



Adventure Cycling Association

July 29, 2011

Mr. Tom Faella
Executive Director
La Crosse Area Planning Committee
La Crosse County Administrative Center
Room 2300
400 North Fourth St.
La Crosse, WI

Dear Mr. Faella,

It has come to our attention that the Dresbach Bridge along the I-90 corridor will be replaced. We would like to express our strong support that the bridge to include facilities for cyclists. Providing accommodation for cyclists stands directly in line with a U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) policy released in March 2010 that states: “The DOT encourages States, local governments, professional associations, community organizations, public transportation agencies, and other government agencies, to adopt similar policy statements on bicycle and pedestrian accommodation as an indication of their commitment to accommodating bicyclists and pedestrians as an integral element of the transportation system” (http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bikeped/policy_accom.htm).

This bridge replacement directly affects access to the Northern Tier Bicycle Route (www.adventurecycling.org/routes/northerntier.cfm) which is a part of the 40,699 mile Adventure Cycling Route Network, spanning North America. Adventure Cycling Association is the largest membership cycling organization in North America with over 44,500 members. Our nonprofit mission is to inspire people of all ages to travel by bicycle for fitness, fun and self-discovery. We produce routes and maps for cycling in North America, organize tours, publish *Adventure Cyclist* magazine and support the creation an official U.S. Bicycle Route System (USBRS), a project sponsored by the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO).

The National Corridor Plan (www.adventurecycling.org/routes/usbrs/) for the USBRS shows three U.S. Bike Routes, 10, 20 and 30, all converging and crossing the Mississippi at the same point. The Dresbach Bridge falls within the corridor and therefore should have facilities for cyclists as interstate cycling traffic will be expected to increase as these routes get designated through AASHTO. As a matter of point, Wisconsin is pursuing designation of USBR 30 presently, with plans to implement USBR 20 in partnership with Minnesota next.

Adventure Cycling Association

A member supported not-for-profit organization dedicated to bicycle travel.

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Adventure Cycling Association strongly recommends the Minnesota Department of Transportation provide bike accommodation along the new I-90 bridge to accommodate existing and increasing cycling traffic along these national bicycle routes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jim Sayer". The signature is stylized with a large loop at the beginning and a smaller loop at the end.

Jim Sayer, Executive Director
Adventure Cycling Association
jsayer@adventurecycling.org