



## **ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2010**

### **Tucson-Pima County Bicycle Advisory Committee**

#### **Members (as of December 31, 2010)**

##### **City of Tucson Representatives:**

Josefina Ahumada, Mayor's Office, Vice Chair  
Steve Bresler, Parliamentarian, Ward 1  
Ian Johnson, Ward 2  
Kylie Walzak, Secretary, Ward 3  
Chloe Forsman, Ward 4  
Richard Corbett, Ward 5  
Beth Scott, Ward 6

##### **Pima County Representatives:**

David Bachman-Williams  
Larry Robinson  
Scott Hurlburt  
Martha Lemen  
Eric Post  
Brian Beck  
Jean Gorman  
Tony Crosby  
Karen Berchtold, Chair

##### **University of Arizona**

Charles Franz

##### **Town of Oro Valley**

Robert Turnbull

##### **Town of Marana**

Julie Prince

##### **Town of Sahuarita**

Kevin McDonald

To Whom It May Concern,

I respectfully submit this report regarding the activities of the Tucson-Pima County Bicycle Advisory Committee (T-PCBAC) for the 2010 calendar year. The BAC has continued its involvement in a number of diverse bicycle-related activities and issues. The Committee has generated letters of recommendation and support; offered comment on proposed bicycle facilities; and engaged in activities that support bicycle use and safety. Each of the letters approved by the T-PCBAC represents often hours of initial study, discussion and drafting by at least one of our subcommittees:

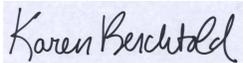
- Executive Subcommittee
- Facilities Subcommittee
- Downtown Facilities Subcommittee
- Enforcement Subcommittee
- Education/Outreach Subcommittee
- Mountain Biking/BMX Subcommittee

The T-PCBAC Subcommittees are an important component of the Committee's structure. The subcommittees take on many independent projects, serve to educate the broader Committee in these areas, and bring specific issues to the group at-large for discussion and comment. This past year, the Mountain Biking and BMX Subcommittees were merged into one subcommittee.

In 2010, some new areas of focus emerged. The Committee held an annual retreat in October and has defined a goal of using the feedback from that session to draft a Strategic Plan. In addition, the Committee, subcommittees, and individual members are assisting with the region's development of an application for consideration as a Platinum-rated "Bicycle Friendly Committee" by the League of American Bicyclists. The group has also welcomed the growing involvement and participation of staff from some of the region's suburban jurisdictions.

We all appreciate this opportunity to serve our community. The region's jurisdictional governments and staff provide resources that are critical to our efforts. We will continue in our mission of being responsive to and working cooperatively with the region's jurisdictional staff, elected officials, and citizenry. We will strive to acknowledge successes and address challenges related to bicycling as we work together to make Eastern Pima County an even more Bicycle Friendly Community.

Sincerely,



Karen Berchtold  
Chair, Tucson-Pima County Bicycle Advisory Committee

## **ADVISORY LETTERS SUBMITTED IN 2010:**

- Letter to Transportation Enhancement and Scenic Roads Section, Arizona Department of Transportation, in support of a Pima County grant application for the addition of bicycle lanes on Duval Mine Road from Continental Road to La Cañada Drive.
- Letter to Transportation Enhancement and Scenic Roads Section, Arizona Department of Transportation, in support of a Pima County grant application for Pantano Riverpark Bicycle and Pedestrian Enhancements, Speedway Boulevard to 5<sup>th</sup> Street.
- Letter to Transportation Enhancement and Scenic Roads Section, Arizona Department of Transportation, in support of a Pima County grant application for Rillito Riverpark and Camino de la Tierra Bicycle and Pedestrian Enhancements.
- Letter to Transportation Enhancement and Scenic Roads Section, Arizona Department of Transportation, in support of a City of Tucson grant application for the El Paso & Southwestern Greenway.
- Letter to Transportation Enhancement and Scenic Roads Section, Arizona Department of Transportation, in support of a City of Tucson grant application for the Liberty Bicycle Boulevard project.
- Letter to Howard Dutt, Project Manager, Tucson Parks and Recreation, in support of the proposed Master Plan for Sentinel Peak Park.
- Letter to Todd Emery, Tucson District Engineer, Arizona Department of Transportation, expressing concern that bike lanes were not being added to Oracle Road from River Road to Roger Road as part of TE project # 36.05 (“SR77 – Sidewalks, Bike Lanes, and Landscaping”).
- Letter of thanks to Chuck Huckelberry, Pima County Administrator, and the Pima County Department of Transportation Engineering Staff for installing striped safety shoulders on Flowing Wells Road from Roger Road north to River Road.
- Letter of thanks to Chuck Huckelberry, Pima County Administrator, for his support of U.S. Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood’s stance on bicycling and other alternative modes as important means of transportation.
- Letter to Supervisor Ray Carroll, Pima County Board of Supervisors, encouraging him to hold a public meeting to discuss the originally planned Catalina Highway site for a bicycle “trailhead,” as well as alternate sites.
- Letter to Jim Glock, Director, City of Tucson Transportation Department, recommending a “road diet” for Granada Avenue/Main Avenue from St. Mary’s Road/6th Street north that would allow the creation of bicycle lanes.
- Letter to ADOT TE Section in support of Oro Valley Transportation Enhancement application for Lambert Lane Bicycle Lane Project.
- Letter to ADOT TE Section in support of City of Tucson application for Treat Avenue Bicycle Boulevard project.
- Letter to ADOT TE Section in support of City of Tucson application for 9th Avenue Bicycle Boulevard project.
- Letter to Jesse Cornia, TPD, expressing thanks for progress made on on-line bicycle registry
- Letter to Scott Leska, Town of Marana, regarding restriping bicycle lanes at N. Dove Mountain Blvd.

- Letter to Jim Glock, City of Tucson, in support of bicycle improvements for the Dunbar Springs Neighborhood
- Letter to Donald Gates, Pima County Health Department, inquiring whether Communities Putting Prevention to Work grant funds could be used to enhance the Regional Bike Plan
- Letter to Tucson Planning Commission providing comments on the proposed changes to Bicycle Parking requirements in zoning code
- Letter to Chuck Huckelberry, Pima County Administrator, expressing support for improving the Rillito River shared use path on the south side just west of Campbell Avenue.
- Letter to Tucson Police Department Chief Roberto Villasenor expressing concern regarding the reduction in bicycle patrol officers.

### **OTHER OFFICIAL ACTIONS IN 2010:**

- Presented second annual T-PCBAC Bicycle Commuter and Advocate of the Year awards (respectively to Ari Shapiro and Diahn Swarz and Nanette Slusser and BICAS).
- Planned and executed the annual Ride of Silence on May 19, 2010, to raise awareness and support for safe sharing of the roads by bicyclists and motorists.
- Assisted other area groups in planning, organizing, and execution of first annual “Ciclovia” event to promote bicycling and exercise through organized activities in public spaces on April 18, 2010.

### **SPECIAL ACTIVITIES:**

- T-PCBAC supported, individually and as a group, Bikefest activities in April 2010
- T-PCBAC supported and individually participated in Pima Association of Governments’ Annual Bicycle Count
- T-PCBAC members participated in RTA Bicycle-Pedestrian Working Group meetings, discussions, and decision making regarding funding for bicycle-related projects.
- T-PCBAC members were represented on citizen committees working on the following major projects: Silverbell Road, Modern Streetcar, Downtown Links, and 22<sup>nd</sup> Street.
- T-PCBAC representatives were involved in monitoring major projects including: Houghton Road and LaCholla Boulevard.
- T-PCBAC representatives worked with Pima County and City of Tucson officials regarding planning and funding for a proposed 55-mile Urban Loop network of multiuse paths.
- T-PCBAC assisted with organization and participated in several “Light the Night” distribution of free bicycle lights to downtown area cyclists.
- T-PCBAC members planned and attended an annual, day-long retreat on Saturday, October 23, 2010, facilitated by Irene Ogata.
- T-PCBAC Chair provided comments at the dedication of the Roy Schoonover Memorial Bikeway on Kolb Road.
- T-PCBAC drafted BAC goals that are consistent with the “5E’s” and posted them on the BAC website.

- T-PCBAC members formed a workgroup to review alternatives and provide input to PCDOT on proposed sites for Catalina Highway Memorial Trailhead.
- Invited representatives of the TPD Bike Patrol to BAC meetings for updates and discussion of implementation of the TPD Bike Enforcement Grant.
- T-PCBAC group, subcommittees, and members participated in on-going planning and preparation of the “Platinum Challenge” designation as a Bicycle Friendly Community application to the League of American Bicyclists’ due in February 2012.

## **SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS TO THE BAC:**

- Jesse Cornia, Tucson Police Department, provided an update of the progress of TPD’S online bicycle registry
- Paul Austin, Ranger, Saguaro National Park – Rincon District, discussed diverse bicycle issues in the Park.
- TDOT staff – City of Tucson’s program for facilitating road repairs
- Nanette Slusser, Assistant Administrator, Pima County, provided update on Urban Loop planning and progress
- Larry Robinson, T-PCBAC Facilities Subcommittee Chair, discussed standards and use of shared lane markings
- Shellie Ginn, Project Manager for Modern Streetcar project and consultant team with an update on 90% project design status

## **SUBCOMMITTEE ACTIVITY:**

Major accomplishments and activities of the T-PCBAC subcommittees in 2010 are noted below:

### **Education and Outreach**

#### **Chair: Josefina Ahumada**

- Planned focus groups with representatives from the UA and business community
- Initiated Communications Plan: Planned content for upcoming public safety announcements pertaining to bicycling in conjunction with Pima County DOT
- Provided input into development of BAC goals
- Worked with PC DOT staff to update T-PCBAC website
- Planning, organization, and support for April 2010 and March 2011 “Ciclovia” community events.
- Planning and support for May 2010 and May 2011 Ride of Silence.

### **Enforcement:**

#### **Chair: Eric Post**

- Obtained and reviewed approximately 150 Tucson Police Reports that were added to the database.
- Collin Forbes added collision types and coordinate (map) data to the database.
- Letter to TPD requesting permanent liaison.
- Comprehensive letter regarding bicycle licensing.

- Continued support and growth of the bicycle citation diversion programs and encouragement for UAPD and PCSO to formally recognize the diversion program.
- Supported Sgt. Skeenes regarding targeted enforcement and the enforcement grant.
- Set goals for the future of the Enforcement Subcommittee

### **Mountain Biking (MTB)/BMX:**

#### **Chair: Martha Lemen**

- Re-established a relationship with the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) to provide input on mountain bike issues. Communicated USFS concerns to the mtb community; continuing to promote communication between two groups.
- Will be maintaining a popular trail on Mt. Lemmon, a huge benefit to the USFS.
- MTB-ers working with Pima County and Davis Monthan staff to develop (we hope) a bike park, the likes of which Tucson has not seen.
- Communication is our big accomplishment this year - mtb leaders are reaching out to land managers about mtb issues, and communicating those issues back to the mtb public.

### **Downtown:**

#### **Chair: Ian Johnson**

- Recommended the bike pass through of the pork chop at Franklin/Church/9th, and restriping of Toole and Congress west of Interstate I-10.
- Worked closely with the streetcar team to ensure minimal impacts to the bicycling community. Wrote letters and appeared at City of Tucson Zoning Commission hearings urging the members to support bicycle parking requirements within 50 feet of entrances to businesses to encourage bicycling and safe, legal parking rather than illegal parking to trees and meters.
- Evaluated and made a series of specific recommendations for improvements to Church Ave. along in downtown area.
- Conducted regular meetings throughout year with an average attendance of 8 to 10 members.

### **Facilities:**

#### **Chair: Larry Robinson**

- Developed a list of standards for construction of bicycle facilities to send to the various jurisdictions.
- Prioritized near-term construction projects for Pima County and the City of Tucson.
- Gave advice as to when the use of sharrows was appropriate.

### **Executive:**

#### **Chair: Karen Berchtold**

- Presented draft and received input for an update to T-PCBAC Procedures Manual
- Proposed goals for commuter and recreational ridership and Safe Routes to School program for Platinum Challenge application.
- Planning and agenda for annual retreat
- Endorsed Strategic Planning process and formed workgroup to complete Strategic Plan