

Ohio Bicycle Communicator



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Winter 2018

OBF Exhibits During 2018 Ohio Transportation Engineering Conference

Each October, hundreds of civil engineers involved in designing Ohio's roadways converge upon the Columbus Convention Center for the Ohio Transportation Engineering Conference (OTEC)!

Your Ohio Bicycle Federation was there again in 2018 with its exhibit and board members representing the interests of bicyclists at the largest transportation conference in the USA!

We engaged with many Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) officials who play key roles in providing the infrastructure which we need to improve Ohio cycling.

Patricia Kovacs, OBF Secretary, joined a panel discussion at the 2018 Ohio Transportation Engineering Conference on the topic of Bicycle and Pedestrian Performance Measures.

She discussed the efforts we made to improve bicycle crash reporting with both NHTSA and the Ohio Department of Public Safety. She also shared our work to download and analyze bicycle and pedestrian crashes.

Tricia's presentation can be viewed in session 74 at the following link: <http://www.dot.state.oh.us/engineering/OTEC/Pages/OTEC-2018-Presentations.aspx>



OBF Chair Chuck Smith with Secretary Tricia Kovacs and ODOT Bike/Ped Coordinators Caitlin Harley and Jordan Whisler,

OBF Considers Legislative Goal for 2019-2020 Session

Dear Ohio Bicyclists,

As I pedal around Ohio I notice more and more motorists with cell phones to their ears. While I take all necessary precautions, I wonder whether these preoccupied motorists are paying enough attention to their driving to ensure our mutual safety.

Currently, distracted driving is a secondary offense in Ohio. This means that distracted driving alone would not be an adequate reason to stop a motorist.

We in the Ohio Bicycle Federation would like to make distracted driving a primary offense.

As always, we are interested in your input as we set our OBF goals for the 2019-2020 Ohio General Assembly session.

Please let us know your thoughts by emailing me at obfchair@gmail.com.

Chuck Smith

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RECENT CAMPAIGN

OHIO BICYCLE FEDERATION



In 2016, the Ohio legislature passed, and the Governor signed a safe passing law for Ohio. This success came after years of hard work by the Ohio Bicycle Federation and other League of American Bicyclists' member organizations including Bike Miami Valley, Bike Cleveland, Queen City Bike, and other advocacy organizations and clubs throughout Ohio.

The campaign for a safe passing law began in earnest in 2009 when the Ohio Bicycle Federation worked with state senator Teresa Fedor (D) from Toledo, Ohio to introduce a bill in the Senate Transportation Committee. The bill was introduced with a news conference at the end of a bike ride from her home district to the state capitol in Columbus (160 miles). Although that bill did not get a vote in the committee it set the stage for future efforts.

The Ohio Bicycle Federation continued to work on building support for a safe passing law over the years. The next step was an introduced bill in the state House of Representatives, this time by state representative Mike Henne (R) in 2011. Multiple bills followed over the next several years until HB 154 was introduced into the House of Representatives in 2015 – at which point the Ohio Bicycle Federation and other bicycle advocacy organizations and clubs began a phone and email campaign focused on the Ohio Speaker of the House to ensure that the bill came up for a vote. Phone calls were especially effective in moving the bill forward.

Ohio's safe passing law was adopted with broad bi-partisan support. The final bill had 42 co-sponsors and bi-partisan primary sponsors in Rep. Henne (R) and Rep. Sheehy (D). It was passed 30-1 in the Senate and 89-4 in the House and signed into law on December 19th, 2016 by Governor Kasich (R). It became law in March 2017 and the Ohio Bicycle Federation has been educating the public and law enforcement on the law since that time.

The League's most recent Bicycle Friendly State report card indicates that Ohio lacks two other Bicycle Friendly Actions:

1. a Complete Streets law or policy, and
2. a Statewide Bicycle Master Plan adopted within the last 10 years.

2009	Bill first introduced in Senate
2011	Bill first introduced in House
2012 - 2016	Multiple bills
2016	Bill passed and signed
2017	Law becomes active

BICYCLE FRIENDLY STATE ACTION - SAFE PASSING LAW

Learn more at WWW.BIKELEAGUE.ORG

OBF's success on the passing of the 3 foot passing law was featured in the League of American Bicyclists Bicycle Friendly States White Paper Publication. You can view the complete white paper . https://bikeleague.org/sites/default/files/BFS_WP-Safe_Passing_law-07_2018.pdf

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New Toledo Bike Rack and Fixit Station Dedicated to Former OBF Board Member

A new bicycle rack and fixit station was dedicated on October 20 in honor of former OBF Board Member Pat Squire and her late husband Ray. The new station is in front of the Visitors Center at Wildwood Preserve MetroPark, 5100 Central Avenue in Toledo. This tribute was completed thanks to the support of Ray and Pat's friends at Maumee Valley Adventurers, Toledo Area Bicyclists, We Are Traffic and the Ohio Bicycle Federation.

Ray and Pat Squire represent the very best in Ohio cycling! They lived many years without an automobile, maintaining busy schedules by bike.

Now with Ray gone from the scene, Pat continues to play an important role in the Toledo and Ohio cycling communities.

Pat served several years on our Ohio Bicycle Federation board, and continues to be a key volunteer for Toledo area bicycle clubs.

Pat organizes bicycle tours and also advocates for cycling in Toledo Metropolitan Area Council of Government (TMACOG) committees.

Each spring, I look forward to seeing Pat at the annual TMACOG Transportation Summit.

The Fix-It station will be a key benefit to Toledo transportation cyclists like Ray and Pat. When you pump your tires here, remember Ray and Pat who did so much for cycling in Toledo and in Ohio as a whole!



OBF Membership Report

As of October 9, we have 124 current paid-up members. 46 of them are Lifetime members. We have 18 bike clubs. The category numbers are:

Individual 53
Individual Lifetime 40
Family 11
Family Lifetime 2
Organization 14
Organization Lifetime 4

imATHLETE has been handling registrations since March, sending renewal notices and maintaining the membership database. I still receive occasional "manual" memberships sent to the OBF P.O. Box. Reminder: As of this year, we offer only one-year memberships and renewals rather than multi-year, plus the Lifetime option.

Ken Mercurio
OBF Membership Director

Upcoming OBF Events

Join us November 10, 2018

For OBF Day at the Bicycle Museum of America, 7 West Monroe Street, New Bremen, OH. OBF members admitted free to the museum. Free tours 10 am to noon. OBF meets from noon to 1 pm.

Join us April 10, 2019

For OBF Ohio Bicycle Summit Ohio State houseAtrium. The theme will be "Women in Ohio Cycling" This is a chance to meet with your Ohio elected officials. Organizations will display what they do for Ohio Bicycling. Briefing by OBF board member and long-time lobbyist Jack Shaner regarding approaching state Representatives and Senators regarding pro-bicycle legislation.

Please Send OBF Your Email Address

If you wish to continue to receive our OBF Communicator, please send the email address at which you would like to receive our newsletter to OBF Membership Director Ken Mercurio at kcmerc@yahoo.com

Your OBF Communicator is now available in electronic newsletter format at <http://www.ohiobike.org/index.php/blog/newsletters>

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We want YOU to join our team!

Visitors to www.ohiobike.org can view the Ohio Bicycle Events Calendar to stay abreast of current cycling events, browse safety and efficiency resources, read newsletters, and view crash data assessments as well as road conditions. Whether you are a devoted cyclist, a cycling club owner or member, or if you simply care about protecting the rights of our cyclists everywhere as do we, the Ohio Bicycle Federation is for you. Why not fill out the form below and join us today?

Join below or online at www.ohiobike.org/index.php/join

In 2018, all new members and renewals will receive a custom OBF leg strap. Lifetime members will receive both a free OBF t-shirt and an OBF saddle bag. Those providing Additional Sustaining Support will receive an OBF t-shirt and OBF rear tail light (while supplies last).

Name _____
 Address _____ Apt/Suite/Comp. _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 DOB _____ Email _____ Phone _____
 Do you belong to local bike clubs? Write club name here _____

- | | | |
|--------------|--|---|
| Individual | <input type="checkbox"/> \$20 per year | <input type="checkbox"/> \$300 Lifetime |
| Family | <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 per year | <input type="checkbox"/> \$350 Lifetime |
| Organization | <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 per year | <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 Lifetime |

Additional Sustaining Support: \$25 \$50 \$75 \$100 Other: _____

Make check payable to "Ohio Bicycle Federation".

Mail completed form to: Ohio Bicycle Federation, P.O. Box 181, Monroe, OH 45050



Show your support for the 3-FOOT LAW

RECEIVE UP TO 35% DISCOUNT WHEN PURCHASING ANY ITEM OF THE OBF 3-FOOT COLLECTION

<https://www.voler.com/browse/collections/details/li/OhioBicycleFederation>

