

ANNUAL REPORT 2013



MISSOURI BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN FEDERATION

The Missouri Bicycle and Pedestrian Federation has put forward an ambitious and successful agenda in 2013—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:

- 🚲 **MoDOT and the General Assembly adopt a “Total Transportation” approach to Missouri transportation funding, for the first time ever including bicycling and walking on equal footing with all other transportation modes:** In 2005, MoBikeFed began to systematically work on the single biggest problem facing bicycling and walking in Missouri: The Missouri Constitution bans spending of state transportation funds on bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure. A new funding plan with broad support among Missouri's transportation decision-makers is now set for a vote of the people of Missouri in November 2014. If the plan passes, it will permanently solve this very serious problem. Even if it does not pass, the changes made by MoDOT and Missouri's transportation establishment in preparing for this change will be thoroughgoing and permanent.
- 🚲 **MoDOT introduces its first-ever Long Range Transportation Plan that fully integrates bicycling, walking, and trails:** By far the most significant single improvement ever in MoDOT's bicycle and pedestrian policy came in November 2013 with the introduction of a new MoDOT Long-Range Transportation Plan that incorporates interconnectivity of all transportation modes, including bicycling and walking as one of its four major objectives.
- 🚲 **Stopped another proposed bicycle ban:** A group of representatives very publicly announced work to be bicycling on Missouri highways that parallel trails—even if the trail was up to two miles away. After tens of thousands of emails and calls from MoBikeFed members and supporters, the plan was fully buried this year when House and Senate leadership—with whom we have been working to develop a good working relationship over the years—made it clear to sponsors that the legislation would not even receive a hearing this year. By the end of session, the bill's sponsors were joking with our lobbyist about the bill—it had become a joke even to its sponsors.
- 🚲 **Access on major river bridges:** Work on the Washington, MO, river bridge draws nearer and bike/ped access is planned on essentially all future MoDOT River bridges routinely now.

🚲 **Anti-harassment legislation:** The issue of on-road harassment has been identified by our members as a very high priority. We are now working to lay the groundwork for successful adoption of an anti-harassment law in the Missouri General Assembly, and also encouraging cities to adopt anti-harassment ordinances. So far four Missouri communities have adopted these ordinances.

🚲 **National & statewide bicycle touring routes:** In 2013, the Transamerica Trail national bicycle route through Missouri was formally adopted by MODOT and signed; it was included on MoDOT's 2013 state highway map. This culminates over a decade's worth of work by MoBikeFed and our allies. Next up: Adoption of several more of Missouri's seven statewide bicycle touring routes into the US Bicycle Route System, including addition of signage. Route 66 may be next, the Mississippi River Trail, or the Hwy 36/Way of American Genius Bicycle Route.

🚲 **Statewide trails system census and plan:** MoBikeFed is proud to be part of the Missouri Trails Alliance, which has worked to create a complete census of all trails in Missouri and is not starting to make that trails information available to the public at VisitMissouriTrails.com. Missouri's leadership in that area was recognized in 2013 as Missouri was named Best Trails State and by Governor Nixon in his 100 Missouri Miles Challenge campaign. Governor Nixon plans to continue the 100 Missouri Miles Challenge in 2014. The Challenge recently reached one million miles logged.

🚲 **Complete Streets:** MoBikeFed led the effort to introduce Complete Streets as a statewide policy in Missouri, resulting in the General Assembly's passage of the Complete Streets resolution in 2010. MoDOT has now embraced the idea under the name "routine accommodation." Today, more than 1.6 million Missourians live in a city with a Complete Streets policy.

More than three million live within a Missouri Metropolitan Planning Organization that has adopted a Complete Streets policy.

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

In 2013, MoDOT's new long-range plan includes endorsement of 'routine accommodation' policies, the fourth of Missouri's eight MPOs announced adoption of a Complete Streets policy and a fifth MPO is working towards adopting a policy. A number of Missouri's 19 Regional Planning Commissions, covering the entire rural portion of the state, are now actively considering Complete Streets policies.

🚲 **Bicycle & Walk Friendly Cities:** In 2013, two Missouri cities joined the national Bicycle Friendly Communities program: Ferguson and Clayton. Now Missouri has 30 Bicycle Friendly Communities, Businesses, and Universities—a big contrast with 2008, when we had none.

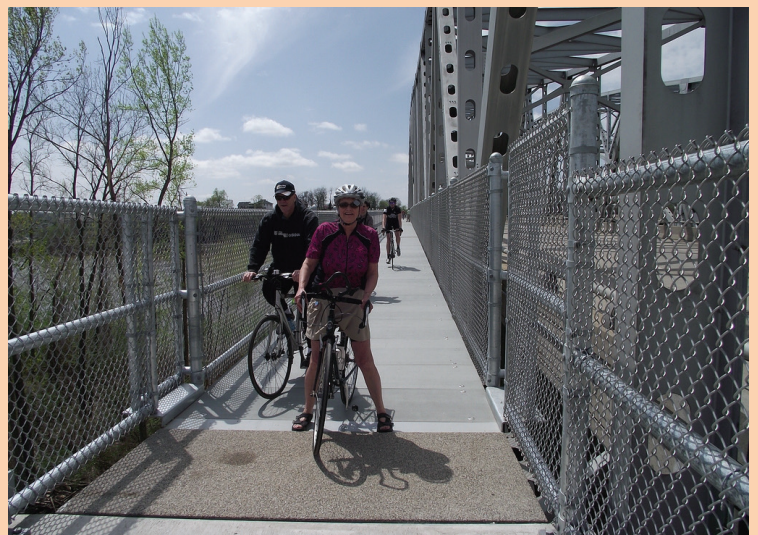
🚲 **34 legislative successes in Jefferson City (1995-present):** We have had new fewer than 34 legislative successes since 1995—31 of them since 2005 when we hired Jim Farrell, our Governmental Affairs Representative in Jefferson City. In 2013, our biggest successes:

- **Inclusion of bicycling and walking as essential in the \$8 billion Missouri transportation funding plan.** Even though this plan did not pass (filibustered by four Senators during the last week of legislative session), this is *by far* our single biggest legislative victory in 20 years of work in Jefferson City. It will set the pattern for *all* future funding initiatives in Missouri. Supporters plan to bring the proposal to voters in November 2014. Whether it passes through the General Assembly or the public initiative petition process, the parameters of the final proposal have been set by our work in 2013.
- **Successfully stopping the third proposed bicycle ban in Missouri in as many years.** This year the ban was so thoroughly defeated it is hard to imagine another attempt gaining traction.

🚲 **Capitol Day and Legislators Ride in Jefferson City:** This year the MoDOT Director visited Capitol Day, the MoDOT Bike/Ped Coordinator participated in the Legislators Ride—as did a record number of legislators and staff—and we presented two key legislators with awards on the steps of the Capitol before the ride.

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

Missouri Same Roads-Same Rights License plate now available for purchase: After a decade of work on this project, the license plates can now be purchased!
MoBikeFed.org/LicensePlate



Local

🚲 **MoBikeFed works to maintain relationships with and cooperation among all of Missouri's bicycle, pedestrian, trails advocacy groups, clubs, organizations, businesses, and agencies.** We work to coordinate among the areas of Missouri that have strong, established advocacy groups, but we have a special mission to provide support and advocacy information to the remainder of Missouri that lacks specific, organized advocacy groups, and to help provide the larger-scale connections and perspective to all parts of the state.

🚲 **In 2013, we created online pages with detailed information, resources, and encouragement for communities and agencies:** Detailed information and resources are available in these areas:

- Complete Streets
- Bicycle and Walk Friendly Communities
- Safe Routes to School
- Anti-Harassment Laws
- Suggested laws and legislation

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

- Top Recommendations for
 - MoDOT and MoDOT districts
 - MoDOT's 28 Regional Transportation Planning Partners across Missouri
 - Missouri cities

Find these guides on the MoBikeFed web site at MoBikeFed.org/Campaigns

🚲 **Regional Trails and BikeWay Funding:** MoBikeFed's Legislative Platform includes a plank supporting development of regional trails and bikeways systems through local tax initiatives. Great Rivers Greenway District, which now administers about \$30 million annual for trails, greenways, parks, and on-road bikeway systems in the St. Louis region, is Missouri's most successful example of such a district.

🚲 **In 2012, City-Parks-Arch-Trails tax** in St. Louis was proposed in the Missouri General Assembly, and MoBikeFed—along with a galaxy of other community-minded organizations—supported it.

MoBikeFed again supported the measure, and reached out to its members in the St. Louis area, when a vote of the people in St. Louis City and County was held on City-Arch-Trails Tax in April 2013. The measure passed.

The new funds will allow Great Rivers Greenway to implement its ambitious River Ring Trails system at double speed, allow a much larger and faster implementation of the regional and city bike plans, and create a large, interconnected, bicycle and pedestrian friendly mall area in downtown St. Louis near the Arch.

🚲 **Missouri's best cities, towns, and regions for biking and walking:** MoBikeFed does not have the advocacy capacity to personally visit with every city, county, or regional planning agency in Missouri. But we do reach out to thousands of officials statewide with information,

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

newsletters, and updates. And we have established special a relationship with several communities and agencies in Missouri that have served as bellwethers for better bicycling, walking, and trails in Missouri:

- **The Missouri Association of Councils of Government (MACOG):** This group consists of every rural MoDOT regional planning partner and together these agencies cover transportation planning for all of rural Missouri. MoBikeFed partnered with MACOG in 2012 to bring two Advocacy Advance workshops to Missouri. Staff and leadership from MACOG members from around Missouri attended these workshops and our relationship with these agencies from across Missouri has continued to build throughout 2013.
- **Warsaw:** Warsaw is one of the best small, rural towns for bicycling, walking, and trails in Missouri and in the U.S. The MoBikeFed Board met in Warsaw in August, 2013.
- **Lee's Summit:** Lee's Summit has created one of the best Complete Streets Policies in Missouri and is the first city in Missouri to be recognized as part of both the Walk Friendly and Bicycle Friendly Communities program. Lee's Summit is now launching an ambitious revision of their entire bicycle-related traffic code.
- **Nevada:** The Healthy Nevada Project, sponsored by Cerner, is turning Nevada into one of the healthiest and fittest rural communities in the nation. Now Nevada is looking to expand its trails system and on-street bikeways system outward to nearby communities. MoBikeFed has helped Nevada advocates work towards regional trail connections, including a possible future Katy Trail extension from Clinton to Nevada and beyond. In addition, we supported the successful regional effort to encourage MoDOT to add bicycle lanes to Hwy 54 between Nevada and El Dorado Springs, an 18 mile stretch. This is one of the very first rural highway bicycle lane projects ever undertaken by MoDOT.
- **Ozark:** Local advocates have successfully saved the Riverside Bridge from demolition. Advocates dream is to preserve the bridge as a key regional trails connection.
- **Boonville:** Work spanning nearly a decade to save the MKT Bridge in Boonville reached a milestone this year, as the bridge ownership was transferred to the city of Boonville. MoBikeFed has supported the effort to save the MKT Bridge because it was supported by a broad coalition of local advocates, because it will become an amazing amenity and tourism draw for Katy Trail visitors, and because destruction and removal of the old bridge threatened the legal foundations of the legal agreement that preserves the Katy Trail as a part of a federally railbanked corridor.



- **Pioneer Trails Regional Planning Commission:** One of MoDOT’s regional planning partners, Pioneer Trails RPC has been a leader among Missouri RPCs in integrating bicycling, walking, and trails into its entire transportation planning process. Our Advocacy Advance Training hosted by Pioneer Trails RPC in August 2012, with keynote speaker Senator David Pearce of Warrensburg, helped encourage Pearce, Pioneer Trails RPC, several of our local members and supporters, and others in the community to work together towards completion of the trail system connecting Warrensburg and nearby Whiteman Air Force Base. Trail scoping and construction is now underway.
- **Katy Trail Merchants and Communities (KatyMAC):** KatyMAC is now organizing to work with communities up and down the Katy Trail to work as a group towards Bicycle Friendly Community status.
- **Many others,** including Kirksville, Farmington, Columbia, St. Joseph, Springfield, Hannibal, Pleasant Hill, Kaysinger Basin Regional Planning Commission, the Mark Twain Council of Governments, and more.

Organizational

🚲 **MoBikeFed’s membership has doubled since 2008:** In our 2008 Vision, we set the ambitious goal of doubling our membership by 2013. We are now just 57 short of that goal to double membership to 2174 by the end of 2013 and will easily reach that goal by the end of this year. Our next milestone is 3000 members—and we’re on track to reach that level by 2017.

🚲 Our online website and social media pages reach over 25,000 visitors each month. Our e-newsletter reaches over 20,000 users, including members, supporters, and public officials across Missouri.

🚲 **Three annual special events help support our advocacy mission:** We now have two bicycle rides and a run that successfully raise funds and awareness for our advocacy mission. In 2014, these events will provide the same level of support as a federal Safe Routes to School Grant would—at a fraction of the cost in administration and overhead.



Missouri delegation to the National Bike Summit

🚲 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.

We have now accomplished and even exceeded nearly ever significant goal in our 2008 Vision. Now it is time to re-envision and re-establish MoBikeFed to be an even more powerful and effective advocacy organization in the future. Stay tuned for 2014!

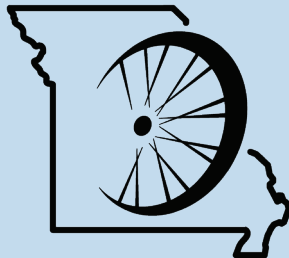
See complete information about the Missouri Bicycle and Pedestrian Federation's Vision of Bicycling and Walking in Missouri at MoBikeFed.org/Vision

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

For more information on MoBikeFed's active campaigns, including our Vision for MoDOT, MoDOT's Regional Transportation Planning Partners, Cities, Safe Routes to School, Complete Streets, Bicycle and Walk Friendly Missouri, Anti-Harassment Legislation, and more, see: Find these guides on the MoBikeFed web site at MoBikeFed.org/Campaigns

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

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