

September-October 2009

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 September 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 www.path-nh.org.

Passenger Rail in Concord?

You may have heard recently about the possibility of bringing passenger rail to Concord. The NH Capitol Corridor, as it is called by many, would bring passenger rail service from Concord, Manchester, Manchester Airport, and Nashua to the existing Lowell MA line to North Station in Boston. Rail service to North Station would supplement existing bus service to South Station. While no train stations along the route have been finalized, the concept is for stops to be "multi-modal" stations that serve inter-city buses, local "feeder" bus service, and carpooling all in one stop. Some stops would likely be in or near downtown locations, within walking and biking distance of residential and employment centers.



Photo credit: NH DOT
Downeaster in the NH Seacoast

The route from Lowell north to Concord would be on existing track, currently owned by Pan Am Railways, which is in need of significant improvement in order to support the increased traffic and speeds.

Update: On September 30th the NH Department of Transportation announced it would not apply for federal stimulus funds for the project due to a lack of agreement with track owner Pan Am Railways. The state has

applied for planning money for the project, which is still a critical step in the process.

More information can be found at NH DOT's [New Hampshire Rail Transit Authority](#) webpage.

North-South Bicycle Route Public Meeting Draws over 30 Residents: Thanks to everyone who participated!



On September 22, the bicycle subcommittee of the Transportation Policy Advisory Committee, or TPAC- Bicycle, held a public meeting regarding a proposed North-South Bicycle Route in Concord. Turnout was excellent, which is a good sign for the future of bicycling in the Capital City.

For more information or to request meeting minutes, email path@cnhrpc.org, or call us at 226-6020.

The Story of a Carpool that Saves \$1000+ per Month

Three commuters have carpoled from Lebanon to Concord Hospital for years. For the month of August they reported 18 carpools. I crunched the numbers and 18 2 person carpools of 60 miles takes 1,080 vehicle miles off the road, and with 3 people it's 2,160 miles for just one month! That's quite a lot of money saved and reduced impact on the environment. Assuming a respectable 30 mpg vehicle, the [Rideshare Calculator](#) calculated a monthly cost savings of \$1127!

If you are looking for a carpool partner, let PATH know and we can help you find somebody. Email us at path@cnhrpc.org or call 226-6020.

Bicycle Master Plan for Concord

The Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission, the administrators of the PATH program, have been contracted to develop a Bicycle Master Plan for the City of Concord. CNHRPC staff will work with the city, TPAC-Bicycling, other stakeholders, and of course Concord residents and bicyclists help create a vision and guide efforts for making Concord a more bicycle friendly city. Work will begin next week, so keep your ears open for your opportunity to contribute.

Bicycle Sharing on the Front Page

The front page of the Friday, October 2nd Concord Monitor had a story about bike sharing programs at New Hampshire Technical Institute and St.

Paul's School here in Concord. These programs were put together with the help of PATH and others.

[Check out the article](#)

Park and Ride Survey Update

The park and Ride survey has been completed and we will post the results in our next newsletter. We received some great information and useful comments from hundreds of respondents. The winner of the IPOD will be announced next week.

Thank you for your participation!

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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