

**TDOT Bike/Ped Conference Call**  
**January 20, 2010**  
**1:30 CST/2:30 EST**

**I. LAB Bicycle-friendly state survey**

In December, we received the League of American Bicyclist's bicycle-friendly state survey. I've filled out the majority of questions, and have enlisted help from several of you and would like to say thank you for your help. As part of the survey, I'm also asking for a list of all the bicycle clubs in the state. Tom Evans with Bike/Walk TN has compiled a list of active bicycle clubs and it can be viewed at:

[http://bikewalktn.homestead.com/files/Links/TENNESSEE\\_BICYCLE\\_CLUBS.htm](http://bikewalktn.homestead.com/files/Links/TENNESSEE_BICYCLE_CLUBS.htm)

If you know of additional clubs, please email me at [Jessica.L.Wilson@tn.gov](mailto:Jessica.L.Wilson@tn.gov) and I will forward those on to Tom. The final survey is due mid-Feb. If you'd like to see a copy before I submit then just email me and let me know.

**II. Road Safety Audit Reviews- ex. Sevier County**

Also in December, Terrance and I went on several Road Safety Audit Reviews to represent the bike/ped perspective and I wanted to share an example of the kinds of success we're seeing in getting bicycle and pedestrian safety improvements funded with HSIP funding.

For example, I attended an audit in December on Glade Rd. in Gatlinburg. This is also known as the Arts and Crafts loop and there is a lot of pedestrian activity between shops along this route, esp. during the tourist season. There is also a nearby transit stop for the Gatlinburg Trolley. As part of the audit, we recommended installing continental markings at the existing crosswalk near the transit stop to increase visibility, as well as countdown pedestrian signals and a push button. Additionally, we recommended adding truncated domes to the curb ramps and refreshing the signs and pavement markings for two mid-block crossings along the route. All of these recommendations were approved in the draft report. I will send out the final report as soon as it becomes available.

**III. TN Obesity Taskforce**

In the past few months, I've been actively participating in the TN Obesity Taskforce which receives CDC funding to address obesity by creating and implementing a statewide plan for nutrition, physical activity, and obesity prevention goals. In fact, Leslie Meehan, Nashville MPO's Bike/Ped Coordinator, was just elected co-chair of this committee at last week's meeting.

As part of the plan, we have broken out into subgroups, and Leslie leads the subgroup for Built Environment/Transportation/Parks & Recreation. We are currently working on a list of goals and objectives to increase physical activity in TN. Some of our goals include increasing opportunities for walking and bicycling. The idea is that this plan will encourage legislators and the public/private sphere to implement these goals in order to reduce TN's high rate of obesity.

#### **IV. Emerging Leaders Program- National Center for Bicycling and Walking**

Sharon Roerty, Executive Director of the National Center for Bicycling and Walking (NCBW), and Mark Plotz, Program Manager for NCBW, joined the call to discuss the Emerging Leaders program. This program was developed by the Active Living Resource Center/National Center for Bicycling and Walking, and we would like to see this take off in TN. This program will fund internships for college students to serve as a liaison between their college, community, and local government in order to encourage and increase bicycling and walking opportunities in their community. If you would like to know more or get involved, please contact Mark at [mark@bikewalk.org](mailto:mark@bikewalk.org)

#### **V. Rumble Stripes- update**

Last week, I sent out drafts of the new rumble stripe standards along with a cover sheet explaining key changes, as well as the agenda for today's conference call. So far I've only received one comment, but we did get word today that FHWA has approved these standards and they will be implemented starting in March. If you have questions or concerns, please let me know so we can discuss or follow-up on.

#### **VII. 2010 Resurfacing Projects**

Now that we have our new rumble standards, I want to let you know that our staff is receiving resurfacing lists and making recommendations based on whether or not a route is a state or local bicycle route. I would also like to include routes that may not be listed in a plan, but are heavily used by cycling groups. Please contact me if you know of particular routes that receive a high amount of useage so that we can discuss.

#### **VIII. Additional Comments/Wrap-Up**

- The ProWalk/ProBike Conference to be held in Chattanooga, Sept. 13-17, 2010 has issued a call for proposals. If you are interested in presenting, then sign up at <http://www.bikewalk.org/2010conference/submissions.php>

-Kelley Segars commented on the City of Knoxville's request to TDOT for bike lanes on the future re-construction of the Henley St. Bridge

-If you would like to see the presentation materials from the Nashville MPO's School Siting Symposium, then please visit the MPOs website at:  
<http://www.nashvillempo.org>