

DETAILED COMMENTS

- The state of cycling is improving but we are nowhere near where we could. NYC is still way behind cities like Berlin, Amsterdam, London, Montreal, Portland . . . the list goes on. To improve we need: buffered, safe, on-street bike lanes. Take a lane of traffic away from motor vehicles at places like 8th Avenue, 2nd Avenue in Manhattan. Secure bike parking facilities. Park and rides @ transit hubs. How about on-street parking racks in Williamsburg?!? Safer access to East River Bridges. Better design! More waterfront greenway! – Brooklyn! To fix the dangerous bumps on the W’burg Bridge. Get car traffic out of our parks! Bike racks on buses. Come on. Simple. Special city-sponsored event to promote car-free city. How about a Central-to-Propsect car-free Sunday from Columbus Circle, down B’way, along Flatbush to Grand Army Plaza. Open the streets to bikes, peds, merchants. More attention to bikes at the top – like Mayor Daley in Chicago! Congestion pricing in NYC – use the \$\$\$ to improve bike, ped, transit & public space.

- Fair progress overall in providing waterfront access. HRG is good. East River south of 14th Street is awful. Need to fill in the gaps in Manhattan waterfront access/route. Existing sections need scheduled maintenance. City government attitude is also fair. No apparent central coordination, i.e. Mayor’s Office. Mayor’s Bike/Ped Advisory Committee seems to be defunct. Police don’t enforce bike MV violations or aggressive driving towards bike/peds.

*“The cycling map is
great
- very useful.”*

- Peds generally oblivious to biker rights to road. MTA needs to add/improve bridge access on its toll bridges.

- Cycling in New York City is booming right now. There are rides and events almost every day and bigger and bigger events on the weekends. Great stuff is happening let’s stay positive! Bike Month, Bicycle Film Festival, Cycle Messenger World Championships, The Bike Show – we are lucky to live in such a productive and proactive city. We enjoy the streets and city like no other group of people. We can make an impact and positive change. Keep riding!!!

- Police endanger cyclists. They park in bike lanes. They make illegal turns without lights. They harass bicyclists. They crash motorscooters into cyclists during Critical Mass. They confiscate bicycles for alleged traffic violations. They spend tremendous money on intimidation (helicopters, riot police, fences, pepper spray, assault weapons, etc.). They videotape bicycling events. They use undercover officers in events to disrupt, provoke, and monitor activities. Bicycling needs to be legalized!!!

- Thank you for holding this session. It’s very valuable and should be a regular event.

- Police hostility to cyclists must be stopped. We deserve the same protection from NYPD as anyone else. And use of the city’s law dept. to perpetuate Bruce Smolka’s personal grudge is scandalous.

- Lack of signs notifying drivers of consequences of parking in bike lanes.

- Promote bike tourism, but not with present lanes, tourists might be doored.

- In general, cyclists are not treated as legitimate citizens of NYC who pay taxes, vote and deserving of consideration.

- Mayor is fond of saying we are the “Greatest City in the World” but there is no real creative, innovative approach to reducing cars, congestion, pollution. Too many arrogant, selfish drivers are being catered to.

DETAILED COMMENTS



- Ped/bike staff in agencies are not supported or consulted by commissioners & engineers who drive cars.
- Verrazano Narrows Bridge closed to bikes 40 years. Designed for paths but not built by Robert Moses. DCP study confirms that paths can be installed for \$25 million. Creates critical gap in NYC network for community, recreation and social trips. VNB can be a major tourist attraction. Link in East Coast Greenway. Goethels Bridge to be re-opened in 2006 by Port tie in to East Coast Greenway – enhance value of VNB access. Long term goal – restore path to Outerbridge Crossing Staten Island roads preferable than riding in NJ from Elizabeth to Perth Amboy. Enhance E.C. Greenway.
- Lack of crossing east of Triboro Queens/Bronx either restore Whitestone Bridge path – removed in 1946 or install new path on Throgs Neck Bridge. TNB should be capable of supporting 1 or 2 paths.
- After the Mayor announced the introduction of the “Manhattan Greenway” (interim), nothing has been done since. He has allowed the police to harass cyclists, reduced bike parking w/the ridiculous “administrative code” loophole.

*“Cycling in
New York City is
booming
right now.”*

CONCLUSION

The BPG Team and the Transportation Division would like to thank everyone who participated in The State of Cycling in New York City. The detailed discussions and the exchange of information created an engaging and successful event that we hope to sponsor again for Bike Month. The BPG Team would like this report to encourage and galvanize bicycle advocates, government agencies, transportation groups, planners, and community boards in their quest for creating and improving the non-motorized transportation network in the city and region. While there were a lot of opinions represented at the event, we all share the same goals of improving bicycle safety and improving the bicycle network. The BPG Team will use the information from the event and outlined in this report to influence what we plan and how we plan bicycle facilities in the city.

PLEASE PROVIDE A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF A **POSITIVE** BELOW:

CREDITS

The City of New York

Department of City Planning

Amanda M. Burden, AICP, Director

Richard Barth, Executive Director

Sandy Hornick, Deputy Executive Director for Strategic Planning

Barbara Weisberg, Deputy Executive Director of Planning Coordination

Elizabeth Mackintosh, Director of Planning Coordination

The City of New York

Department of City Planning, Transportation Division

Jack Schmidt, Director

Kevin Olinger, Deputy Director

Scott Wise, Team Leader, Bicycle, Pedestrian and Greenway Team

Stephen Johnson, Project Manager

Indradeep Chakrabarty, Urban Designer

Altan Kolsal, City Planner

Rex Hodgson, Planning Technician



The State of Cycling in NYC

SPONSORED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF CITY PLANNING - CITY OF NEW YORK



SPONSORED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF CITY PLANNING - CITY OF NEW YORK

