

Sensitizing Local Governments to the Needs of Cyclists



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Thomas Grover

- USCF Racer in H.S./College....Cat II
- Assigned to bicycle patrol with APD 4+ years
- Board member with BikeABQ
- National Bike Patrol instructor with L. E. B. A.
- LCI #2300/Preston's coach project
- Wrapping up M.P.A. at UNM...KSG?
- Presidential Management Fellowship candidate

What are the Needs of Cyclists?

Who is going to “Sensitize” the government?

- Public advocacy groups
 - National organizations—League of American Bicyclists
 - State organizations—Bicycle Coalition of New Mexico
 - Local groups—BikeABQ in Albuquerque
- Individuals
- Judges & Attorneys
- Commercial Interests/Entities
- Other Government Entities
 - Federal and State offices
 - Federal and State politicians
- Others....

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STEP 1: IDENTIFY STAKEHOLDERS

- Who are the stakeholders in the local scene?
- Who has the ability to implement policies supportive of cyclists needs?
 - Political Leaders
 - Law Enforcement
 - Street Engineers
 - Urban Planners
 - Transportation Personnel
 - Others????

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STEP 2: LEGITIMIZE CYCLIST'S NEEDS

- Practical, qualitative, quantitative, and emotional perspectives
- Organize needs into objective categories and goals
- Create authority and presence. You are some of the experts on cyclist's needs
- Understand institutional behavior: Are they cyclists or *VULNERABLE ROAD USERS*????

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■ STEP 3: MEET STAKEHOLDERS

- Engage them with practical concerns
- Build relationships: Character and Confidence (hat tip to Stephen Covey, Jr. “Speed of Trust”)
- Create opportunities for mutual benefit.
 - Announcements
 - Problem solving
 - Events
 - Incident response (tragedies or heroism)
 - Public Service Announcements
 - NPO/Government Network Organizing

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■ STEP 4: FOLLOW UP

- Identify needs to schedule follow up meetings:
 - Monitor progress
 - Provide updates
 - Readdress concerns
- Maintain your relationship...give and take.

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- Remember it's a matrix of various individuals.
- Include front-line personnel as much as department directors and political leaders.
- On-Going Example: Bosque Recreation Trail in Albuquerque
 - Crashes
 - Dispatch challenges
 - 1st Responder challenges

Thank You!

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