## **ANNUAL REPORT 2010**

# MISSOURI BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN FEDERATION

The Missouri Bicycle and Pedestrian Federation has put forward an ambitious and successful agenda in 2010--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:

- Stopped a proposal to ban bicycles on most major roads in the rural part of St Charles County. The proposal received national attention and was moving forward at full speed-until a coalition of local, statewide, and national bicycle groups, including the Missouri Bicycle & Pedestrian Federation, organized to oppose the ban and work for reasonable alternatives.
- Advocated for the **two bicycle/pedestrian crossings of the Missouri River** in Kansas City-both the Heart of America and Chouteau bike/ped crossings opened this fall.
- Advocated for the bike/ped crossing over the Missouri River connecting Jefferson City to the Katy Trail--currently under construction.

#### **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.



Grand Opening: Heart of America Bike/Ped Path across the Missouri River



#### MISSOURI BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN FEDERATION ANNUAL REPORT, PAGE 2

- Ushered a **\$1** million appropriation for the Tour of Missouri, the state's biggest ever bicycling event that brought top international bicycle racers to Missouri and brought the state worldwide media coverage, through both houses of the Missouri General Assembly. (Unfortunately, the appropriation was refused and the race cancelled **by Governor Nixon**.)
- The number of Complete Streets policies in Missouri more than doubled in 2010--from 5 to 11: This year the cities of St. Louis, Crystal City, Festus, Herculaneum and Lee's Summit as well as the Mid-America Regional Council (Kansas City metro area) have adopted Complete Streets policies, making a total of ten cities and agencies in Missouri with official Complete Streets policies. MoBikeFed is working hard for these policies at every level, from local to federal.
- Started the process of bringing a "Bicycles Same Roads, Same Rights" specialty automobile license plate to Missouri--if all goes well, plates will be available by late 2011.
- Advocated for anti-harassment ordinances: Recently Columbia, Greenwood, and Independence, Missouri have passed ordinances banning harassment of bicyclists, pedestrians, and people in wheelchairs.
- Priority Projects List: Groups across Missouri, organized by the Missouri Bicycle & Pedestrian Federation, worked together to create a list of the top priority bicycle, pedestrian, and ADA-related projects. MoDOT leadership has committed to choosing about 50 top priority projects and getting them built over the next several years. The project list is online at MoBikeFed.org/priorityprojects.
- \*\*TransAmerica Bicycle Route: Work to evaluate the six cross-country bicycle touring routes through Missouri as part of the Priority Projects List led to a renewed effort to update the TransAmerica Bicycle Route through Missouri and to mark and sign the route. In November, Farmington, MO, received the national Bicycle Travel Award for its support of a hostel for bicyclists traveling the TransAmerica route.

#### **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.



Katy Trail Ride with Missouri Legislators, April 2010



- New Route 66 Bicycle Route through Missouri: Adventure Cycling officially announced the creation of a new long-distance bicycling route on Route 66. In Missouri, the route reaches from St Louis to Joplin. As part of the Priority Projects List, MoBikeFed worked extensively with local organizations and Adventure Cycling to evaluate the six national bicycle routes that cross Missouri--including Route 66. Find the Route 66 Bicycle Route map at MoBikeFed.org/momaps.php.
- In 2010, MoDOT adopted an expanded and greatly improved pedestrian policies; an update of MoDOT's bicycle policies is reported to be underway.
- Advocated to extend and complete the Katy Trail. Work to extend the Katy Trail by 11 miles at its eastern end is near completion; work on the 46-mile extension to connect the Katy Trail to the Kansas City area will start soon.
- Organized the Missouri delegations to the **National Bike Summit** in Washington, DC, in 2007, 2008, 2009, and 2010. The connections the Missouri delegation have made with our **Missouri members of Congress** have been invaluable in moving local, state, and national issues forward.
- Organized the fourth 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 been able to move small, but key, pieces of pro-bicycling, pro-walking, and pro-trails legislation through each year.
- Helped promote the Bicycle Friendly Communities and Bicycle Friendly Businesses programs in Missouri, and served on review committees for these applications. Missouri now has three designated Bicycle Friendly Communities (Columbia, St. Louis, and Springfield) as well as one that received Honorable Mention (Lee's Summit). Lee's Summit's and Springfield's awards were received in 2010, as were Missouri's first eight Bicycle Friendly Businesses. See BicycleFriendlyAmerica.org.

#### NCREASING 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, November 2010



- 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.
- © Created 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. See MoBikeFed.org/vision
- Continued to work with our **representative** in **Jefferson City**, **Jim Farrell**, to develop relationships with legislators and state officials in Jefferson City.
- Organized and held a series of meetings with representatives of the Missouri Transportation Alliance--which is working to set future transportation policy and find transportation funding for MoDOT and for cities and counties across the state. We are working on your behalf to make sure that, as we build Missouri's 21st Century transportation system, you can safely bicycle and walk throughout your community.

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

#### **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, October 2010

#### **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 2010

- **Complete Streets Resolution** passed House of Representatives
- Governor declared Bike to Work Week
- Governor declared Walk and Bike to School

  Month
- General Assembly passed \$1 million
   appropriation for the Tour of Missouri

Thanks to your support, we have seen a clear increase in the number of bicycle and pedestrian friendly platform planks passing into law: two from 1995-1999, one from 2000-2004, and 22 from 2005-2010.



Missouri delegation to the National Bike Summit

#### **TOP LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES FOR 2011**

- A "Complete Streets" resolution, showing support for Complete Streets at the local, state, and national levels by the General Assembly and the Governor.
- A Safe Streets Bill: Appropriate penalties for motorists whose careless driving injures or kills
- Strengthening of Safe Passing Bill: Removing loopholes and strengthening Missouri's Safe Passing of Bicyclists law.
- Passing the Same Roads-Same Rights License Plate: The license plate in support of bicycling in Missouri must now be approved by General Assembly's Joint Transportation Committee

See the complete current Legislative Platform and summary of past planks that have become law or policy at *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

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