among PennDOT Districts to authorize and make changes to the routes; and future website improvements. One problematic issue in selecting more desirable routes on non-state roads is obtaining agreements with municipalities. Many townships and boroughs balk at accepting the responsibility of maintaining signs once erected. The misconception of incurring more liability was also discussed. Attorneys for the Department Chief Counsel will review the existing law governing the Highway Occupancy Permit process and provide the Secretary with recommendations. Meanwhile, BAC will pursue other options with the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors (PSATS).

## **TRANSPORTATION FUNDING WILL BE TOASTING...**

**The Liquor Control Board when the LCB is Toast!** PA House Representative Jerry Knowles (R-124), introduced HB 2020, *Infrastructure Future Fund Act*, that establishes the Infrastructure Future Fund in the State Treasury, which shall be composed by the deposits of the net proceeds from the privatization of wine and liquor operations of the Pennsylvania liquor stores and the net proceeds from the sale of any inventory owned or maintained by the Pennsylvania liquor stores. The bill will provide exclusive control and authority to manage, invest and reinvest money in the fund to the State Treasurer. The money in the Fund account shall be used for construction cost of transportation and infrastructure projects and the Governor shall submit a yearly itemization of the transportation infrastructure projects to be funded by this Act along with a description and estimated cost. The bill was reported as committed with the House Transportation Committee Republicans voting "Yes" and the committee Democrats voting "No." Chairman Richard Geist (R-Blair) told the committee members, "The reason we are moving this bill is simply to position it in case we get some revenue."

*Ed note:* Rick Geist was defeated in the April 24 Primary election. He leaves office in December, 2012.

**PENNDOT CENTRAL OFFICE BIKE / PED COORDINATOR RETIRING...**

**As of August 31.** Brian Sanders, a well respected employee will leave PennDOT after nearly 32 years of service. He has served as PennDOT's Bike / Ped Coordinator for 18 months, succeeding Dave Bachman. Brian will be available for a limited number of "contract hours" per year to continue managing PPAC meetings and related bicycling projects. At this time, no full time replacement has been named and no job posting has been scheduled.

**USPS ISSUES NEW BICYCLE STAMPS...**

**For sale on June 7.** These "forever stamps" are a series of four bike images sold in sheets of 20 — no rolls [insert pun]. View the USPS national news release for story. Available on-line: [USPS.gov/shop](http://USPS.gov/shop) or 1-800-STAMP-24 or visit your Post Office

**USPS ALSO HAS COMPETITION IF YOU WANT TO...**

**"Stick" with something else.** Here's an example from: Zazzle.com <http://www.zazzle.com/custom/stamps>

**HEY YOU ! — NOW PAY ATTENTION...**

**To this Distracted Driving website.** [DistractedDrivingHelp.com](http://DistractedDrivingHelp.com) This website lists all the dangers and behaviors of cell phone and texting use, plus the status of state laws.

**Dates to Remember**

August 19      LBC Covered Bridge Metric Century    [lanasterbikeclub.org](http://lanasterbikeclub.org)  
October 7      Central Bucks Bicycle Club Covered Bridges Ride    [cbbikeclub.org](http://cbbikeclub.org)

**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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