# **ANNUAL REPORT 2011**



## **MISSOURI BICYCLE AND** PEDESTRIAN FEDERATION

The Missouri Bicycle and Pedestrian Federation has put forward an ambitious and successful agenda in 2011--with our lobbyist in Jefferson City and work with Missouri's Congressional delegation in Washington, DC., and other programs to support local, state, and national advocacy and programs in support of more, better, and safer bicycling and walking in Missouri.

Thanks to the help and support of thousands of Missourians who bicycle, walk, run, and use trails, key actions by our elected representatives, and strategic action by many bicycling, walking, running, and trails organizations across the state, our issues now have visibility far beyond what most of us would have dreamed of just a few years ago:

- Bike/Ped Priority Projects List raised \$13.5 million in new bike/ped funding: In 2010, groups across Missouri, organized by the Missouri Bicycle & Pedestrian Federation, worked together to create a prioritized list of over 250 top priority bicycle, pedestrian, and ADArelated projects. In 2011, MoDOT found \$13.5 million new funding for 13 of the highest priority projects. Some of the other projects have also been completed or raised in priority, like bike lanes on the Meramec River Bridge in St. Louis County (now complete) and the 350 Hwy Bike Path in Raytown (now funded). *MoBikeFed.org/priorityprojects*
- A Quadrupled the number of Complete Streets policies in Missouri: The six largest cities in Missouri have adopted Complete Streets policies, meaning that over 1.2 million people live in a city with Complete Streets policy. Three metropolitan planning organizations have adopted Complete Streets policies, covering about 5 million people (including some in Kansas and Illinois). The Missouri General assembly adopted a statewide resolution in support of Complete Streets in May 2911.

#### **BUILDING A MOVEMENT**

In the next 5 years, we will gather thousands of active members from every part of the state of Missouri and work together to create a new movement in support of bicycling and walking. We will build partnerships and coalitions with like-minded organizations to expand our influence.



Capitol Day in Jefferson City, April 2011



**Missouri has become a leader in the National Complete Streets movement:** As part of a comprehensive, nationwide report in April, 2011, the National Complete Streets Coalition named Missouri's Complete Streets policies some of the best and strongest in the nation. The report singled out two Missouri Complete Streets policies as among the top 15 in the nation, and ranked an additional seven as among the top in their respective areas. Missouri also has some of the oldest Complete Streets policies in the nation—Columbia's policy was adopted in 2004 and St. Joseph's in 2001. *MoBikeFed.org/CompleteStreets* 

- Had our most successful legislative year in Jefferson City ever. In 2011, these legislative initiatives—each representing multiple years of work, planning, and coalition-building—passed the Missouri General Assembly:
  - Statewide Complete Streets Resolution--passed by the Missouri General Assembly and distributed to every MPO, RPC, the Missouri Municipal League, MoDOT, and the USDOT.
  - Legislation making Bike Month, Bike to Work Week, Bike to Work Day, Walk to School Month and Walk to School Day a permanent part of the Missouri state holidays calendar.
  - **Same Roads-Same Rights license plate** in support of bicycling approved by the General Assembly. The plate will be available late 2011 or early 2012.
- Greatly improved our legislative success since 2005: The support of our members, supporters, and like-minded organizations from across Missouri has greatly accelerated legislation in support of bicycling and walking in Missouri. From 1994 to 2004, three bike/ped-related bills were passed. From 2005 (when we hired our first lobbyist) to 2011, no less than 25 of the planks of our Legislative Platform have been passed or approved.

#### **BUILDING A WORLD CLASS NETWORK**

Over the next 5 years, we will support and encourage the development of bicycle and pedestrian planning in communities across Missouri. We will work for better roads, trails, and facilities for walking and bicycling. We will work to create complete, connected networks of walkable, bicycleable routes throughout our communities and our state.



Ride with Legislators during the Grand Opening of the Pat Jones Pedestrian Bicycle Lane over the Missouri River at Jefferson City

- Bike/Ped River Crossings: Two new bike/ped crossings opened in the Kansas City area in late 2010, the Jefferson City bike/ped path opened in 2011, and MoDOT re-striped the Meramec River Bridge with a bike lane in late 2011. Now bike/ped paths are planned for the new Missouri River bridges at Washington and the Daniel Boone Bridge (I-64/40) his fall. Altogether we have gone from having NO bike/ped crossings of the Missouri River in Missouri in the early 1990s to six bridges with excellent accommodation, three more with reasonable accommodation (via shoulders), and two more in the planning stages today.
- Advocated for anti-harassment ordinances: Recently Columbia, Greenwood, and Independence, Missouri, have passed ordinances banning harassment of bicyclists, pedestrians, and people in wheelchairs; now anti-harassment is at the top of our statewide legislative agenda.
- Advocated to extend and complete the Katy Trail. Work to extend the Katy Trail by 11 miles at its eastern end was completed; work on the 46-mile extension to connect the Katy Trail to the Kansas City area has started and the first 1.5 mile segment is open. The City of Boonville assumed ownership of the MKT Bridge at Boonville, ending a years-long battle that threatened the legal foundations of the Katy Trail. The Katy Trail connection to Jefferson City was completed, with the bike/ped bridge path opened by MoDOT and bicycle routes leading from the Katy Trail to the state capitol complete by Jefferson City.
- Organized the Missouri delegations to the National Bike Summit in Washington, DC, in 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, and 2011. The connections the Missouri delegation have made with our Missouri members of Congress have been invaluable in moving local, state, and national issues forward. Bicycle and pedestrian funding has survived three key votes in the U.S. Senate in 2011; support of Missouri's members of Congress will be key moving forward.
- Organized the fifth annual Bicycle and Pedestrian Day at the Capitol, which brought dozens of MoBikeFed supporters to Jefferson City to make personal contact with state lawmakers and policy leaders. These personal visits, backed up by hundreds of messages, made a big impression on Missouri lawmakers, and the result is we have had our best ever single year pass pro-bicycle, pro-pedestrian legislation in the Missouri General Assembly.

#### **INCREASING SAFETY AND REDUCING CRASHES**

In the next 5 years, we will reduce the rate of pedestrian and bicycle crashes and injuries per trip around Missouri by one third. We will promote and encourage motorist education programs and activities and work with law enforcement to encourage appropriate enforcement activities to promote safety for all road users.



Bike Ed Class with MoDOT staff



- Continued to work with our **representative in Jefferson City, Jim Farrell**, to develop relationships with legislators and state officials in Jefferson City.
- The Bicycle Friendly Communities, Universities, and Businesses programs in Missouri have reached new heights. In 2008, Missouri had no entries in any category of the Bicycle Friendly America program. Today, *Missouri has 21 communities, universities, and businesses* who have been recognized by some level of the Bicycle Friendly America program, from Honorable Mention to Gold. Missouri added 14 new entries in 2010 and 4 so far in 2011. In addition, Lee's Summit, Missouri, was named a Walk Friendly Community in September, 2011, becoming one of only 21 communities earning that designation so far. See BicycleFriendlyAmerica.org.
- Represented bicycle and pedestrian interests on numerous committees and working groups, such as Transportation Enhancements, CMAQ, Recreational Trails, Safe Routes to School, and other local, state, and national programs. These committees typically act as community advisory committees for these programs and give suggestions, refine procedures, and evaluate grant applications to help these programs better meet the needs of citizens. Our job on these committees is to make sure that the interests of those of us who bicycle and walk and well represented and that the *millions of dollars spent annually in these programs is used in the most productive possible way.*
- Held two successful Clips of Faith events in Kansas City and St. Louis. These were fun, bicycle-centered events that brought many of our volunteers, members, and supporters together and, in addition, were important fund raisers for the Federation.
- Held the successful 7<sup>th</sup> annual BikeMO Fall Harvest and Pumpkin Ride in mid-Missouri. Under the leadership of Ride Chair Matt Maher, we can expect this event to become even bigger and better—and more of a key fund raiser for the Federation—in future years.
- Statewide reprentation from key groups and organizations.

#### **ENCOURAGING ACTIVITY**

In the next 5 years, we will promote, encourage, and conduct programs and campaigns throughout the state that increase active transportation for all users. We will help communities develop and implement these efforts.



Walk to School Day at Briarcliff Elementary, October 2011

Continued to implement a powerful Vision of Active Transportation in Missouri that lays out ambitious goals and details exactly what communities across the state need to do to become more bicycle and pedestrian friendly, including Building a Movement, Building a World Class Network, Increasing Safety and Reducing Crashes, and Encouraging Activity. See MoBikeFed.org/vision

With a groundswell of walking and bicycling across the state, now is the time for those of us who walk and bicycle to stand up together and ask for streets, trails, and communities that are safe and inviting for walking and bicycling. It's happening in cities across the U.S. and it can happen here in Missouri, too.

See complete information about the Missouri Bicycle and Pedestrian Federation's Vision of Bicycling and Walking in Missouri at MoBikeFed.org/Vision

#### **LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM**

One of MoBikeFed's top priorities is to support law and policy that promote safe bicycling and walking--and work to change any existing law or policy that works against that goal.

### LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM PLANKS THAT WERE PASSED OR APPROVED IN 2011

- Complete Streets Resolution finally passed and approved by the Missouri General Assembly – the state's first ever officially approved declaration of support for Complete Streets at the statewide level.
- Bill officially adding Bike Month & Walk to School Month to the state holidays calendar.



Missouri delegation to the National Bike Summit

هم Approval of the "Same Roads – Same Rights" specialty license plate in support of bicycling.

Thanks to your support, we have seen a clear increase in the number of bicycle and pedestrian friendly platform planks passing into law: **two 1995-1999**, **one 2000-2004**, **and twenty-five 2005-2011**. This is the kind of change we can achieve when we work together for our common good.

#### **TOP LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES FOR 2012**

- A Safe Streets Bill: Appropriate penalties—much stronger than current law—for motorists whose careless driving injures or kills
- Bicyclist and Pedestrian Harassment: Make it illegal to harass or throw things at bicyclists, pedestrians, and wheelchair users.
- Additionally: Build on the success of the Complete Streets Resolution by working for many more local and regional Complete Streets policies; support improvements to the safe passing of bicyclists legislation; support legislation allowing for the creation of greenway and trails districts across Missouri; support efforts to ban texting while driving.

More information about our current and past Legislative Platforms: MoBikeFed.org/platform.php

#### JOIN OUR MOVEMENT!

Help us make Missouri a place where more of your friends and neighbors feel safe and comfortable walking and bicycling.



MISSOURI BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN FEDERATION PO Box 104871

Jefferson City, MO 65110 816-695-6736 director@mobikefed.org MOBIKEFED.ORG/JOIN