



# Bicycle Access Council News & Digest

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

August—September 2015

Hello Members and Supporters of the Bicycle Access Council.

It's a beautiful day in Pennsylvania!

## **PENNDOT SELECTS A BICYCLE COORDINATOR...**

For the long vacated central office position. **Roy Gothie** was officially hired as the full-time bicycle/pedestrian coordinator reporting directly to Toby Fauver, Deputy-Secretary for multi-modal transportation. Brian Sanders will remain on in his part-time capacity for some time yet this year while assisting Roy transition to his new role.

Mr. Gothie comes to PennDOT with over seven years of experience as a Regional Planner for the Maryland State Highway Administration. However, his roots go back to Fulton County as a resident of Valley Hi borough. He is a graduate of West Virginia University and holds a M.S. from Michigan University, both in environmental science as well as, urban design.

## **PIKE-2-BIKE TRAIL...**

Is a future non-motorized trail created from the abandoned stretch of Pennsylvania Turnpike within Bedford and Fulton Counties, approximately eight miles long, that includes two tunnels. It now has the interest of the Pennsylvania Historical Museum Commission. BAC reached out to PHMC recently, which resulted in an on-site tour of the entire facility, including access to upper control room spaces above the tunnels that is restricted (and dangerous) unless toured with an expert guide.

## **HB 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.

**1-800-FIX-ROAD...** Is still the number to call to report road conditions hazardous for bicycling.

**YORK COUNTY HERITAGE RAIL TRAIL...**

Was recently inducted in the Rails-to-Trails Conservancy Hall of Fame. RTC awarded the Pennsylvania trail along with the connecting Maryland *Torrey C. Brown Trail*, which creates a continuous 44 mile trail converted from the former Northern Central Railway connecting York with Baltimore. The York trail plans a five mile northern extension, that is nearly complete, to the twenty-one mile existing trail. Among 29 current inductees, the Great Allegheny Passage, at #1, is the only other PA trail listed. Visit [rtc.org](http://rtc.org) for a list of all trails recognized to date.

**THE SEPTEMBER 11th NATIONAL MEMORIAL TRAIL ALLIANCE...**

Has completed a draft of its recommended route alignment across Pennsylvania that links the disaster sites of Flight 93 and New York City memorials. Details can be found at: [911trail.org](http://911trail.org) The draft document is being submitted to DCNR for its review and support.

The proposed 1,300 mile loop takes advantage of the Great Allegheny Passage to connect with the Pentagon and much of the East Coast Greenway is utilized to travel back to NYC. The greatest challenge was the longest segment spanning Pennsylvania that was developed with considerable public input on how to include many historic and relevant points-of-interests along the way. Except for the G.A.P. trail, the majority of the routes will be on public roads.

**BICYCLE INSURANCE AND ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE...**

Is now available through *Spoke Insurance*. The details about benefits and contact information are provided by a one hour webinar presentation offered by the League of American Bicyclists. See: <http://bikeleague.org/content/webinar-insure-yourself-and-your-ride-spoke-insurance>

**Dates to remember...**

Sept 22      **PPAC** (Pedalcycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee), Warren, PA.  
Sept 26      Shoo Fly Classic, Berks County Bicycle Club. BAC will be there.  
Oct 18      Covered Bridges Ride, Bucks County Bicycle Club. BAC will be there.

**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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