



What has NYBC Done for Me Lately?

The New York Cycling Coalition is a statewide non-profit organization advancing the interests of all bicyclists, on- or off-road, recreational or racer. We work with the legislature, state agencies, local governments and other organizations to assure cyclists have a voice in government decisions. We also offer training and technical assistance to those working for better bicycling in their communities.

Here's what we accomplished in 2008:

Advocacy — Each year NYBC reviews and comments on legislative proposals at the Federal, State and local levels. We support measures promoting safe, accessible and convenient cycling, and discourage ones threatening the bicycle & pedestrian community. During 2008 we actively supported laws such as:

- ✓ **The Federal Bicycle Commuter Act**, which allows employers to offer a fringe benefit of \$20 per month to bicycle commuting employees to offset costs of owning, repairing or storing their bicycles.
- ✓ **State Amendment to Highway Law (Bill A 2343)**, allowing local governments to direct NYSDOT to use the locality's "Marchaselli" funds for the construction of bicycle and pedestrian paths.
- ✓ **County Laws to Develop Recreational Trails**, typified by an Albany County law for a trail from the City of Albany to the Village of Voorheesville and another to the Town of Colonie (over 10 miles total).

In the upcoming 2009 legislative session NYBC is proposing a **Bicycling Bill of Rights** for New Yorkers. It includes NYBC's current legislative initiatives such as:

- ✓ A law requiring motorists to give bicyclists **Three Foot Minimum Safe Passing**.
- ✓ A law mandating **"Share the Road" training in driver's education, in the point reduction curricula, and in DMV testing for new drivers**.

We are also working on opening up all trains, including Amtrak, to bicycles and legalizing electric-assist bikes. At the Federal level NYBC is providing input to the 2009 Transportation Bill Reauthorization, hoping to dramatically increase funding for bicycling in U.S. communities.

Public Education — NYBC actively educates, formally and informally, policy makers, civil servants, private businesses and the general public about ensuring bicyclists' and pedestrians' safety. Through our partnership with the Governor's Traffic Safety Committee, we provide outreach and classes to local bicycle clubs, regional planning agencies, Traffic Safety Boards, and others. This includes:

- ✓ Delivering our award-winning **"Share the Road" training** to Driver Education instructors.
- ✓ Comprehensive **bicycle education classes** to individual cyclists and bike clubs across the state.

Monitoring — NYBC reviews transportation policy and project decisions for Complete Streets accessibility and meets with agency officials and staff accordingly. For instance, in 2008 we opposed road maintenance practices that hurt shoulder ride quality. NYBC also met twice with NYSDOT Commissioner Astrid Glynn to provide input and offer feedback on agency activities. As a result, among other things:

- ✓ NYSDOT will re-instate a **Statewide Bike/Ped Advisory Committee**.
- ✓ The State's Tourism agency and NYBC are partnering to promote **NYS as a cycling destination**.

Technical Assistance — NYBC's Board, with decades of professional experience in transportation planning, infrastructure development, public health and other areas, provides expertise to local clubs and small governmental entities. Examples in 2008 include:

- ✓ Providing **technical assistance to clubs** opposing dubious "improvements" on local roads.
- ✓ Offering local groups guidance on drafting successful **"Safe Routes to School" applications**.

In addition, we developed materials to help local advocates improve the infrastructure, including *Improving Bicycling & Pedestrian Safety Toolkit* and *Safety Problem Solving Manual*. (Both available online.)

Information — NYBC publishes the annual **NY Bikes! Events Calendar**, NY's premier listing of cycling rides, races, tours and charity events across the state. Our web site, www.NYBC.net, offers a host of resources, including cyclists' rights and responsibilities under the NY's Vehicle and Traffic Law, links to local bicycle clubs, member bike shops, maps, and other valuable information.

Join NYBC today: more members means more clout!

www.NYBC.net/donate