

OKI Bicycle E-Info-News #106

January 13, 2011



To Bike-Minded People in the OKI Region

One of the recommendations of the *OKI Regional Bicycle Plan* is to initiate timely communication about regional cycling issues among individuals with personal and professional interests in them. Computer technology has facilitated this through e-mail messaging. These "newsletters" will be issued on an as-needed basis as a "critical mass" of items accumulates. As the distribution list is often expanded, and issues are forwarded, previous editions are available to new readers on request. Also, Bike E-News can now be found on OKI's web site at: <http://www.oki.org/pdf/bike/info.pdf>

On the other hand, if you can't tolerate additional e-mail, or your interests have changed, let me know in order to have your address removed from the distribution list.

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MEETINGS

APBP Webinar: Bicycle Sharing

In January, OKI will host a 90-minute APBP webinar on bicycle sharing programs. Bike sharing is a cost-effective approach to solving what is commonly known as the "last mile" problem of public transportation. Relative to public infrastructure, transit or other transportation demand management (TDM) tools, bike sharing can provide higher mode shifts, emissions reductions and financial returns. This webinar will include an overview of bike sharing in the U.S. and other countries, with case studies from Minneapolis and San Antonio and a detailed discussion of the implementation process (building support, funding models, RFPs, contracting, launch, and operations). Attendees will learn to identify the planning and implementation steps necessary to launch a bike share system; the different financial models and methodologies used to pay for bike sharing; and the implications of an exponential increase in bicycle traffic for public infrastructure.

DATE: Wednesday, January 19, 2011
TIME: 3:00 – 4:30 pm
LOCATION: OKI Regional Council of Governments, Board Room
720 E Pete Rose Way, Cincinnati
Car parking (\$) in the Bicentennial Commons lot across the street; also a free bike rack

CONTACT: Don Burrell, 513-621-6300, dburrell@oki.org

Health and Transportation Planning

The American Public Health Association has scheduled a series of four monthly webinars on "What Healthy Communities Need from their Transportation Networks". The series explores the intersections between health and transportation, highlights innovative state and local programs that leverage opportunities in transportation that benefit health, and explains what the future may hold for the federal surface transportation authorization including health impact assessments. Registration is required and includes all four sessions.

DATE: Tuesday, January 18, 2011

TIME: 2:00 - 3:00 pm

LOCATION: Online

<https://cc.readytalk.com/r/7ax1ylq47l61>

CONTACT: American Public Health Association

<https://cc.readytalk.com/cc/schedule/display.do?udc=4ozeg2a zyaax>

National Bike Summit

The League of American Bicyclists (LAB) will hold its annual bike summit in Washington in March. The summit is an opportunity for cyclists to meet and address national cycling issues and bring these issues to the attention of their congressional representatives. The first two days include presentations on issues and legislation related to bicycling concerns. Thursday, is when state delegations are formed to meet with the elected representatives at scheduled appointments. Of primary concern this year is the reauthorization of the federal transportation act that expired in Sept. 2009 and has been extended by short term funding resolutions. Included in this bill are the safe routes to school and transportation enhancement programs.

DATE: Tuesday-Thursday, March 8-10, 2011

(a congressional bike ride is traditionally held on Friday)

LOCATION: The Grand Hyatt Hotel

1000 H St. NW, Washington DC

COST: LAB members: \$375 by Feb. 3

Non-members: \$455 by Feb. 3

CONTACT: League of American Bicyclists, www.bikeleague.org

http://www.bikeleague.org/conferences/summit11/summit_schedule.php

NEWS

Bike Month 2011

Queen City Bike has begun planning for this year's bike month in May. Added this year will be recognized bike friendly destinations, businesses that make special accommodations for employees and customers arriving by bicycle. Bike commuter stations will again be staffed in the mornings of bike week, May 16-20. Bike 2 Baseball will happen for the game on May 15. Also planned are the Findlay Market parade, Bike and Dine, and special merchandise. Watch for further information featuring a new bike month logo. Sponsors are encouraged.

Cincinnati – Dayton Bicycle Commuter Challenge

Sixteen years ago, the Dayton Cycling club challenged the Cincinnati Cycle Club to a commuter challenge for the most miles in a year. "Commuter" miles have been defined to include trips made by bicycle that would have been made by car. These may be to work, school, meetings, shopping or doctor appointments. They may be for riding to and from the starting location of club rides, but not the recreational club rides themselves. Preliminary results for 2010 indicate that the Dayton club has won again with 77,000 miles to Cincinnati's 56,000. Miles for both clubs are down from peaks of 95,600 by Dayton in 2008 and 73,300 miles by Cincinnati in 2009. Must be the cheap gas. At least southwest Ohio was spared 4,450 pounds of motor vehicle emissions in 2010. You can visit the clubs at their websites:

<http://www.cincinnati-cycleclub.org/>

<http://www.daytoncyclingclub.org/>

Federal Funding for Active Transportation

The following was taken from the Bikes Belong website and is an assessment of prospects for federal funding resources given changes in Congress and the delayed reauthorization of the national transportation act which expired in Sept. 2009. Bikes Belong is a trade association of bicycle dealers and manufacturers:

"A change in leadership in the House of Representatives coupled with a new, prevailing outlook on spending priorities could threaten key federally funded bicycling programs. Crucial decisions may be made by Congress in late February or early March that could affect bike funding for several years. Bikes Belong and our partners in the America Bikes Coalition are working on a multi-tiered strategy to preserve bike projects and programs. As of this writing, the new Congress and new committees have only been on the job for 10 days. But early indications from House leaders suggest they will attempt to cut federal transportation funding and refocus it on highway construction and repairs. Transit, bicycling and walking, and programs that reduce congestion and air pollution in cities could be cut, as could TIGER and Livability grant programs that were championed by the Department of Transportation. These budget decisions won't be made solely by the House of Representatives: The U.S. Senate and the Obama Administration will also weigh in, and both have steadily supported modest investments in bike facilities and programs. Federal funding for bicycling is provided primarily by multi-year transportation bills. The latest, titled SAFETEA-LU, was approved by Congress in July 2005. It expired in September 2009, but its funding levels and programs continue because Congress has approved a series of short-term extensions. The most recent renewal expires March 4, 2011."

<http://www.bikesbelong.org/news/>

POINT YOUR BROWSER

Too Quiet Cars – On January 4, President Obama signed the Pedestrian Safety Enhancement Act of 2010. This law requires the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration to ensure that electric and hybrid car manufacturers add noises that alert the blind and other pedestrians. More from Fast Lane, the US DOT blog: <http://fastlane.dot.gov/2011/01/nhtsa-working-to-fulfill-psea-of-2010.html#tp>

Bicycling for Louisville - Check out the Louisville cycling scene at:
<http://www.bicyclingforlouisville.org/>

QUOTE OF THE NEWSLETTER

"In a period when every tax dollar must be carefully spent, state policymakers would be wise to require planning that considers more than vehicles in designing roads."
– Fort Wayne Journal Gazette