



Biking & Walking News

Ira S. Weiss, Editor

June 14, 2010

ANNOUNCEMENTS

From League of American Bicyclists: Federal Safe Routes Program Under Attack

Urge Your Representative to Support Safe Routes To Schools

House Republican Whip Eric Cantor (R-VA) has targeted the federal Safe Routes to School program established under the 2005 Federal Surface Transportation Bill (SAFETEA-LU) as wasteful government spending in his weekly "YouCut program". Each week representative Cantor asks people to vote for which of five options they would cut from the federal budget. Republicans then hold a floor vote in the House of Representatives to try to eliminate the program that gets the most votes. This week, the federal Safe Routes to School program is one of Rep. Cantor's targets. He argues that SRTS duplicates other bicycling and walking programs, and that bicycling and walking infrastructure is a local government responsibility. We need your help making sure that Members of Congress understand the value of Safe Routes to School and support it. Please take a few minutes to send a message to your Member of Congress to ask them to vote against any effort to cut Safe Routes to School. Thank you in advance for your assistance in this matter. <http://capwiz.com/lab/utr/1/EZCPMSCAYQ/JJBAMSCAYU/5350441881>

TMRW - Cycling and Walking on WCPN 90.3 Sound of Ideas: 9 to 10am, Tues June 15

Tuesday June 15, 9 to 10am - WCPN Sound of Ideas with host Dan Moulthrop will include cycling and walking! Live radio is unpredictable, fast-paced and unscripted...topics are expected to include: Towpath Trail update - with multiple options, ideas and personalities involved in completing the Towpath Trail from Steelyard Commons into downtown Cleveland and on to Lake Erie, this should be lively a discussion. Transportation options - former Republican Congressman and current U.S. Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood has made numerous statements supporting alternative transportation options such as walking, bicycling, trains, buses and trams. Local Congressman Steve LaTourette sparked a controversy when he commented that LaHood must be on drugs for supporting equal treatment for bicycles and pedestrians. Congressman LaTourette has since backpedaled and says he supports projects that encourage bicycling and walking, although not with equal funding. Since bicycling and pedestrian projects get about 1% of transportation funding, even a tiny percentage increase can make a huge difference... <http://walkroll.com/display/content/newsletter/webview/4c164fac7179d/>

Comment on the US Department of Transportation's Draft Strategic Plan

Dear Safe Routes to School supporters,

The US Department of Transportation is circulating a draft strategic plan for comment. The draft plan includes a number of provisions that would help improve bicycle and pedestrian safety and create more livable communities. The Safe Routes to School National Partnership has posted comments on the plan commending USDOT for their focus, while also making a number of recommendations for how the plan could be strengthened. Please take a few

minutes to visit the website at <https://dotstrategicplan.ideascale.com/a/dtd/43728-8329> and show your support for Safe Routes to School by hitting the "thumbs up" next to our comments. You do have to create an account in order to register your support, which should only take a minute.

Thanks in advance for your support! Please forward this message along to others who might want to show their support for Safe Routes to School in this way as well.

Brooke Driesse
Communications Manager
Safe Routes to School National Partnership

MORPC to Host Workshop for Franklin County Public Works Applicants

(Columbus – June 7, 2010) The Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) will host a workshop on the application process to receive funding for local public infrastructure projects through District 3/Franklin County of the Ohio Public Works Commission on Wednesday, June 23 at 1:30 p.m. at MORPC, 111 Liberty Street, Suite 100 in Columbus. To register for the workshop, contact Wilma Yoder at wiyoder@morpc.org or call (614) 233-4175. There is no fee to attend the workshop and the deadline for registration is Monday, June 21. The Ohio Public Works Commission's State Capital Improvements Program (SCIP) and the Local Transportation Improvements Program (LTIP) have made approximately \$20 million in loans and grants available to District 3/Franklin County projects. The SCIP and LTIP provide financial assistance to local communities for the improvement of their basic infrastructure systems. Eligible projects include improvements to roads, bridges, culverts, water supply systems, wastewater systems, storm water collection systems, and solid waste disposal facilities. County, city, village, township and other infrastructure districts located in Franklin County will recommend projects from both SCIP and LTIP programs for the project year beginning July 1, 2011. Those interested in applying for funding will be invited to pick up their application package and attend the workshop. Completed applications and Capital Improvement Reports are due Tuesday, September 7, 2010 by 5:00 p.m. for all applicants in District 3. MORPC provides administrative support for District 3 of the Ohio Public Works Commission including processing and reviewing project grant and loan requests from local governments. After evaluating and scoring the projects, MORPC will create a list of high priority projects that are submitted to the Ohio Public Works Commission. Final project approval is given by the Ohio Public Works Commission.

"Portland Oregon, Regionalism Realized"

Wed. June 23, 12:00 - 1:15 p.m. @ Athletic Club of Columbus, Founders Month Wednesday Forum
"Portland Oregon, Regionalism Realized" CMC & MORPC present "Growing Regional, Growing Smart"
Series featuring Robert Liberty, Portland Metro Council.

In partnership with: MORPC

With support from: Columbus Underground

Please visit the link below for details and registration.

<http://www.columbusmetroclub.org/Default.aspx?pageId=49313&eventId=164239&EventViewMode=EventDetails>

RIDES

BikeColumbus Festival – Registration Open

Jun 9th, 2010 | By Jody

Consider Biking is excited to partner with the Mayor "Bikin' Mike" Coleman, the City of Columbus, the Institute for Active Living and numerous other organizations to present a weekend festival on **Friday, July 16 – Saturday, July 17, and Sunday August 1, 2010**. We are excited to build a festival that brings together multiple bicycling endeavors, will focus attention on the bicycling, and raise funds and resources for bicycling-related projects and efforts. The events at the Bike Columbus Festival follow:

INEEDA Bike Swap: Friday, July 16 from 3pm to 7pm at Columbus Crew Stadium VIP tent.

Mayor's Twilight Tour: Friday, July 16; ride begins at 8pm (Pre-ride festivities 6pm to 7:30pm)

Steve Barbour Memorial Tour: Saturday, July 17; Rider Check In: 7:00am – 9:00am

Garrett Wonders Criterium: Sunday, August 1; 12pm to 7pm

Visit www.bikecolumbusfestival.com to register online or via mail in process.

<http://www.considerbiking.org/bikecolumbus-festival-registration-open/>

LAND OF LEGEND BICYCLE TOUR SET FOR JULY 17

June 9, 2010

NEWARK -- The 39th annual Land of Legend Bicycle Tour is scheduled for July 17. The full-service tour is appropriate for all skill levels and includes well-defined routes, food vendors and rest stops. Proceeds from the tour benefit preserving the recreational trails in Licking County. The event, which will include rides of 32, 64 and 100 miles, will start at the Licking County Family YMCA, 470 W. Church St., Newark. Day-of-ride registration will be from 7 to 10 a.m. Advance registration may be completed online at www.landoflegendbiketour.org. Cost is \$25 per person or \$40 per family before Saturday and \$30 per person or \$50 per family after Saturday.

County hopes bike ride will help curb addiction

BY JOE GIESSLER • The Eagle-Gazette Staff • June 13, 2010

LANCASTER -- Community leaders hope a charity bike ride will start chipping away at the county's ever-increasing drug addiction epidemic. The Tour de Cause bike ride, which will be July 17, aims to raise money for drug awareness, education and treatment programs in Lancaster and Fairfield County. Fairfield County Sheriff Dave Phalen, Coroner Dr. Thomas Vajen and Ron Burris, chairman of the Lancaster Cause, spoke to community members as part of a Second Saturdays series, which focused on substance abuse. Burris said the money raised will aid the Recovery Center of Fairfield County, which has a waiting list of more than 200 people...

<http://www.lancastereaglegazette.com/article/20100613/NEWS01/6130301/1002/County-hopes-bike-ride-will-help-curb-addiction>

The 8th Annual Delaware County Community Ties Bicycle Tour

Saturday, July 24, 2010

31 / 62 / 100 Mile Rides

Plus an 8-mile Family Ride

Westerville, OH

Schedule

Date: Saturday, July 24, 2010

Registration: 7 a.m. - 9 a.m.

Start Times: Riders doing 31 / 62 / 100 mile routes may depart at any time during this time period. Family ride begins at 9 a.m.

Event Start Location:

Northside Fellowship Church

6841 Freeman Road

Westerville, OH 43082

(corner of State Route 3 & Freeman Road)

Proceeds benefit the Delaware County Friends of the Trail. www.dcft.org .

2010 Community Ties Ride – Enjoy!

Those who participate in the Community Ties ride this year will experience well-supported rides of 31, 62 or 100 miles that wind their way through beautiful countryside and visit some of Delaware county's towns, villages and communities. You will enjoy well-marked roads and trails, route maps, multiple snack stops with delicious home baked cookies and a post-event lunch. We'll also have a manned SAG vehicle on the route should you need assistance. The 8-mile ride is a favorite of families with young children. The route primarily stays on a 4-mile portion of paved DCFT trail featuring a shady tunnel of trees that encourages an enjoyable, relaxing Saturday excursion. The Community Ties Ride is DCFT's annual fund raiser to help generate funds to establish a multipurpose trail through Delaware County and connect with the statewide Ohio to Erie Trail. One hundred percent of rider registration receipts will go directly to trail building efforts. Your registration will also include a free one-year membership in DCFT so you can follow the trail development activities and see how your participation is helping establish the trail in our community. Thanks to you, it's working!

RIDE REGISTRATION

Please complete a separate registration form for each participant unless you are doing the 8-mile Family Ride. All information is required. Or register online at www.active.com.

DCFT is a grass-roots, all volunteer nonprofit organization dedicated to the health and safety of the citizens of Delaware County through promotion, planning and building of a multi-use trail for recreation and transportation. DCFT seeks assistance, vision and dedication of Delaware County residents to keep the care and creation of dedicated trails in step with the county's unprecedented growth. You can be a valuable part of the group. Volunteers are always needed to help with trail clearing and cleanup, as well with other fun events such as the Community Ties Bike Tour. Think you might be interested in volunteering? Visit our website to learn more.

Delaware County Friends of the Trail

P. O. Box 2302

Westerville, OH 43086

www.DCFT.org

Tour of Ohio begins returns to Worthington Sunday

* The annual race, set for Sunday, June 20, attracts pro cyclists from around the world.

By BRET LIEBENDORFER

Published: Monday, June 14, 2010 10:18 AM EDT

The world's top up-and-coming cyclists will be in Worthington this weekend. On Sunday, June 20, Worthington will host the first of six stages in the 16th annual Tour of Ohio as 120 pro riders wind through the Worthington Estates neighborhood. Following the long running of a standalone race in the city, this will be the fourth year Tour of Ohio has been held in Worthington. Race organizer Tym Tyler said Worthington's course, much like the start of the Tour de France, will help to establish a clear leader. "Worthington is great for a first day because it's a short-circuit race and riders can get their legs under them," he said. Tyler said many of the riders are young and on the verge of successful professional careers. Past participants include George Hincapie, a 14-time Tour de France participant and the only Lance Armstrong teammate for all seven victories; Tyler Hamilton, a U.S. national champion and Olympic gold medalist; and Floyd Landis, 2006 Tour de France winner who was stripped of his title...

http://www.snponline.com/articles/2010/06/14/multiple_papers/news/allbike%206-20100614_1014am_2.txt

SAFETY

Council seeks to change bicycle laws

Wednesday, June 9, 2010 02:42 PM

By NATE ELLIS

ThisWeek Staff Writer

Pickerington bicyclists soon likely will be required to wear helmets until the age of 16, and all riders will have clearer guidance as to where they can legally ride. Pickerington City Council unanimously approved the second reading of legislation June 1 to amend laws for riding bikes within the city. Pending final approval at its June 15 meeting, local bicyclists younger than 16 will be required by law to wear helmets or face a \$25 fine. Currently, Pickerington doesn't require bicyclists of any age to wear helmets. Council included the provision in the new ordinance and sought to clarify the legality of riding bikes on sidewalks. Following the first reading of the proposal last month, Councilman Brian Wisniewski requested consideration of a helmet requirement for all cyclists younger than 18. The age limit was lowered on the recommendation of council's safety committee...

<http://www.thisweeknews.com/live/content/pickerington/stories/2010/06/09/council-seeks-to-change-bicycle-laws.html?sid=104>

Speed worries prompt study along 256

(by Alexa Libert, staff writer - June 10, 2010)

Safety along State Route 256 has been a concern of Pickerington City Engineer Greg Bachman since he accepted the position nearly a year ago. Over that time, Bachman has been examining the stretch of road by looking at its crash history and other factors to determine what changes need to be made to improve safety. The city is planning to apply for an Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) safety grant to help with those determinations. If awarded, the grant would pay for intersection improvements, a third southbound lane and widening, among other possible improvements, Bachman said. However, improvements aren't the only possible change on the horizon. A speed study also was conducted in recent weeks. The study, which was conducted between Diley Road and State Route 204, examined factors such as the geometry of the road, the amount of development and the crash history, Bachman said. Radar findings determined a median speed of 42 mph, he said. The 85th percentile speed, which is one factor that engineers use to determine what the speed limit should be, was 45 mph, he added. Based on those

factors, the speed study indicated that the speed limit should be dropped to 45 or possibly even 40 mph from 50 mph, Bachman said... <http://www.columbusmessenger.com/NC/0/8369.html>

Cops and Kids Day

Breann Lee, 8, negotiates through Safetytown on her bicycle with some friendly help from a Groveport police officer at the Groveport Police Department's annual Cops & Kids Day, held June 5 in Groveport Park. Kids learned about bicycle safety and viewed displays of police and fire equipment and vehicles from around Central Ohio at the event. "It's good for kids to meet and get to know their community's police officers as well as learn bicycle and other safety rules," said Groveport Police Chief Ralph Portier. Bicycle helmets as well as 10 bicycles were given away at the event courtesy of local businesses Cardinal Health, Wal-Mart, Flyer's Pizza, Kurtz Brothers, Ross Cleaners and Cyclist Connection. <http://www.columbusmessenger.com/NC/0/8337.html>

Safety Town

Village employees Rob Runyon (right) and Jerry Smith finish wiring a pedestrian crosswalk for the permanent Safety Town course on Swickard Woods Boulevard Tuesday, June 8. The first session of Safety Town, a two-week safety and awareness program for kindergartners and first-graders, begins June 21.

<http://www.thisweeknews.com/live/content/newalbany/stories/2010/06/09/safety-town.html?sid=104>

Slow down on rural roads

BY MARY VANSICKLE • June 9, 2010

I have never written to a newspaper before, but I felt compelled to do so now. I would like to remind drivers to slow down. I live north of Newark, and in the last couple of months, I cannot believe the number of car accidents in this area. We are right in between where there were three fatalities on the state route north of us and two accidents on the state route south of us. All within the last couple of months!...

<http://www.newarkadvocate.com/article/20100609/OPINION02/6090325/Slow-down-on-rural-roads>

PEDESTRIAN STRUCK BY VEHICLE; DRIVER ARRESTED

June 11, 2010

LANCASTER -- A 26-year-old man was flown by emergency helicopter to a Columbus hospital after a hit-skip crash Wednesday night. At 10:08 p.m., the victim was walking near the intersection of North Memorial Drive and Whittier Drive. Lancaster Police Officer Kirk Cressley said the man was struck by a vehicle, which continued driving south on North Memorial Drive. Cressley said the man was found lying in the right southbound lane of North Memorial Drive. He said police still are investigating where the man was walking...

<http://www.lancastereaglegazette.com/article/20100611/NEWS01/6110323/1002/PEDESTRIAN-STRUCK-BY-VEHICLE--DRIVER-ARRESTED>

Council may vote for texting ban

Wednesday, June 9, 2010 02:41 PM

By CANDY BROOKS

ThisWeek Staff Writer

Drivers may be forced to place their hands back on the steering wheel and their eyes on the road if Worthington City Council approves an ordinance outlawing texting while driving. The law would fall in line with those already passed or under consideration across the country and in Ohio. But if council member Dave Norstrom has his way, the Worthington ordinance may go a step further. "I am also in favor of the banning of cell phones," he said after the texting ban was introduced at council on Monday night. Norstrom frequently walks his dogs in Old Worthington, and said that on several occasions he has nearly been hit by drivers distracted by cell phones. He also spends time in California, where the use of cell phones while driving has been banned and, he said, the roads made safer. He said that in Ohio, only North Olmstead has eliminated the use of all handheld communication devices while driving... <http://www.thisweeknews.com/live/content/worthington/stories/2010/06/09/council-may-vote-for-texting-ban.html?sid=104>

HEALTH

Childhood obesity: battling the bulge

BY JESSICA ALAIMO • CentralOhio.com • June 7, 2010

LANCASTER -- Sure, he feels healthier, can focus better when he first sits down in class and can run a mile in less than seven minutes. That's not why third-grader Cameron Collins has walked 120-plus miles before school this year. It's the prizes. Simple, cheap prizes. There's not a lot of extra money in the school budget, but this program found an unlikely backer: Buffalo Wild Wings. The crowning achievement in the Feelin' Good Mileage Club at West Elementary in Lancaster is one Collins has long surpassed. On Friday, 111 students who topped 26.2 miles got to throw a pie in the faces of the gym teacher and principal. Like West Elementary, many schools have independently found ways to tackle childhood obesity. In Fairfield County, 15 percent of third-graders were obese, and 31 percent were overweight or obese in 2005, the most recent data available, according to the Ohio Department of Health. Ohio is one of 16 states that did not enact statewide legislation to combat childhood obesity in 2009. This changed Thursday, when the Ohio General Assembly passed the Healthy Choices for Healthy Children Act. A spokeswoman for Gov. Ted Strickland said the bill will be signed when it reaches his desk. The bill passed is a significantly watered-down version of what was proposed...

<http://www.lancastereaglegazette.com/article/20100607/NEWS01/6060306/1002/Childhood-obesity--battling-the-bulge>

Do you know how many kids are struggling with childhood obesity in the U.S.?

Or what percentage of schools provide physical education? We think you'll be shocked to learn the answers. Right now, Congress is working on the Child Nutrition Act reauthorization, which is a big opportunity to improve nutrition and physical activity in our nation's schools. So, we must do our part to urge our legislators to act now and make the health of our kids a priority. Take the AHA's online Healthy Kids Quiz to test your knowledge about the health of our kids and to learn what you can do to make a difference.

<http://www.informz.net/z/cjUucD9taT0xMDlyNzY4JnA9MSZ1PTE0Mzc3NDg4NyZsaT00MjMzNjk0/index.html>

Bill was huge step toward healthier kids

Thursday, June 10, 2010 02:55 AM

With all the national attention paid to childhood obesity this year, less than a month after first lady Michelle Obama challenged America to take steps to solve the problem of childhood obesity within a generation, Ohio became the first state to respond. While the Healthy Choices for Healthy Children legislation that passed on June 3 isn't a perfect bill, it represents the biggest step Ohio ever has taken to improve the health of our children and will make Ohio a national leader on one of the most pressing issues facing kids today. This is a bill that will help our children battle snack food with sit-ups and calories with healthier choices in our school cafeterias. Its solutions are flexible, allowing schools and municipalities to be as creative as possible in fighting childhood obesity. With initiatives that increase physical activity, improve nutritional value of school lunches and provide for real body-mass-index screenings, this new law will give our kids a fighting chance against fat — and help them avoid becoming the first generation of Ohioans to live shorter lives than their parents. This bill also is a tribute to a much larger idea: that the health of our children is too important to be a partisan issue. The most distinct “red” and “blue” elements in this bill are the red apples we hope our children eat and the clear, blue water we hope they drink. As co-chairman of the Healthy Choices for Healthy Children Coalition, led by the Ohio Business Roundtable and the Ohio Children's Hospital Association — together with our leading partner organizations in business, health care, child advocacy, fitness and nutrition — I applaud the co-sponsors, state Reps. Lynn R. Watchmann, R-Napoleon, and John Patrick Carney, D-Columbus, and Sens. Kevin J. Coughlin, R-Cuyahoga Falls, and Eric Kearney, D-Cincinnati, for their visionary, bipartisan leadership. <http://www.dispatch.com/live/content/editorials/stories/2010/06/10/bill-was-huge-step-toward-healthier-kids.html>

Parents, not teachers, should make sure their children exercise

Saturday, June 12, 2010 02:50 AM

The May 30 *Dispatch* article “Child-obesity bill stuck in House” had the subheadline “Teachers unions fight exercise requirement.” Good for them! I am a former public schoolteacher who is now staying home to raise my children, and the article caught my attention. I was very frustrated by the lead sponsors, state Sen. Kevin J. Coughlin, R-

Cuyahoga Falls, and Rep. John Patrick Carney, D-Columbus. I wonder if they have been to a public school lately. Mandating 30 minutes of exercise in schools is ridiculous for many reasons. There is already too much on the curriculum to reasonably add yet one more requirement for our hardworking teachers. Why don't parents have the primary responsibility of exercising their children? If you buy a pet, you must exercise the pet. Children are no different. Walk to the park after school, kick a soccer ball in the backyard, ride your bikes around the block — there are a million ways you can give your children some exercise. Coughlin's quote, "I don't understand why the teachers unions think it's advantageous to have our kids fat and lazy," is very irritating. I can't speak for the union but I can speak for myself when I say: "Wake up, Coughlin! It's not the teachers' responsibility. Parents must take responsibility for their own children." I agree that vending machines and school lunches could be improved. Parents don't care for the choices? They can take an extra few minutes and pack their children's lunches, then. Or, better yet, they can teach their children to pack their own lunches. The problem with these ideas is that they take time. We have to spend time to exercise with our children; we have to take time to teach them to pack a nutritional lunch; we have to take time to shop for fresh fruits and vegetables and cut them up. Isn't your child's health worth that little extra time? The bill passed on June 3, but I don't think it will mitigate the problem. The same children who sit around during recess and aren't interested in playing during field day will do the same thing during the mandatory exercise time. You've heard the saying, "You can lead a horse to water, but you can't make him drink"? Instead of focusing on what our teachers can do to improve the health of our children, I wish the legislature would concentrate on more-appropriate ways of improving the health of our youths. Offer more sports, bring down the cost of participating in extracurricular activities, sponsor 5K runs throughout the city for children in high school and younger and offer education for parents on setting a good example nutritionally and physically. I hope this inspires some people to get outside and enjoy the weather, be it sunny, windy, snowy or rainy. Oh, and bring your kids.

<http://www.dispatch.com/live/content/editorials/stories/2010/06/12/parents-not-teachers-should-make-sure-their-children-exercise.html>

LOCAL NEWS

Race Across America comes through town next week

THE GAZETTE STAFF • June 10, 2010

A cross-country endurance bicycle event will be making a time check stop in Chillicothe that will see riders headed through the area June 16 through 20. The Race Across America begins Saturday in Oceanside, Calif., and will travel more than 3,000 miles in nine to 12 days to finish in Annapolis, Md. According to race information at www.raceacrossamerica.org, it is not run in stages like the famous Tour de France. "The race is one stage, live to the very end," promotional material indicates. "In RAAM, once the clock starts on the west coast, the clock doesn't stop until each racer reaches the finish line on the east coast. "RAAM is 30 percent longer than the Tour de France, and solo racers finish in half the time with no rest days. ... Unlike the Tour de France, there is no drafting or taking shelter from the wind. It's an all-out solo challenge... "

<http://www.chillicothe Gazette.com/article/20100610/NEWS01/6100315/Race-Across-America-comes-through-town-next-week>

Autism research focus of ride headed through town

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE • June 14, 2010

Four men with a desire to raise money and awareness for autism research were scheduled to mount their bicycles today for a 300-mile ride across Ohio that will go through Chillicothe. The ride, called the Towpath Expedition for Autism Research, begins today and will follow the historic route of the Ohio & Erie Canal, from its beginning on the Cuyahoga River in Cleveland to its terminus in Portsmouth. The goal of the expedition is to raise \$10,000 for the Organization for Autism Research. Thus far, the riders have raised \$6,500 from more than 200 donors through Facebook and direct appeals. "When we started doing this five years ago, the goal was to raise a few hundred dollars," the ride's founder, Dave Hayslip said. "We still ask for small donations, because the point is to get hundreds of people involved... " <http://www.chillicothe Gazette.com/article/20100614/NEWS01/6140306/Autism-research-focus-of-ride-headed-through-town>

West Broad ready for bike lanes

(by Whitney Wilson Coy, Westside Editor - June 10, 2010)

A long-lasting debate on the Westside has come to an end. The Hilltop will get bike lanes, but not at the expense of parking for local businesses. After several meetings between Hilltop representatives and Columbus Public

Services, as well as other city officials, a compromise was reached on the issue of bike lanes on West Broad Street. The final meeting took place on May 26. The plan now calls for bike lanes that begin and end on West Broad Street. Throughout the business district, however, the lanes are rerouted through the neighborhoods to the north, allowing for parking on both sides of Broad in front of businesses. The work is expected to be completed by fall of 2010, with the majority of the project included in a planned resurfacing of West Broad Street from Hague to Central. The project will be completed by the Ohio Department of Transportation, meaning 80 percent of the cost will be covered by federal funds. The planned bike lanes will begin east of I-70 at Central Avenue and continue west on Broad Street to Wheatland. The lanes will then turn onto North Wheatland, and will follow Steele Avenue west to Westgate Avenue, where the path will again pick up on West Broad Street. The approved plan is one that was supported by the Greater Hilltop Area Commission. According to Chuck Patterson, chair of the Greater Hilltop Area Commission, the final plan is a good compromise... <http://www.columbusmessenger.com/NC/0/8372.html>

County calls for teamwork on casino district development

(by Katie Sparks, staff writer - May 27, 2010)

With a new casino on the way, several changes are in the works for West Broad Street. Franklin County economic development and planning director, Jim Schimmer, wants to make sure everyone is on the same page. Schimmer presented information at the latest Prairie Township meeting about the entities who have a stake in the coming development, including Prairie and Franklin townships, as well as the city of Columbus. The passing of Issue 2 means the Columbus Hollywood Casino will be coming to the west side and Schimmer said all three entities have a say in what happens to the surrounding area. He said all three jurisdictions share portions and will likely be developed by businesses and industry with the arrival of the new casino. Schimmer explained that a private sector group called Weston Development Partners has been pulled together "to get ahead of the development train." "We are specifically interested in knowing that there is a greater vision for the surrounding areas," said Schimmer. He said work has been done to match up the zoning districts to land use maps so they correspond. "This will prevent people from sliding things in (in the developing areas)," said Schimmer. Schimmer said Weston's planning principles outline the need for a mix of business and industry. They also call for urban design excellence and green standards. He added Weston will push for development strategies that will embrace environmental sustainability, such as environmentally conscious waste management and energy efficiency. "They plan for walkable pedestrian paths and bike ways to reduce parking footprints and to increase the use of public transit," said Schimmer. He said the quality of life within the community is critical... <http://www.columbusmessenger.com/NC/0/8303.html>

COLUMBUS CITY COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

For Immediate Release: June 7, 2010

HELPING COMPLETE THE ALUM CREEK TRAIL-MOCK ROAD TO I-670 PROJECT: The city of Columbus is committed to providing residents with alternative means of non-motorized transportation through cycling and walking. Judiciary & Court Administration Committee Chair Eileen Y. Paley is sponsoring *ordinance 0646-2010* to authorize the expenditure of \$100,000.00 from the Voted 1999/2004 Voted Bond Fund to acquire fee simple title and lesser interests, contract professional services and payment of costs necessary to acquire certain real property in connection with the Alum Creek Trail-Mock Road to I-670 Project. The trail is a regional project which extends from Westerville to Three Creeks Park. The project will provide trail connectivity from Innis Park to I-670 at Ohio Dominican University and connect two major city parks and three neighborhoods to the regional trail network...

INSTALLING ENERGY EFFICIENT PEDESTRIAN SIGNALS: Under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009, the city of Columbus was awarded \$7,403,500 from the U.S. Department of Energy as a formula allocation of the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG). Public Service Committee Chair Hearcel F. Craig is sponsoring *ordinance 0769-2010* to authorize the expenditure of \$1,571,650 from the General Government Grant Fund for the installation of pedestrian signals equipped with LED technology. The new pedestrian signals will feature countdown displays and provide a clearer understanding of the meaning of pedestrian clearance intervals, increased customer acceptance of the proper operation of pedestrian signals and ultimately safer pedestrian environment. The project will replace a total of 3,698 pedestrian signals with an expected annual savings of 1,946,000 kilowatt hours upon project completion in the fall of 2012 Thanks to David Roseman for the story.

In Search of a City: Two Wheel C-Bus

Columbus is making some amazing strides with bicycling. Friday, the City of Columbus announced a bike-sharing program for employees. City employees can use bicycles available at City Hall, the Columbus Health Department and the Jerry Hammond Center. The Columbus Health Department has long been one of the most progressive in the United States. We also have a mayor who is "finding his stride" and becoming one of the country's truly great

mayors. On the biking issue alone, Mayor Coleman has made a huge difference. He became personally involved in securing Federal Energy Stimulus fund so Capital Crossroads SID can develop bicycle parking facilities in downtown. He has championed "Share the Road," bike lanes and trails, and biking to work. Ultimately, he may have as big of an impact on Columbus as Manny Sensenbrenner did in the 1950s and 1960s. His impact, however, will be to grow the city inward, not outward. He has had his impact on me. Thanks in large part to his prodding, I bought my bicycle on May 17 and have been riding to work virtually every day since.

<http://www.downtowncolumbus.com/rightnow/2010/06/in-search-of-a-city-two-wheel-c-bus/>

ODOT Has Big Plans: Not Everyone On Board With Long Street Project

By Marcus Thorpe

Published: June 09, 2010

Updated: June 09, 2010 - 11:07 PM

COLUMBUS, Ohio --

ODOT is hard at work on project that would start with a building new cap along the Long Street bridge. The hope is to reconnect a budding neighborhood with downtown and spur development. Some are excited about the possibilities, but others are not buying what ODOT is selling. For existing business owners like Charity Martin-Via, her Urban Spirit Coffee Shop on Long Street is doing its best to get customers in, despite what she said are construction challenges. "When the freeway system cut through (it) really sealed off neighborhood from downtown and affected economics in this community," Martin-Via said. She said ODOT pitched the project as a solution, and Jerome Ferguson said it might be. "The biggest impact is for that cap to ensure a developer builds on that park," Ferguson said. But he said it has to include making Long Street a two-way street...

http://www2.nbc4i.com/news/2010/jun/09/3/odot-has-big-plans-not-everyone-board-long-street--ar-103352/?sc_cid=CMH-NEWS-7amDlyNews

Athlete doesn't let diabetes slow him down

Saturday, June 5, 2010 06:24 PM

By CANDACE PRESTON-COY

ThisWeek Staff Writer

In 2004, Tom Kingery's life revolved around sports. He and his wife, Colleen, ran a sports therapy support business out of their Delaware home. He was a marathon runner in the best physical shape he could possibly be in - or so he thought. At age 28, his life changed when his doctor diagnosed him with Type 1 diabetes, making him dependent on insulin for the rest of his life. "I spent the next five months in denial, angry," he said. "It wasn't fair. I ate right, got plenty of exercise." He felt that diabetes "would end all of my hopes of continuing to compete at a high level or at any level at all..." <http://www.thisweeknews.com/live/content/delaware/stories/2010/06/05/athlete-doesnt-let-diabetes-slow-him-down.html?sid=104>

Genoa receives funding for intersection work

Saturday, June 5, 2010 06:24 PM

By CHRIS ALEXIS

ThisWeek Staff Writer

Genoa Township has received funding to improve the Freeman Road and state Route 3 intersection. Township officials plan to install north and south left-turn lanes on state Route 3. Freeman Road will have no turn lanes. The township also hopes to build a pedestrian signal and a trail from the intersection to Freeman Road Park. The park sits about 300 yards west of the intersection. The Ohio Public Works Commission has approved funding of up to \$323,700 for the project. The money will be distributed to the township on July 1, according to the OPWC.

Construction likely will begin in September with a completion date in early 2011, assistant administrator Joe Clase said... <http://www.thisweeknews.com/live/content/sunbury/stories/2010/06/05/genoa-receives-funding-for-intersection-work.html?sid=104>

Students' bright idea wins Invention Convention

Wednesday, June 9, 2010 02:42 PM

By JENNIFER NOBLIT

ThisWeek Staff Writer

Two Dublin sixth-graders are trying to give cyclists an illuminating experience. A LED solar-powered bike helmet invented by Bryce Queary and Zach Pollard earned the top prize at the central Ohio Invention Convention on May 29 at COSI. The home-schooled students won a \$2,500 college scholarship. Queary and Pollard competed against

more than 300 other student inventors from seven counties. Their invention, a bike helmet outfitted with a solar panel to power two sets of LED lights, came about after the boys saw several people cycling at night without lights, Queary said. "After the time change (last fall) we saw lots of people riding around with no lights on," he said. The boys began researching bicycle safety and found some surprising statistics. "In 2008, 700 people died from bicycle accidents. Forty-six percent were during non-daylight hours," Pollard said. For their project, the sixth-graders talked to Dublin's Bicycle Advisory Task Force, the group Consider Biking and Washington Township EMT bike team member Jim Fish... <http://www.thisweeknews.com/live/content/dublin/stories/2010/06/09/students-bright-idea-wins-invention-convention.html?sid=104>

Cemetery Road to close June 10 for makeover

Published: Wednesday, June 9, 2010 6:27 PM EDT

The cliché "no pain, no gain" will be illustrated beginning Thursday, June 10 when Cemetery Road closes in downtown Hilliard to allow for the construction of the first of two roundabouts. Cemetery Road, between High School Drive and Scioto-Darby Road, will close June 10 for the construction of a traffic roundabout at Main Street and Cemetery Road, and a new signalized intersection at Cemetery Road and Scioto-Darby Road...

http://www.snponline.com/articles/2010/06/14/westland_news/news/wnallhlcem_20100607_0940am_1.txt

Traffic changes postponed for Hilliard Triangle Project

Wednesday, June 9, 2010 02:42 PM

Updated: Wednesday, June 9, 2010 10:31 PM

By GARY BUDZAK

ThisWeek Contributor

Due to inclement weather, the traffic pattern changes that were planned for Thursday, June 10, for the Hilliard Triangle Project have been postponed to Monday, June 14. The traffic pattern changes will take place at the Cemetery Road, Scioto Darby Road and Main Street intersections. The project website has been updated with new information. For detailed information regarding road closures and detours within the construction area, visit www.cityofhilliard.com and click on the Hilliard Triangle Project link. This portion of the project was originally to have started June 7, but last week's heavy rains pushed that date back, said Letty Schamp, Hilliard's transportation engineer... <http://www.thisweeknews.com/live/content/hilliard/stories/2010/06/09/triangle-traffic-project-changes-under-way.html?sid=104>

Lithopolis' Columbus Street project to begin

(by Linda Dillman - June 03, 2010)

Facing a half year loss of Columbus Street access to their Lithopolis storefronts, a pair of shopkeepers hope customers will continue to patronize their establishments throughout the months long street reconstruction project. Kathy Moling, whose family has owned and operated the Law and Benson General Store since 1926, and Charlotte Leight, the proprietor of Nature's Barn and Moling's neighbor to the north for six years, are excited about the changes, but concerned for their financial bottom line. "It's been a long time coming," said Moling as she sat outside her storefront and watched cars and trucks negotiate the pitted, pocked, and patched thoroughfare, "and it's something that's needed for the businesses and people coming through town. The sidewalks are cracked and I'm concerned about people falling. It'll be a big improvement. The holes in the street will be fixed. We get a lot of comments from people and we tell them that we'll have a new street that will add to the overall ambiance of the village." Columbus Street will get a full-depth, full-width reconstruction from Walnut Street to Delaware Street this summer. Lithopolis Mayor Eric Sandine expects the project to begin in July and be finished by the end of the year. The village received notification from the Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) in January that the \$1.4 million endeavor was approved, ranking 12th out of 51 projects. It was Lithopolis' third attempt at funding the project...

<http://www.columbusmessenger.com/NC/0/8328.html>

City applies for \$353,000 to improve infrastructure

(by Kristy Zurbrick, Madison Editor - June 07, 2010)

The City of London is applying for a total of \$353,000 in state grant money for infrastructure improvements. If granted, \$300,000 would go toward water line and related improvements on Lincoln Avenue and \$53,000 likely would go toward sidewalks on Elm Street... The \$53,000 for sidewalks is more of a sure thing. Funded through the Formula program, the grant is basically an annual "entitlement" from the state, Hume said...

<http://www.columbusmessenger.com/NC/0/8336.html>

New Metro Park to open between CW and Groveport

(by Rick Palsgrove, Southeast Editor - June 07, 2010)

The Groveport, Canal Winchester, and Madison Township area has a wealth of green space and its soon to become richer in natural beauty with the opening of the Walnut Woods Metro Park. Located between Lithopolis and Richardson roads (see map), the 628 acre Walnut Woods will grow by another 246 acres with the pending acquisition of the Richardson Road Park from the city of Columbus, according to Metro Parks officials. "The area is unique in its location because it's between two growing communities (Groveport and Canal Winchester), is next to a major stream corridor, and has large blocks of undeveloped land," said Steve Studenmund, strategic planning & land acquisition manager for Metro Parks. Metro Parks Director John O'Meara said Walnut Woods could open by late 2010 or by the spring of 2011. "This will be the first new park that we open in keeping with our levy promises that we made last year," said O'Meara. Metro Parks purchased the Walnut Woods property in December 2008 and May 2010 with a total acquisition cost of \$4.875 million, which purchased 628 acres, according to O'Meara. "Walnut Woods will be a great new Metro Park for several reasons," said O'Meara. "The park protects important natural features including (Little) Walnut Creek, wetlands and ponds, beautiful scenery, small streams and valuable open space in Franklin County." O'Meara said it is important to conserve open spaces like this in areas where rapid development is anticipated or occurring, such as southeast Franklin County. "This is the first Metro Park along (Little) Walnut Creek and it will help protect and improve water quality in this free flowing stream," added O'Meara. Walnut Woods features rolling terrain bordering Little Walnut Creek and has large scenic ponds, according to O'Meara. "Wetlands and streams are being restored to attract wildlife and improve water quality," continued O'Meara. "The good water quality of (Little) Walnut Creek and its tributaries will be improved, which should improve fishing and other enjoyable uses of the water." O'Meara said detailed park planning is not yet completed as an advisory group is in the process of developing the Conceptual Master Plan. He said the advisory group continues to meet and is preparing recommendations. Typical Metro Park facilities are likely to be among the recommended uses. Entrances to the park are expected to be on both Lithopolis and Richardson roads. "Initially about six miles of trails in the park will be accessible when the park opens," said O'Meara. "Trail connections to both Groveport and Canal Winchester and to existing Greenways trails is a planning goal..."

<http://www.columbusmessenger.com/NC/0/8334.html>

Newest Metro park taking shape with expanded acreage

By MICHAEL HAYES

Published: Tuesday, June 8, 2010 6:12 PM EDT

Central Ohio's newest Metro Park, to be located between Canal Winchester and Groveport, will offer over six miles of biking and hiking trails, fishing, a shelter house and observation decks for bird watchers. The park, to be called Walnut Woods, does not have a concrete opening date yet, but efforts are ongoing to get it ready for public use. "We're looking right now the likely date will be late 2010 or early spring 2011," said Peg Hanley of Metro Parks. The parcel of land is located between Lithopolis and Richardson Roads and is on the site of the former Eastside Nursery. The current size is 620 acres, but Hanley anticipates Metro Parks will acquire additional land off Richardson Road to expand the acreage. "Right now we've got 620 acres, Hanley said. "We hope to acquire 240 more acres this year," she said. The additional land will be purchased from the City of Columbus, Handley said. Currently designated the "City of Columbus-Richardson Road Parkland," that piece is a 240-acre rectangular parcel located on the west side of Richardson Road. Hanley said Metro Parks has spent \$4.5 million thus far in purchasing acreage for Walnut Woods and the board will meet either this month or next month to discuss the newest purchase. Hanley said it remains to be determined as to whether the main access to the park will be from Richardson or Lithopolis roads. "Our park planners haven't completed the design plan yet," she said. The six miles of bike trails in Walnut Woods will eventually connect to trails in Canal Winchester and Groveport and also to the existing Greenways trail system...

http://www.snponline.com/articles/2010/06/14/the_times/news/cwmetropar_20100607_1239pm_4.txt

Metro Parks, Plain Township still in talks over tract of land

Wednesday, June 9, 2010 02:42 PM

By GAIL MARTINEAU

ThisWeek Staff Writer

Franklin County Metro Parks still is on track to open its Rocky Fork Headwaters park in 2012. John O'Meara, Metro Parks director, met in an executive session with Plain Township trustees and township administrator Ben Collins Wednesday, June 2, to discuss land acquisition for the proposed 1,200-acre park. Though neither party could divulge specifics regarding the executive session, the trustees previously have met with O'Meara to reach an agreement to sell the township's 32.4-acre lot on Walnut Street. "The board of trustees is still considering the sale of property on Walnut Street," Collins said. "Metro Parks is still actively in the process of acquiring additional

property. We are still interested in being a part of that..."

<http://www.thisweeknews.com/live/content/newalbany/stories/2010/06/09/metro-parks-plain-township-still-in-talks-over-tract-of-land.html?sid=104>

Metro Park in Grove City

(by Andrea Cordle, Southwest Editor - June 10, 2010)

The board of trustees for Metro Parks has given the go ahead for a new park in Grove City. Metro Parks acquired approximately 70 acres of land off State Route 104 along the Scioto River. The city of Grove City has donated an additional 193 acres of land for the recreation site.

John O'Meara, executive director for Metro Parks, said they would like to purchase extra property around the area. O'Meara said this park has been planned for several years. The park system will use funds from the May 2009 0.75-mill levy to build and operate the new park. "We are keeping our levy promise," said O'Meara. The park would be located around Grant Run. O'Meara said they wanted to build a park around the Scioto River because it is a major waterway in central Ohio... <http://www.columbusmessenger.com/NC/0/8359.html>

Council asked to fund Town Center revitalization projects

(by Andrea Cordle, Southwest Editor - June 10, 2010)

Grove City Council is expected to vote on additional funds to revitalize the Town Center. At the June 7 meeting, council heard the first reading of an ordinance to appropriate \$48,430 for engineering of the Town Center green frame plan. There was also a first reading to set aside an additional \$50,000 for the Town Center grant program. Council had previously asked the city administrator to encourage alternative development to the lumberyard property and submit a priority list for community improvements outlined in what is called the green frame plan. According to the ordinance, the funds would allow the city "better define" the impacts of the proposed green frame plan. The green frame plan involves improvements to the streetscape in the Town Center such as roadway improvements, increased street lighting, and improved utilities and sidewalks...."

<http://www.columbusmessenger.com/NC/0/8364.html>

Paths less-traveled

Metro Parks may let visitors go off trail

Tuesday, June 8, 2010 02:52 AM

By Mark Ferenchik

THE COLUMBUS DISPATCH

When you visit Franklin County Metro Parks this summer, you might be able to leave the trails in certain areas without getting into trouble with a ranger. Parks officials have been tinkering with the district's rules over the past month to allow visitors to explore areas of the parks that normally would be off limits. The thought is that opening up more park space to visitors will allow them to be "more fully immersed in nature," parks spokeswoman Peg Hanley said. Board member Robert H. Jeffrey brought it up at last month's board meeting, and Executive Director John O'Meara worked on the new rules. The board will take up the proposed rule changes during its monthly meeting on Wednesday... http://www.dispatch.com/live/content/local_news/stories/2010/06/08/opening-paths-less-traveled.html

Metro Park board accepts land, opposes racetrack

Thursday, June 10, 2010 02:55 AM

By Doug Caruso

THE COLUMBUS DISPATCH

A new park continued to take shape yesterday as the Metro Parks board accepted 193 acres of Scioto River flood plain from Grove City. The new park is one of three that Metro Parks promised last year in its successful campaign for a property-tax increase. Walnut Woods Metro Park is expected to open this year between Groveport and Canal Winchester, and a third park is planned near New Albany. Also yesterday, the three-member board signed a letter opposing construction of a race-car track at the former site of Cooper Stadium. The track's noise would disrupt nearby Scioto Audubon Metro Park, board members said. The letter noted that the park system has invested \$10 million in the nearby Scioto Audubon Metro Park and that noise from the proposed racetrack would affect visitors... Grove City plans to connect its bike-trail system to the park on the Scioto River, Mayor Richard "Ike" Stage said... http://www.dispatch.com/live/content/local_news/stories/2010/06/10/park-land-accepted-racetrack-opposed.html

Work on area's second roundabout to begin next week

By BRETT NUCKLES

Published: Wednesday, June 9, 2010 6:27 PM EDT

The intersection of Reynoldsburg-New Albany and Morse roads is getting an overhaul that will make it safer and speedier. The intersection, currently a four-way stop, will be converted into a roundabout this summer. The intersection will be closed to all traffic on or about Monday, June 14 until late September 2010, weather permitting. The conversion will help to free up a highly congested intersection, said Franklin County Traffic Engineer Michael Meeks. "As is, there is always a long line of cars waiting to get through," he said. "It seems that people are even going out of their way to use other intersections." The posted detour route for northbound motorists on Reynoldsburg-New Albany Road will follow Kitzmiller Road north to Dublin-Granville Road and west to Reynoldsburg-New Albany Road. Southbound motorists will follow the detour in the opposite direction...

http://www.snponline.com/articles/2010/06/11/new_albany_news/news/naroundabo_20100609_0453pm_3.txt

New Albany

Roundabout construction slated to begin June 14

Wednesday, June 9, 2010 02:41 PM

By GAIL MARTINEAU

ThisWeek Staff Writer

Motorists driving near the intersection of Reynoldsburg-New Albany and Morse roads should prepare for a longer commute. Construction on a new roundabout is scheduled to begin Monday, June 14, and will last until the middle of September. Dean Ringle, Franklin County engineer, said the project includes the installation of a one-lane roundabout, a grade adjustment to Morse Road and a slight shift of the intersection to the northwest. The intersection, currently a four-way stop, will be entirely closed while workers from the Shelly & Sands contracting firm complete the \$2.4-million Franklin County project...

<http://www.thisweeknews.com/live/content/gahanna/stories/2010/06/09/roundabout-construction.html?sid=104>

Taylor Road turn-lane, paving project to start Monday

Saturday, June 5, 2010 06:24 PM

Construction on Taylor Road in Pataskala is slated to begin Monday, June 7 — about a month later than was planned. Public service director B.J. King said Columbia Gas work caused the delay. "Columbia Gas needed to remove some gas lines," he said. "They ran into some problems with their lines being a lot deeper than they thought they were." The project includes a new left-turn lane on Taylor Road between Broad Street and Havens Corners Road and repaving. The work is a partnership between the city of Pataskala, local developer Ryan Homes and money from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act...

<http://www.thisweeknews.com/live/content/lickingcounty/stories/2010/06/05/taylor-road-turn-lane-paving-project-to-start-monday.html?sid=104>

Westerville

Contractor chosen to build new bridge

Tuesday, June 8, 2010 04:30 PM

By BRITANY BYERS

ThisWeek Contributor

Franklin County commissioners have chosen Kokosing Construction Co. to replace the West Main Street bridge in Westerville.

Jim Pajk, Franklin County deputy bridge engineer, said Kokosing's bid of \$5,779,116 was the lowest of four submitted... <http://www.thisweeknews.com/live/content/westerville/stories/2010/06/02/Contractor-chosen-to-build-new-bridge.html?sid=104>

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL

Woodlawn slated for sidewalks

(by Katie Sparks, staff writer - June 10, 2010)

Parents with school children walking on Woodlawn Avenue can look forward to a safer journey within a year.

Prairie Township, in cooperation with the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT), will be putting sidewalks along that stretch of street. The township also has tentative plans to improve to the overall quality of the road through additional grant funds. The sidewalks are part of the Safe Routes to School Program through ODOT.

Through an application process, Prairie was able to have ODOT conduct a study to determine the need for sidewalks in the area. Some of the schools that would benefit the most from the sidewalks on Woodlawn are Stiles Elementary, Westland High School, Norton Middle School and Prairie Norton Elementary. The Safe Routes to School program through ODOT is in conjunction with a national initiative that uses grants for road improvement projects to prevent children from walking in streets or along train tracks. According to their website, ODOT will invest a record \$11 million in 2010 to make getting to school safer for students in 41 different communities in Ohio.

The \$11 million in federal transportation funds to be invested this year will be the most ODOT has invested in the Safe Routes to School program since it began in 2004. "It will be a good thing," said Prairie Norton Elementary school secretary, Linda Badger, "I know we would definitely prefer the sidewalk as opposed to the edge of street or in the street or in the road. We have about 25-30 children in our walking area and Woodlawn is one of those streets..." <http://www.columbusmessenger.com/NC/0/8373.html>

June SRTS E-News

This month's articles include:

1. Partnership Unveils TWO New Resource Guides
2. SRTSNP Welcomes New Steering Committee Members
3. Safe Routes to School National Partnership's Federal Update
4. Check on Your State's Progress in Implementing SRTS
5. Safe Routes to School State Network Update
6. Sign up for America Walks - Equal Footing Summit
7. The National Center Announces Mini-Grant Recipients
8. Mississippi SRTS Is Taking It to the Streets
9. ODOT Targets Record \$11 million to SRTS Projects
10. SRTS News Throughout the Country

<http://www.saferoutespartnership.org/enews/june2010>

Kelechi Nwosu

Administrative Associate

Safe Routes to School National Partnership

Local Host Sought for the 3rd Safe Routes to School National Conference Applications due July 14th

The National Center for Safe Routes to School and the Safe Routes to School National Partnership are now seeking proposals from potential host agencies to organize the 3rd Safe Routes to School National Conference which would take place in August 2011. The deadline for proposal submissions is July 14, 2010. To download the complete request, please visit www.saferoutesinfo.org/conference/RFP.cfm.

A conference call will be offered to further discuss and field questions surrounding this request for proposal (RFP) on Wednesday, June 23, 2010 from 1:00 - 2:30 EDT. To register for the call, please visit www.saferoutesinfo.org/conference/rfp_call.cfm.

The intent of the RFP is to identify and select an experienced organization that will be responsible for conference and event support, planning, coordination, fundraising and implementation of all aspects related to running a three-day national meeting of 400-600 program representatives, state DOTs, planners, elected officials and community members. The National Conference provides an opportunity for individuals, agencies and organizations involved with Safe Routes to School to network, engage in educational opportunities and form partnerships to enhance their Safe Routes to School work.

The 2nd Safe Routes to School National Conference, held in Portland, Oregon in August 2009, had more than 500

participants in attendance and is considered to have been a resounding success. For more information on the second conference, please visit <http://www.saferoutesconference.org/>.

OTHER NEWS

Ira: A bicycle can't stand on its own because it is two tired.

Ohioan On 800-Mile Bike Ride To Attend School Reunion

By Associated Press

Published: June 10, 2010

SPRINGFIELD, Ohio -- An Ohio man is on an 800-mile bike ride to attend his 50th high school class reunion in Massachusetts. Peter Noonan of Springfield hit the road May 20 and is expected to arrive Thursday at Deerfield Academy, his old prep school in Deerfield, Mass. The 68-year-old Noonan says he's in good shape and thought the ride would be a nice way to see the country. But, Noonan says he won't be cycling back...

http://www2.nbc4i.com/news/2010/jun/10/ohioan-800-mile-bike-ride-attend-school-reunion-ar-104353/?sc_cid=CMH-NEWS-TopStories

Roads Modified In Ohio County To Accommodate Amish

By Associated Press

Published: June 10, 2010

MIDDLEFIELD, Ohio --

Paved roads that wind through Geauga County's Amish community have subtle differences from those in other parts of northeast Ohio. The shoulder is a foot wider and plowed on snowy winter mornings so children can safely walk to school. The surface is a polymer compound to make it more resilient to buggy traffic and horseshoes.

Gauga County Engineer Robert Phillips says the county works to accommodate its 12,000 Amish population, including recent discussions about snowplows. In 1988, the Ohio Department of Transportation established an Amish Buggy Safety Committee, which has recommended warning signs, wider shoulders and lanes on hills to accommodate buggies. In Geauga County, the state added 8-foot shoulders as buggy lanes on a state route to separate the slow-moving vehicles from other traffic. http://www2.nbc4i.com/news/2010/jun/10/roads-modified-ohio-county-accommodate-amish-ar-104639/?sc_cid=CMH-NEWS-7amDlyNews

Ira: If it works for buggies...

Another Bike Ban Surfaces

Help Keep Roads Open for Bicycles!

-ACTION ALERT-

Black Hawk's Board of Aldermen is making it clear that they don't want bicyclists or bicycle events in town. The Board approved an ordinance banning bicycle riding on almost every street in Black Hawk. This includes the only paved street (Gregory Street-formerly State Highway 279) connecting the Peak to Peak Highway with the Central City Parkway. Black Hawk police are now issuing a ticket to anyone "caught riding" through town. Bicycle Colorado formally asked Black Hawk City Council to lift the ban during the June 9th City Council Meeting. Council made it clear that they had no intention of changing their ordinance. Now we need the help of the Colorado bicycling community to get their attention. Bicycle Colorado doesn't think this is right or legal. We are working diligently on the legal side but here is how you can help today: <http://bicyclecolo.org/articles/black-hawk-bike-ban-pg1118.htm>

Ira: In Chicago the Blackhawks just won the Stanley Cup. In Colorado Black Hawk just struck out. I don't get it. Boycott, anyone?

The Active Community Transportation Act of 2010

From Rails to Trails: Since we last reported on the ACT Act in April, we've doubled the level of congressional support for this landmark bill for trails, walking and bicycling. Fifty-six representatives now support this bill. Does yours? Act now! Visit <http://support.railstotrails.org/ACT>

Contact Information

Web site - www.considerbiking.org

Facebook - [Facebook Page](#)

Twitter - [Considerbikeoh](#)

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