



PROGRESS

From Montana to West Virginia, bike-travel conditions are improving

→ HAPPY National Bike Month! May is a terrific time of year to get out on a bike, but it's also an important time to support efforts to improve cycling in North America. Cycling advocacy groups — from local to national — are asking for your help, whether it's showing up on bike-to-work day or donating. Please do what you can to support these groups; they play a vital role, from getting potholes filled to lobbying for critical legislation, like safe passing laws.

At Adventure Cycling, we're grateful for your support of our advocacy efforts, which are making bike travel more accessible and enjoyable. A key project is the U.S. Bicycle Route System (USBRS), through which we provide staff support to dozens of state departments of transportation (DOTs) and nonprofits to create what will be the largest official bike network on the planet. With your help, we've hit these milestones: 41 states (and Washington, DC) working on the USBRS; 12 states with U.S. Bicycle Routes (USBRS); 5,973 miles of USBRS; and states like Minnesota and Missouri signing their routes. And there's more to come. Adventure Cycling and Toole Design Group have finished the first phase of a best practices guide to help states create USBRS. This year, we expect approval of multiple new USBRS, in states from West Virginia to Washington.

At the federal level, we're working with National Park Service units, from Glacier National Park to the Natchez Trace, on improving cycling conditions. We've also coordinated several meetings of the new Amtrak Bicycle Task Force, which is identifying pilot corridors for improved roll-on, roll-off service. At the state level, we're re-researching how state campgrounds treat traveling cyclists and are urging them



Jim at the Montana Bike/Walk Summit with Montana Director of Transportation Mike Tooley and Bicycle/Pedestrian Coordinator Angie Zanin.

to adopt more pro-cycling approaches, like biker/hiker campsites and “no turn away” policies, even when campgrounds are technically “full.”

Also at the state level, we're making progress in our home state with Montana's DOT. Whereas it used to be tough to get even a junior DOT staffer to return a call, we've now had multiple productive meetings with the new DOT director, Mike Tooley. Together we are working to improve the state's rumble strip policy, and Director Tooley and his staff have expressed interest in creating a new statewide bike plan, starting with Western Montana. It's a remarkable shift from paying little attention to bikes to treating them as a vital part of the transportation system — and it's an indicator of the growing strength of America's bicycling movement. So please keep doing your part to support this movement so we can all enjoy the best possible bike-travel conditions.

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MISSION

Adventure Cycling Association inspires and empowers people to travel by bicycle.

AREAS OF FOCUS

- Provide the premier tools and inspiration for people to travel by bicycle.
- Expand and integrate bike travel networks for North America.
- Create the best possible conditions for bicycle travel.

HOW TO REACH US

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