



Pedestrian Forum

Safe Pedestrians and a Walkable America

VOL. 19, Winter 2002

http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/programs/ped_bike.htm

The goal of the FHWA is to continually improve highway safety by reducing highway fatalities and injuries by 20 percent in ten years. Ensuring safe travel on highways is the guiding principle throughout the FHWA. Pedestrian fatalities account for about 12 percent of all traffic fatalities and are one of the focus areas of the Safety Office. FHWA has taken the position that walking and bicycling are legitimate modes of transportation.

There is no question that conditions for bicycling and walking need to be improved in every community in the United States; it is no longer acceptable that over 5,000 pedestrians and bicyclists are killed in traffic every year, that people with disabilities cannot travel without encountering barriers, and that two desirable and efficient modes of travel have been made difficult and uncomfortable. Every transportation agency has the responsibility and the opportunity to make a difference in the bicycle-friendliness and walkability of our communities. The design information to accommodate bicyclists and pedestrians is available, as is the funding. The United States Department of Transportation is committed to doing all it can to improve conditions for bicycling and walking and to make them safer ways to travel. (The Pedestrian Forum is also on the web at http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/programs/ped_bike.htm)

Walk to School Day 2001

On Tuesday, October 2, millions of children and adults from around the world walked to school in this annual event.

According to the Walk to School Website,

<http://www.walktoschool-usa.org/>

"Walk to School Day 2001 was a great success! The day was about children, adults and community leaders walking to school together to recognize the benefits of walking and the need to create communities that are safe places to walk."

...and There's More!

Speaking of walking to school, teachers in the U.K. believe that children who walk to school are more alert and healthier than kids who get a ride. This information comes from a survey conducted by the U.K. DTLR, which found the following:

- 87 percent of teachers questioned believe that walking to school gives children a chance to wake up fully before they reach the classroom;
- 60 percent believe that walking to school enables children to settle down once in the classroom;
- 90 percent believe that walking to school enables children to become more aware of their local environment; and
- 93 percent believe that walking to school makes children more aware of road-safety issue

The information is contained in a booklet--*A Safer Journey to School*—which is a guide to school travel plans for parents, teachers and principals. It contains advice on how to encourage more sustainable communities that make it easier to get to and from school. It is available free of charge by phoning DFES publications on 0845-602-2260, quoting reference SRTS99. (Source: ITE Journal, December 2001, page 17)

ADA Design Charette in San Antonio

The PROWAAC Committee is planning another all-day design charette on April 3 in San Antonio, Texas. The workshop is being held as part of a TxDOT Design Conference.

Elizabeth Hilton has arranged this opportunity; she plans to limit participation in the workshop to 100 people. To ensure audience balance, those interested in attending must apply by Feb. 11. Elizabeth will review the applications and select a representative group to participate in the session. If you do plan to participate in the Workshop, you must register for the Design Conference. Workshop registration can only be done on-line and Committee members need to register immediately, before the general registration fills up.

Please go to <http://tti.tamu.edu/conferences/design/> for info.

FHWA Bike/Ped Program Personnel Changes

Jim Schmid, former state trails coordinator in South Carolina, has joined John Fegan's team in the Human Environment office of the Environment and Planning CBU. Jim will be working with Christopher Douwes to administer the Recreational Trails program, and on implementation of the Trails Training Partnership with American Trails. John Fegan has Jim working on a range of pedestrian issues. Jim is an on-site contractor with Arrowhead. Contact Jim at jim.schmid@igate.fhwa.dot.gov or 202-366-9766

Carol Tan Esse, manager of the FHWA's Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Research Program, gave birth to Stephen Wen Esse on November 15. He weighed in at 8 pounds and was 21 and 3/4 inches in length. Carol will be on maternity leave until Spring of 2002, so if you have any questions about FHWA's ongoing bicycle and pedestrian research activities, contact **Ann Do** until then. Ann can be reached at 202-493-3319.

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WHAT'S NEW?

Retroreflectivity Poster

The FHWA's Safety Core Business Unit just released a poster that highlights the need for pedestrians to be more visible at night. The purpose of the poster is to demonstrate how much more visible pedestrians are who are wearing retroreflective materials at night—they can be seen about 2 to 3 times further away than those not wearing retroreflective materials. The poster has been sent to all FHWA Division Offices, but is also available to anyone else who would like one. Additional copies can be obtained via the web at http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/programs/ped_bike.htm or by contacting leverson.boodlal@fhwa.dot.gov.

Draft Rails-with-Trails: Lessons Learned

The above document is available for comment from concerned stakeholders until January 30, 2002 (any received after then cannot be considered). The document can be viewed at: <http://www.altaplanning.com/projects/rails/index.html>. Provide comments to Mia Birk, Principal, Alta Transportation Consulting, 122 NE 28th Ave, Portland OR 97232; phone 503-230-9862; fax 503-230-9864; email: miabirk@altaplanning.com; website: www.altaplanning.com. You are encouraged to send comments by email. Any other comments or questions about this project, should be directed to Christopher Douwes, Federal Highway Administration, at 202-366-5013, email: christopher.douwes@fhwa.dot.gov, or Pamela Foggin, Federal Railroad Administration, at 202-493-6291, email: pamela.caldwell.foggin@fra.dot.gov.

FHWA PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE INTERSECTION- SAFETY INFORMATION

FHWA's Office of Research, Development and Technology recently posted a series of papers and reports that address pedestrian and bicycle safety. These publications and many more can be found at the following locations: <http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/fourthlevel/ped.htm> Click on "Reference Library", click on "Design", scroll down to "Crosswalk/Crossing Treatments"

Evaluation of Automated Pedestrian Detection at Signalized Intersections

The Effects of Innovative Pedestrian Signs at Unsignalized Locations

An Evaluation of Illuminated Pedestrian Push Button in Windsor, Ontario

Pedestrian Crosswalk Case Studies: Richmond, Virginia; Buffalo, New York; Stillwater, Minnesota

The Effects of Traffic Calming Measures on Pedestrian and Motorist Behavior

An Evaluation of High-Visibility Crosswalk Treatment-Clearwater, Florida

PUBLISHED

ADA "Part Two" Report Released

The new FHWA Administrator, Mary Peters, has signed a cover letter to accompany the recently published 500 page document, *Designing Sidewalks and Trails for Access: Part 2*, allowing the report to be sent to all FHWA field offices and hundreds of people who have requested the new guide. The report is a companion to *Designing Sidewalks and Trails, Part I, Review of Existing Guidelines and Practices* (1999). It is comprehensive and detailed for transportation practitioners, but written in an easy to understand language for those with less technical backgrounds trying to implement accessibility practices in communities.

Hard copies of Part II are available by faxing a request to the FHWA Report Center, 301-577-1421. If you would like 5 or more copies, please fax your request to the DOT Warehouse, 301-386-5394. Include your street address (no PO Boxes), city, state, zip and phone number with your request. The Report Center and Warehouse are the only outlets for mailing reports. Other FHWA staff offices and the Pedestrian Information Center do not have the staff or facilities to handle report requests.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND CONFERENCES

January

13-17 Transportation Research Board, Washington, DC. <http://www4.trb.org/trb/annual.nsf> (See Page 3 of this newsletter for a full schedule of bike/ped sessions).

March

6-8 National Bike Summit, Washington, DC. www.bikeleague.org

April

4-5 PROWAAC Committee meeting, San Antonio, TX; www.access-board.gov

8-10 Nevada Statewide Bicycle/Pedestrian Conference, Reno. bicycle@dot.state.nv.us

May

8-9 Third Walk21 International Walking Conference, San Sebastian, Spain. carlos@2ados.com

16 New Hampshire Statewide Bicycle/Pedestrian Conference. LBarker@dot.state.nh.us

Session/Meeting Title	TRB Staff	Program #	Committees	Day	Time	Hotel	Room
Back to the Future: Walking to School Again	Pain	124	A3B04 A3B07	Mon	8:00 am-9:45 am	Hilton	Jefferson East
A3B04 - Committee on Pedestrians	Pain	A3B04	A3B04	Mon	1:30 pm-5:30 pm	Marriott	Wilson
A3B07 - Committee on Bicycling	Pain	A3B07	A3B07	Tue	8:00 am-12:00 pm	Hilton	Hemisphere
Video Theatre: Pedestrians and Bicycles	Pain		A3B04 A3B07	Tue	9:00 am-9:00 pm	Marriott	Eisenhower
Accommodating Bicycles on Arterial Streets	Pain	391	A3B07 A5014	Tue	1:30 pm-3:15 pm	Hilton	International West
Planning for Pedestrians (poster)	Pain	402	A3B04	Tue	2:30 pm-5:30 pm	Marriott	Exhibit Hall C
Measuring Pedestrian Level and Quality of Service (Poster Session)	Pain	403	A3B04	Tue	2:30 pm-5:30 pm	Marriott	Exhibit Hall C
Bicycle Commuting and Safety	Pain	428	A3B07	Tue	3:45 pm-5:30 pm	Hilton	International West
Meet the Experts	Pain	439	A3B07	Tue	5:30 pm-7:30 pm	Hilton	Hemisphere
A3B07(1) - Subcommittee on Education and Awareness	Pain	A3B07(1)	A3B07(1)	Tue	7:30 pm-10:30 pm	Hilton	Hamilton
Pedestrian Safety: The Three E's	Pain	519	A3B04	Wed	8:00 am-9:45 am	Hilton	International West
A3B07(2) - Subcommittee on Bicycle Traffic Engineering	Pain	A3B07(2)	A3B07(2)	Wed	8:00 am-9:45 am	Hilton	Jackson
Nonmotorized Transportation Research (Poster Session)	Pain	533	A5013	Wed	9:00 am-12:00 pm	Hilton	Exhibit Hall
Bikes, Skates, and Pedestrians (poster)	Pain	537	A3B07 A3B04	Wed	9:00 am-12:00 pm	Hilton	Exhibit Hall
Video Theatre: Bicycles and Pedestrians	Pain		A3B07 A3B04	Wed	9:00 am-6:00 pm	Hilton	Kalorama
A3B07(3) - Subcommittee on Safety Data and Measurement	Pain	A3B07(3)	A3B07(3)	Wed	10:15 am-12:00 pm	Hilton	Jackson
Pedestrian Crash Analysis Tools	Pain	588	A3B04	Wed	2:30 pm-4:00 pm	Hilton	Monroe East
A3B07(4) - Subcommittee on Planning for Bicycles	Pain	A3B07(4)	A3B07(4)	Wed	2:30 pm-4:00 pm	Hilton	Grant
A5013 - Committee on Nonmotorized Transport and Related Issues in Developing Countries	Pain	A5013	A5013	Wed	2:30 pm-6:00 pm	Hilton	Jackson
Bicycle Crashes: Injury Research from the CODES States	Pain	616	A3B05 A3B07	Wed	4:30 pm-6:00 pm	Hilton	International West
Feet First Caucus	Pain		A3B07 A3B04 A5013	Wed	6:00 pm-8:00 pm	Hilton	Terrace
Evaluating Share the Road Initiatives	Pain	634	A3B07	Wed	7:30 pm-9:30 pm	Hilton	Jefferson East
Pedestrian Design Guidance	Pain	704	A3B04	Thu	8:00 am-9:45 am	Marriott	Delaware A
Pedestrian Safety Research	Pain	721	A3B04	Thu	10:15 am-12:00 pm	Marriott	Delaware A
Total Sessions/Meetings: 25							