

2008 ANNUAL REPORT

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

This annual report reflects some of the work of the Bicycle Alliance of Washington in 2008. It's not always as easy to tell what an organization really does from words on paper, however. So let me tell you a story.

Several years ago, the Bicycle Alliance worked with the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) and the state Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (a committee now being revitalized) to develop design standards for shoulder rumble strips, those indentations they put on the side of the road to reduce drive-off crashes by cars. The agreed upon standards ensure that bicyclist safety is not sacrificed: shoulders must remain a safe width inside the strips, and occasional breaks in the bumps allow safer bike crossing.

We know those standards exist, but that is not always the case with WSDOT engineers. Last year, members of the Port Townsend Bicycle Association noticed that new rumble

strips on Hwy. 101 on the Olympic Peninsula made riding much more dangerous. They contacted us and documented the problems with photos. Together, we worked with the WSDOT to fix the improper installation.

With your help, we will remain vigilant on rumble strip installations and other highway safety issues around the state. That's our job. The Bicycle Alliance of Washington is a statewide nonprofit whose mission is to advocate for cyclists and for a bicycle-friendly Washington. We educate, train and strategize with citizens, bike clubs, public officials, community groups and organizations on ways to achieve sustainable, bike friendly communities.

In 2008, we continued our work to establish the statewide infrastructure to make that happen. I am proud to be part of that work.

—Kristin Kinnamon

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—Kristin Kinnamon, BAW President

LEGISLATIVE EFFORTS

The Bicycle Alliance scored numerous victories during the 2008 legislative session. "Share the Road" instruction—on safe driving around bicycles and pedestrians—was successfully incorporated into public school driver education classes (we got it included in private programs in 2007). Other legislative achievements included a bill that funds bicycle and mobility education in three pilot school districts (see "Pilot Program Teaches Road Safety to Kids", page 1), and neutralizing another bill that would have made it difficult and time-consuming to do rail to trail conversions. Our legislative work is accomplished with the help of a professional lobbyist, whose work is directed by an active committee of 17 bike club and Bike Alliance members from around the state, under the direction of the Bike Alliance board.

Equally important is member involvement. Each year we host a Transportation Advocacy Day in Olympia and invite people to come learn about our bills and lobby their legislators. To make our voice even larger, we coordinate our

advocacy day with partner groups including: Transportation Choices Coalition, Feet First, Futurewise, All Aboard Washington, Sierra Club, and others. About 100 people attended Transportation Advocacy Day in 2008, and many members made their voices heard by writing or calling legislators in response to our regular "action alerts" sent out during the session.

POLICY MAKING

Bicycle Alliance staff and board members spent considerable time in the past two years reviewing and commenting on the Washington State Department of Transportation Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. The state's goal is to decrease collisions by 5 percent per year for the next 20 years, while doubling the amount of biking and walking. We want to make sure the plan—and its implementation—achieve these goals. We have good relationships with the state bicycle program coordinator and manager, and we work to support them in the challenge of helping WSDOT expand its definition of "transportation" and its awareness of and funding for bicycle safety and facilities.

The BAW also represents bicyclists on the statewide Transportation Improvement Board, Washington Coalition to Promote Physical Activity, National Alliance for Biking and Walking (formerly Thunderhead Alliance), the Governor's Climate Change Transportation Implementation Working Group, Puget Sound Regional Council's Transportation Policy Board, Inland Northwest Trails Coalition, and the Sound Transit Bicycle Advisory Group (which came up with a bike policy that can be modeled by transit agencies around the state).

BICYCLE TRANSPORTATION

The Bicycle Alliance conducted 25 commute workshops in 2008: 20 in King County, four in Spokane County and one in Cowlitz County. Staff also fielded numerous email inquiries, phone calls and walk-in requests for bike route planning assistance.

BAW staff helped the Spokane Bike Advisory Board organize a week long event called Bike to Work Spokane. Activities included a public awareness campaign, share the road tips, an interactive website, and a celebration rally. Over 800 participants registered.

Staff, board members, and volunteers also tabled at over a dozen Transportation Fairs and community events distributing bike maps, providing bike commuting tips, and helping people with route options. We covered 10 events in King County, two in Spokane County and one in Kitsap, reaching over 600 people.

The Bicycle Alliance distributed, free of charge, bike route maps from all over Washington State. We have a contract with the City of Seattle to distribute their maps, and volunteers helped us send out nearly 22,000 in 2008.

BAW provides a direct service to bike commuters, residents and travelers in Seattle and Bellevue—secure indoor bike parking. We manage the Bikestation Seattle, next door to our Pioneer Square office, and Bellevue's Commuter Connection, located at the Bellevue Transit Center. Both facilities offer 24/7 access to registered bike commuters, and Bike Alliance members get a Bikestation member discount and can always park their bikes for free with us in Seattle during our regular business hours.

OUTREACH

The Bicycle Alliance staff and board members regularly travel around the state to talk with members of local bike clubs, bike boards, community groups and our own

members to discuss local cycling issues and concerns, projects and strategies for successful bike advocacy. BAW visited Olympia, Everett, Vancouver, Mt Vernon, Redmond, Whidbey Island, Bremerton, Bellingham, Pullman, Tri Cities, Longview, Tacoma, Bainbridge Island, Seattle, Silverdale, and Spokane in 2008. We met with more than 200 cycling advocates.

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL

2008 was a great year for our Safe Routes to School program and the final year of a statewide grant funding the state's Center for Safe Routes to School. Along with Feet First, our Safe Routes partner, we organized a Safe Routes Summit in Spokane attended by 50 people. The Bicycle Alliance partnered with Washington State Department of Transportation to provide 16 trainings attended by



Safe Routes Education

over 300 educators. Trainings were held in Mt. Vernon, Wenatchee, Gig Harbor, Spokane, Battleground, Renton, Lake Stevens, Yakima, Des Moines, Valley, Chemicum, Long Beach, Everett, Vancouver, Walla Walla, and Toledo.

Using a grant from REI, the Bicycle Alliance organized school assemblies in three King County elementary schools to teach students about global warming and biking's connection to a healthy planet. Over 600 students participated in the assemblies, and more than 200 students followed up by biking to school and other destinations.

SHARE THE ROAD

Since the legislature approved the special license plate in 2005, over 3,400 cyclists across the state have purchased a Share the Road plate for their vehicle. The plates are a

valuable source of funding for our bicycle safety and education programs. In 2008, revenues were used to:

- Produce a Share the Road DVD that was distributed to driver education programs statewide.
- Print bicycle safety information for school students.
- Make a Share the Road presentation at the annual Washington Traffic Safety Education Association, where many attendees were driver education instructors.
- Distribute a Share the Road: Tips for Motorists flyer to bike shops, driver education programs, driver licensing offices, and libraries.

PRO WALK/PRO BIKE

The national Pro Walk/Pro Bike conference was held in Seattle in 2008. The Bicycle Alliance served on the host committee, and staff presented four workshops. The conference drew more than 800 attendees, including 125 from Washington State.

MEMBERS

The Bicycle Alliance of Washington represents bicyclists in every corner of Washington State and we rely upon the generous support of our membership. We had 3,000 individual and household members in 36 of our 39 counties in 2008.

VOLUNTEERS

Over 250 individuals gave their time to the Bicycle Alliance in 2008. These individuals donated over 6,400 hours doing things ranging from helping with office tasks and month end mailings, to tabling at community events and organizing our annual auction, to testifying at public meetings, attending Transportation Advocacy Day and serving on the board.

BIKE CLUB PARTNERS

Thanks to the following bike clubs and bike groups who supported our advocacy efforts with financial contributions from event rides and related grants in 2008: B.I.K.E.S. of Snohomish County, Boeing Employees Bicycle Club,

Capital Bicycling Club, Northwest Tandem Rally, Port Townsend Bicycle Association, Skagit Bicycle Club, Spokane Bicycle Club, Tacoma Wheelmen Bicycle Club, Tri City Bicycle Club, Vancouver Bicycle Club, West Sound Cycling Club and Phil's South Sound Cyclery.

Special thanks to the five bike clubs that organize the annual Ride Around Puget Sound, proceeds of which benefit the Bicycle Alliance: B.I.K.E.S. of Snohomish County, Capital Bicycle Club, Cyclists of Greater Seattle, Tacoma Wheelmen Bicycle Club and West Sound Cycling Club. BAW members get a discount on ride registration.

Visit rapsodybikeride.com



Bike Routes Assist

2008 MAJOR DONORS (\$250 AND ABOVE)

Thank you to: Avista, Kenneth Beahm, B.I.K.E.S. of Snohomish County, Fraser Black, Capital Bicycling Club, Community College of Spokane, Deupree Family Foundation, Downtown Spokane Partnership, Elliott Family Foundation, Kathryn Gardow, Douglas Hansen, Eileen Hyatt, Jundt Foundation, Simon Kahan, Amy Klein, Gary Klein, Kongsgaard-Goldman Foundation, Lee & Hayes, Mahlum Architects, Metals Fabrication Company, Bobby Mullins, Cynthia Mundhenk, Bob Myrick, New Priorities Foundation, Phil's South Side Cyclery, Phoebe Haas Trust, Port Townsend Bicycle Association, REI Foundation,

Sportworks, SVR Design, Norma Stevely, Tacoma Wheelmen Bicycle Club, Team Northwest Tandemonium, Tri City Bicycle Club, Unico Properties, Vancouver Bicycle Club, Vulcan, Walker Family Foundation, Micah Wilson, and Anonymous.

The Bicycle Alliance is a member of EarthShare of Washington and participates in workplace giving campaigns. We also had 255 businesses and individuals who donated over 400 items to our annual auction.

FINANCIALS

INCOME

Contributions	169,613
Memberships	79,758
Contracts & Programs	127,882
Grants	210,486
Events	137,254
Other	9,215
Total Income	\$734,208

EXPENSE

Operations Support	64,700
Membership & Program	549,437
Events	60,906
Total Expenses	\$675,043
Net Increase (Decrease)	\$59,165

STAFF

- Dave Janis, Acting Executive Director
- Every Day, Commute Specialist
- Louise McGrody, Outreach & Communications Specialist
- JoAnn Yoshimoto, Development Director

BOARD

- Kristin Kinnamon, President, Marysville
- King Cushman, First Vice President, Seattle
- Thom Skaanland, Second Vice President, Enumclaw
- Eileen Hyatt, Secretary, Spokane
- Mark Thomas, Treasurer, Redmond
- Ralph Wessels, Past President, Gig Harbor
- Mary Anderson, Bellingham
- Rick Browning, Seattle
- Bob Duffy, Lacey
- Sarah Gelineau, Tonasket
- Julie Gregg, Seattle
- Ted Inkley, Seattle
- Karyn Kuever, Seattle
- Amy Lutz, Spokane
- Dave Manelski, Seattle
- Joan McBride, Kirkland
- David McLean, Seattle
- Liz McNett Crowl, Mt Vernon
- Bobby Mullins, Seattle
- Jill Priest, Olympia
- Erin Weber, Prosser
- John Whitlow, Bainbridge Island

