

Ohio Bicycle Communicator



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www.ohiobike.org

Summer-Fall, 2004

ODOT Seeks Input into ACCESS OHIO

by Chuck Smith

The Ohio Department of Transportation wants input from all transportation stakeholders regarding its Draft ACCESS OHIO 2004-2030 Statewide Transportation Plan .

Go to our Ohio Bicycle Federation site at www.ohiobike.org/accessohio.htm for complete details on the plan.

One way to present your views is by attending one of the public involvement meetings. Here are the three remaining ones:

Monday, August 16, 2004 - 4:00 - 6:00pm
Stark County Regional Planning Commission (SCATS)
SCATS Large Conference Room
201 Third Street NE, Suite 201, Canton, OH 44702
District 4 Public Information Officer - Jennifer
Richmond (330) 786-2209

Tuesday, August 17, 2004 - 4:00 - 6:00pm
Liberty Township Administration Bldg Hearing Room
1315 Churchill-Hubbard Road
Youngstown, OH 44505
District 4 Public Information Officer - Jennifer
Richmond (330) 786-2209

Wednesday, August 18, 2004, 4:00 - 6:00pm
ODOT District 4 HQ, Cardinal Conference Room
2088 South Arlington Road, Akron, OH 44505
District 4 Public Information Officer - Jennifer
Richmond (330) 786-2209

Submit Questions/Comments by August 20, 2004:

In writing: ACCESS OHIO - Comments
Office of Urban and Corridor Planning
Ohio Department of Transportation - 2nd Floor
1980 W. Broad Street
Columbus, OH 43223

By fax:
614-728-9358 (Attn: ACCESS OHIO)

By email:
AccessOhio@dot.state.oh.us

By phone:
Toll-Free 1-866-308-2212
614-644-7093

Need OBF Board Nominees for 2005-2006

We invite all current OBF members to join us on the OBF Board for 2005-2006. To get your name on the ballot, send an email to Nominations Chair Bob Iden at riden@neo.rr.com or write him at Bob Iden, 2051 Annetta Ave., Akron, OH 44313. All board positions will be up for election.

- Please submit your intentions before September 1 in order for your name to appear in the ballot, which will appear in your next Communicator issue.
- Also, please submit a short biography, emphasizing your advocacy and cycling background, a digital photo, and a short description of the improvements in Ohio cycling which you would like to bring about.
- For more election details go to our OBF site at www.ohiobike.org/elections.htm.

Bicycling Ohio

MPO Bike / Ped Coordinator Meeting -

by Don Burrell, OBF Board Member

Federal transportation regulations require state and metropolitan planning agencies to include bicycle and pedestrian travel as part of the area multi-modal transportation system. The Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana Regional Council of Governments (Cincinnati) is one of 16 Metropolitan Planning Organizations in Ohio and has met these requirements with free-standing bicycle and pedestrian plans as well as including the recommendations of these plans in the regional transportation plan. On July 23, the bicycle / pedestrian coordinators from six of the MPOs met together for the first time at the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission in Columbus at the meeting of the Ohio Association of Regional Councils. A brief presentation of the Access Ohio Draft plan was given and each MPO coordinator summarized their planning programs. In regard to the state plan recommendation to adopt policies for routine accommodation of bicycle and pedestrian travel during road construction and reconstruction, two of the MPOs, MORPC in Columbus and NOACA in Cleveland have adopted their own policies consistent with the federal guidelines and require applicants for highway projects to include provisions for cycling and walking.

Mandatory Helmet Laws

The mandatory helmet laws introduced in Ohio and Kentucky are dead for the current legislative sessions. The Ohio Bill, SB-157, requiring all persons under age 18 who are operating a bike, or riding as a passenger, to wear an approved helmet, will be re-introduced in January by Senator Roberts. The proposed Kentucky bill, HB 142, required all persons under the age of 16 to wear a bicycle helmet when operating a bicycle, or riding as a passenger. Although the bill didn't advance, it was revised into HR 270, a resolution urging that September 25th of each year be designated as Bicycle Safety Awareness Day, and to encourage state agencies to plan and deliver bicycle safety programs, offer bicycle and bicycle safety helmet inspections, bicycle safety instruction, and programs to increase motorist awareness of bicyclists through the schools, youth groups, and public safety agencies of the Commonwealth. It is not expected that the bill will be re-introduced next year.



New bicycle racks at Vandalia City Hall

Vandalia First Ohio CFC

On May 3, the OBF honored the City of Vandalia in May as our state's first Ohio Bicycle Friendly Community (CFC). To achieve this honor, Vandalia passed stringent requirements which were part of a point system.

The Vandalia Bicycle Committee has acted since 1996 as an official city advisory committee. The committee includes three Vandalia bicyclists plus City Engineer John Mitchell, Deputy City Engineer Robert Galvin, and Asst. City Manager Hal Hunter.

The award honors Vandalia for years of leadership in improving conditions for cycling Vandalians. The City of Vandalia has improved its laws, replaced bad drainage grates, installed bike parking at the City Hall, Recreation Center, and Justice Center, and ensured that its traffic signal vehicle detectors detect bicycles.

The OBF presented a plaque honoring the city to Mayor Bill Loy after Mayor Loy presented a proclamation making May Bike Month in Vandalia.



Inverted "U" bicycle racks at Vandalia Justice Center.



“Share the Road” Auto License Plate

After passing the Ohio House Transportation and Public Safety Committee unanimously in January, our House Bill 245 “Share the Road” auto license plate bill has resided in the House hopper, waiting for a vote to be called by Speaker of the House Larry Householder. Our sponsor, Rep. Arlene Setzer of Vandalia intends to reintroduce the bill next session. Thanks for your patience.

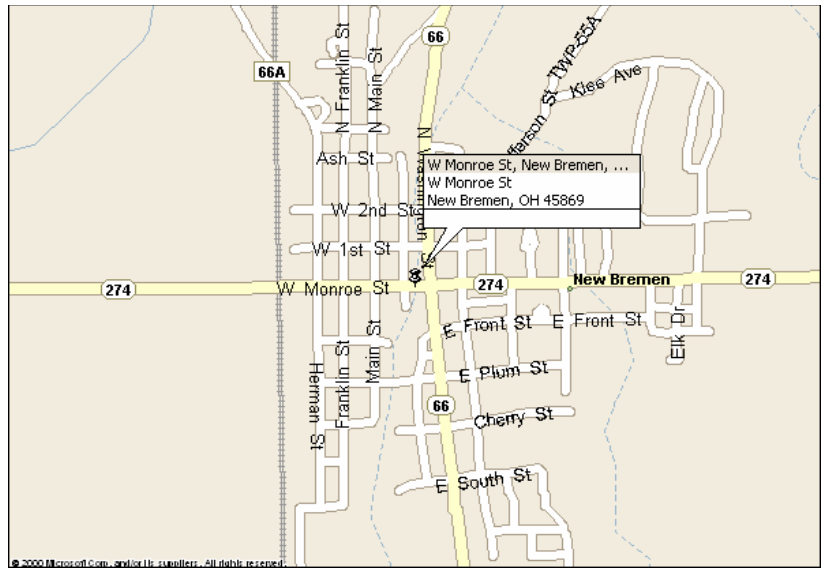
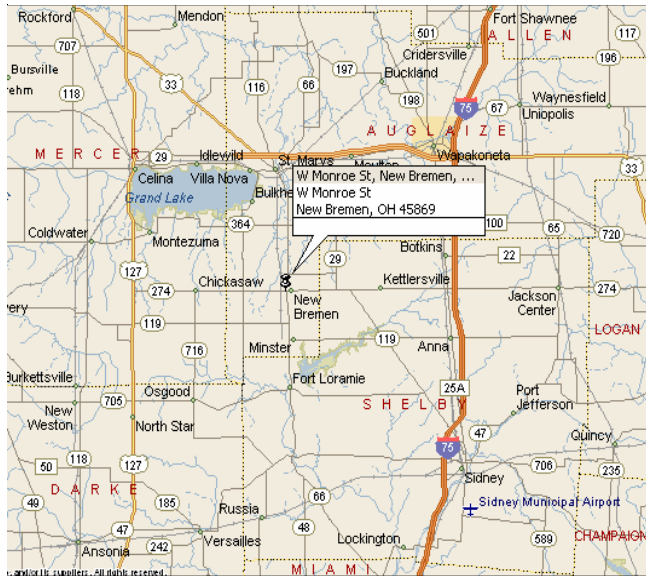
OBF to Meet September 11 at Bicycle Museum of America

Our fall OBF Board meeting will take place at noon on Saturday, September 11 at the Bicycle Museum of America, 7 West Monroe Street (State Route 274), New Bremen. New Bremen is located between Lake Loramie and Grand Lake St. Marys in west central Ohio (north of Dayton and west of Columbus). This will be a “working lunch” meeting, and will be open to all OBF members.

The fun starts at 9 am with a traveling museum. There will be no charge for touring the museum, as the OBF maintains membership in the museum.

At 12 Noon, we will begin our meeting, which must end by 3 p.m.

We want to thank museum curator Annette Thompson for hosting us again. We look forward to seeing you there!



Ohio Bicycle Federation
P.O. Box 253
Xenia, OH 45385-0253

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

