

Program for Alternative Transportation and Health (PATH)

Newsletter and Monthly Drawing Reminder

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CAT

Hello PATH Members! If you are a new member - Welcome!

We hope nobody was overly disappointed after not receiving a PATH newsletter for November. This month we have a November/December newsletter for you. We still plan to send newsletters monthly with few exceptions. **Please indicate in your email if you have commuted 10 times for either October, November, or both!**

Simply reply to this email or email path@cnhrpc.org to report your October and November commutes and be entered into one or both drawings.

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.

CAT's New "Crosstown" Route in Effect November 7

CNHRPC and PATH are Counting Ridership



The Trolley Routes and Industrial Park route have been combined to a new "Crosstown" route.

In response to a comprehensive service analysis carried out by the CNHRPC and Nelson/Nygaard Consulting Associates in late 2009, and requests for improved service from the City of Concord, CAT recently

implemented a new fixed route system which aims to remove duplication and improve efficiency in the system. The new system began on Monday, November 7th 2011. The fixed route system changed from the old four (4) route system to a more streamlined three (3) route system anchored by a new "Crosstown" route.

CNHRPC and PATH, at the request of CAT, was called upon to undertake an analysis of boardings and alightings for each stop before and after the changes were implemented. The data will be critical to help get the most out of limited transit funds and to help serve the riding public as well as possible.

Click [HERE](#) for the new schedule.

Concord's North-South Bike Route is Official

The north-south bike route is on the ground! Work started this summer with the signage, and the last of the sharrows were painted on the roads in November.



Where is the N/S Bike Route?

[CLICK FOR GOOGLE MAP!](#)

The route begins at South Street and heads north by the new school through McKee Square, then jogs west onto Thorndike to S Spring where it continues north across Pleasant St. It jogs up Warren St one block and follows Rumford Street the rest of the way to N State. There is a connector down to Horseshoe Pond via Penacook St.

Where on the road do I ride when there are sharrows?

Sharrows are reminders that roads are shared spaces. Bicyclists should ride on the route the same way you should on any other street. Bicyclists should stay to the right and allow cars to pass as long as it is safe to do so. When it is too narrow for a car to safely pass, or when it is otherwise unsafe to pass, a bicycle may "take the lane" and any cars behind should wait until it is safe. If you are riding the same speed as the flow of traffic around you, you may also "take the lane". Bicycles should not block the regular flow of traffic. Be sure to stay clear of the "door zone".

Do I need to stop at the stop signs?

YES! Bicycles are vehicles and must always stop at stop signs and red lights! On many parts of the route, it may be best for bicyclists to stop in the middle of the travel lane at the stop sign to help prevent cars from

trying to pass you in the intersection and blocking your visibility.

What is the best way to ride through a traffic light?

NEVER RUN A RED LIGHT! This is unsafe and gives a bad name to all bicyclists.

There are two options: One is to become a pedestrian and walk your bicycle and use crosswalks and push-button walk signals if they are available. The other option is to ride. Use the appropriate turn lane by either taking the middle of the lane or staying to the right hand side of the lane. Be sure to look for safe openings and signal your intentions. Remember, if you are on the right hand side of a right turn lane and you want to go straight, you are vulnerable to right turning vehicles. This is not a safe place to be unless you are turning right!

When I drive my car on the N/S route and I approach a bicyclist, what should I do?

You are free to pass the bicyclist when it is safe to do so. If the bicycle rider is "taking the lane" please wait to pass. It is generally not safe pass a bicyclist who is stopped at a stop sign or is nearing a stop sign, so wait behind until the bicycle rides through. If there are parked cars along the route making the road narrow, it may best to wait for more room to pass.

[SHARE THE ROAD!](#) This goes for both motorists and bicyclists!

A great resource on bicycle safety and the rules of the road is the "[Don't be a Road Hog, Don't be a Road Warrior](#)" brochure.

Look for a full guide to the North South Bike route this spring during Commute Green. In the meantime, feel free to contact us with questions by calling 226-6020 or email path@cnhrpc.org.

Regional Bicycle-Pedestrian Plan

CNHRPC staff have visited all 20 towns in the CNHRPC region to review bicycling and walking conditions. We saw the good, bad, and ugly of non-motorized transportation infrastructure over the last two months!



We visited intersections, town centers, measured road and lane widths, inspected sidewalk conditions and ADA (American with Disabilities Act) compliance, and came across some great places for recreational riding and walking.



We are currently in the process of writing up a report of our findings, and will present our reports to each community. Please contact us if you'd like to be involved in the proceedings in your community.

Limited Transit Service Now Available from Concord to Manchester

Manchester Transit Authority is now running limited bus service connecting Manchester to Nashua and Concord. There are two daily weekday trips between Concord and Manchester. The bus for Manchester departs at the Bus Terminal on Stickney Ave at 9am and 1:00 pm, and departs Manchester at the Center of NH (one block east of the Canal Street Transportation Center) at 8:30AM and 12:30PM. Note: this leaves only three hours for travelers from Concord to visit Manchester.

[Click here](#) for a link to the schedule.

PATH Name Voting Results

Alternative: 13

Active: 20

We have ended voting for the PATH name change and it is clear that voters preferred a name change to "Active." We will work towards implementing this change and updating the logo in the coming year when we update our website.

From Previous Post:

We have heard from several PATH members over the last few years that there is a problem with the word "ALTERNATIVE." They say it implies that driving is "the way" and bicycling, walking, transit, and carpooling are "alternative", when in fact all transportation modes should be considered equal. The word "active" emphasizes the health aspects of green commuting. Others have said the name is fine, saying there are plenty of alternatives you can choose from in how you get to work. Tell us what you think.

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
CNHRPC

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