

Program for Alternative Transportation and Health (PATH)

E-Newsletter and Monthly Drawing Reminder

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Hello PATH Members

If you are a new PATH member, welcome!

If you have carpoled, bicycled, walked, or taken transit to work at least 10 times (or about twice per week) during the month of January you are eligible for the PATH monthly drawing for prizes. Simply reply to this email or email path@cnhrpc.org to report your commutes and be entered into the drawing.

As a PATH member you will receive this email once per month with news, stories, and event listings. If you prefer to not get the monthly email, you may unsubscribe at the bottom of the email.

PATH members who carpool or bike to work are also eligible for the Emergency Ride Home benefit. If you or your fellow carpooler gets caught without transportation in the event of an emergency, PATH will reimburse your cost of transportation home according to the rules of the program. Complete rules and instructions can be found at our website www.path-nh.org.

PATH Works with Employers to Promote and Support Carpooling

PATH's employer program has been slowly growing in popularity since its introduction about a year ago.

If you are unfamiliar with the program, here's how it works. PATH works with businesses to identify and analyze major transportation issues around their workplaces and helps employers develop and implement innovative and effective solutions. PATH also works with businesses to promote commuting alternatives, develop transit options specific to businesses, and identifies incentives to help businesses encourage commuting alternatives.

PATH staff recently met with staff from Local Government Center (LGC), New Hampshire Employment Security (NHES) and the New Hampshire Office and Energy and Planning (OEP). All three offices have expressed interest in promoting carpooling at their offices through simple incentive programs like preferred parking and prizes for carpoolers.

PATH and LGC staff are planning have a promotional event at the Concord office to explain the benefits of carpooling to employees and help them begin carpooling by matching them with fellow employees. Meanwhile, NHES and PATH will be working on an initiative to improve the tight parking situation at its two offices in Concord and will help NHES clients by promoting carpooling as a cost-effective transportation option. Lastly, OEP and PATH staff had a wide-ranging conversation about how to improve traffic flow and safety in Concord by working together on carpooling initiatives.

If you would like your office to work with PATH, please contact us and we can schedule a meeting to start improving commuting options. Here is some more information about what we can do for your workplace: http://www.path-nh.org/Employer_Program.html

Concord Area Transit Open House
February 2, 2010 at Concord Library

Drop in at the Concord Library, 45 Green Street, any time from 4 to 7 PM to share your thoughts on CAT service. You are welcome to come speak with City Councilors, professional transit planners, and others in a comfortable setting. This outreach is part of an in depth service analysis due for completion in spring that will help improve CAT service.

If you cannot attend, visit the Central NH Regional Planning Commission website at www.cnhrpc.org for more information.



North South Bike Route Gets the Nod City Council voted to accept funds for bike route

City Council voted to accept funding from [Concord 2020](#) for the North South Bike Route at their meeting on January 11.

The funds will pay for the painting of the "sharrow" symbols along the route as well as bike route signage. In addition, any funding left over will go toward education and awareness of the route for both bicyclists and motorists. The idea is to help all users of the route understand the proper way to share the roadway, what the symbols mean, and what the purpose of a bike route is.

Several members of the public were present speaking in support of the route and many others were in attendance to see it through. Those who come to show support make a difference.

For more information on the route, see our [August-September](#) newsletter.

Rail Trail Groups Meet in Manchester

This January over 50 people from various rail to trail groups, Regional Planning Commissions, and other organizations, converged at Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission in Manchester to discuss the development of a regional trails plan and a strategy to complete it.

There are several stretches of paved rail trail completed along an abandoned rail corridor from Salem to Manchester with branches radiating from it. The group hopes to fill in the gaps along this stretch and continue northward all the way to Concord. All in attendance were excited about the possibilities. Check out [last month's](#) newsletter for more information.



Rail to Trail groups along the Salem-Concord Corridor:

[Manchester Moves](#)
[Derry Rail Trail Alliance](#)
[Windham Rail Trail Alliance](#)

[Northern Rail Trail](#)
[List of Rail Trail Groups in NH](#)

[Salem to Concord Bikeway Feasibility Study, 2003 \(large pdf\)](#)

Look for more news, updates, and rail-trail stories in future newsletters.

Bicycle Master Plan Progress

Central NH Regional Planning Commission staff and the City of Concord's Bicycle Subcommittee of the Transportation Policy Advisory Committee (TPAC-Bike) are continuing work on Concord's Bicycle Master Plan.

In the last few weeks the groups have used input from December's first public meeting to draft a bike route plan map, have mapped and labeled "hot spots" and difficult corridors identified at Meeting 1, mapped automobile traffic volumes, drafted goals and vision statements based on Meeting 1 input, and began the task of identifying a route for a possible bike trail along the Merrimack River from Bow to Boscawen.



In the next week or two we hope to schedule a date for Meeting 2 to be held sometime in March. At Meeting 2 we will share the work we have done and seek comment on our findings from Meeting 1.

If you have any comments regarding the Bicycle Master Plan please forward them to path@cnhrpc.org. Visit the [Bicycle Master Plan project webpage](#).

Photo courtesy Dick Lemieux

Story for Bicyclists

Article for the Concord Monitor written by bicycle commuter, NH Department of Transportation Safe Routes to School Coordinator, and PATH member John Corrigan.

[Structure meets Infrastructure](#)

PATH's mission is to reduce traffic congestion, improve air quality and increase societal emphasis on personal fitness through the creation of services and materials which promote transportation options to the single occupancy vehicle.

Craig Tufts
Nik Coates
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