



Bicycle Access Council News & Digest

www.BicycleAccess-PA.org

June-July 2016

Hello Members and Supporters of the Bicycle Access Council.

It's a beautiful day in Pennsylvania!

NEWS FLASH...

HOUSE BILL 150 PASSED !!! ...

And was signed by the governor June 8. Now to be known as **Act 36 of 2016**, the **Share-The-Road** plate will be official and available on August 8. Order forms will be up on PennDOT's website then.

In making this announcement before August 8, BAC is not permitted to release the final design to the public. BAC members and supporters will see a final design very much like the 'mock-up' BAC created to promote this campaign when initiated in 2012.

Act 36 now allows PennDOT to issue this new plate for passenger vehicles at an additional cost of \$40 to standard registration fees. PennDOT receives all revenue to be used for the central office position of Bike/Ped Coordinator and/or signage needed for bicycle projects. The final design was created by PennDOT with continuous input from the Bicycle Access Council with the objective to expressly remind the public of the bike safety legislation passed in 2012 giving bicyclists a greater margin of safety.

The intent of Act 36 includes several goals to benefit Pennsylvania bicyclists:

- Awareness to motorists that bicyclists are legitimate roadway users
- Passing a bicyclist requires not less than four-feet at a safe and reasonable speed
- Other provisions of Act 3 of 2012 will be promoted in media coverage
- Act 36 shall also be known as the **Dave Bachman Act** as a tribute and memorial to PennDOT's first Bike/Ped Coordinator who passed away unexpectedly July 2012.

The Vehicle Code statute authorizing this plate can be found at: **75 Pa.C.S, §1358.1** once the Pennsylvania Legislative Reference Bureau issues revisions.

PENNSYLVANIA IS RANKED...

By the *League of American Bicyclists* (LAB) Bicycle Friendly State 2015 rankings at **# 12**, which was the same as last year. The Bicycle Access Council will predict moving up in next year's ranking based on the STR plate introduction and a full-time PennDOT Central Office Bike/Ped Coordinator.

APPOINTMENT TO PPAC PROCEDURE...

Was released May 19. PPAC is the Pedalcycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee that meets quarterly to advise the governor on bicycle and pedestrian issues. It is managed by PennDOT. Anyone who wishes to be appointed, or re-appointed, must send a signed, dated letter with a resume attached. Details on how the letter is to be addressed and submitted may be obtained by contacting BAC. There is an opening for a state-wide constituency position formerly held by BAC Executive Director, Joe Stafford who resigned in February this year. All citizen appointed positions will be considered based on qualifications and constituency affiliation.

BIKE MARYLAND LOSES STAFF...

Due to lack of funding support. In a message from Bike Maryland's board president, Kevin King, he announced that all paid staff was laid off and Bike Maryland will attempt to operate as an all-volunteer organization. Lack of funding and member support is a major concern of all advocacy organizations in most states and nationwide.

Ed note: BAC doesn't have a paid staff to lay off; however, the lack of funding by dwindling memberships and nominal donations from bike clubs has reduced the potential for BAC to do more to benefit Pennsylvania bicyclists.

1-800-FIX-ROAD...

Is still the best way to report road conditions hazardous for bicycling. Call to report potholes, missing signs, shoulder drop-offs and other maintenance concerns.

Dates to remember...

Aug 19	Velodrome, Trexlertown. BAC will be there.
Aug 21	Covered Bridge Metric Century, Lancaster Bicycle Club. BAC will be there.
Sept 18	Three Creek Century Ride, Harrisburg Bike Club
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.

Joe Stafford, Executive Director
Bicycle Access Council
Dallastown, PA
www.BicycleAccess-PA.org
(717) 417-1299

