



# *Bicycle Access Council* News & Digest

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

January 2016

Hello Members and Supporters of the Bicycle Access Council.

It's a beautiful day in Pennsylvania!

## **PPAC REORGANIZES...**

With some dynamic changes. The Pedalcycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (PPAC) met January 5 in Harrisburg. Election of officers was the first order of business. The new chair is Lauri Ahlskog, a transportation planner for Lancaster County. Vice-Chair is Alex Doty, who was narrowly elected in a 6-5 vote. Mr. Doty is the newly appointed Executive Director of the League of American Bicyclists, but remains a Philadelphia resident. His eligibility to remain on PPAC as a representative of Metro-Philadelphia was challenged during the election process; however, the consensus of the committee allowed him to remain on. The position of PPAC secretary remains open — those nominated declined and no one else was willing to accept the position. PennDOT Deputy-Secretary, Toby Fauver, emphasized the limited resources and staff time the Department is willing to provide the PPAC secretary to help manage PPAC — specifically with minutes and note taking.

PPAC was created by statute in 1996 for the purpose of advising the governor on matters of bicycle and pedestrian issues. Besides six members representing the Commonwealth, there are eleven “public” members selected and appointed by the governor to represent various areas of expertise related to bicycling and walking.

Following adjournment of PPAC, BAC Executive Director, Joe Stafford, hand-delivered a letter to the governor submitting his resignation as a public member of PPAC. This leaves the seat representing state-wide constituencies open.

## **PENDING HOUSE BILLS TO TRACK IN 2016...**

Have seen no action. Both were introduced in June 2015 by Representative DeLuca (D-32). **HB 1360** would increase the age for mandatory bicycle helmet use from under 12 to under 16. **HB 1361** would require the use of “retroreflective” clothing while operating a [bicycle] between sunset and sunrise, which may include a vest, jacket or shirt as high visibility safety apparel. Both bills have been referred to the House Transportation Committee; however, no hearing date has been scheduled. BAC has been invited to discuss this with Rep DeLuca and staff.

## **YEARLY DONATIONS...**

To the Bicycle Access Council are appreciated and tax deductible as allowed by law. BAC is a 501(c)3 charitable organization. A letter verifying a donation is sent for amounts of \$250 or greater, or for any lesser amount upon request. Letters were mailed January 2. If you did not receive a letter, or still want one, contact BAC. Memberships qualify as a donation.

## HOUSE BILL 150 STILL AWAITING THIRD CONSIDERATION...

For passage in the Senate before going to the governor. 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 with the appropriate action as needed.

HB 150 authorizes PennDOT to issue a Share-The-Road (STR) license plate for vehicles at an added one-time cost of \$40 designating all funds to be used for the PennDOT 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.

Anyone may submit ideas to BAC for the plate design, which created the working draft shown here. How would you change it? Submit your ideas to BAC.



### Dates to remember...

Feb 20, 21	Endurance sports Expo, Oaks, PA
March 13	<b>Daylight Saving Time</b> begins
March 19	Regional Bike Summit, advocacy training conference). Details TBA.
March 20	<b>Spring</b> begins (also Palm Sunday)
April 2	<b>Act 3 of 2012</b> amends the Vehicle Code. Four-foot passing law, plus more.
May 7	Spring Velofest, Trexlertown, PA (swap meet) 8:30 AM—2 PM
May 16-20	<b>Bike-to-Work Week</b>
May 20	Spoke-n-Gear Expo, 9 AM-3 PM, Harrisburg
Oct 1	Fall Velofest, Trexlertown, PA (swap meet) 8:30 AM—2 PM
Nov 5, 6	Philly Bike Expo
Nov 6	End Daylight Saving Time

### 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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