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## Advocacy Column

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**J**ust when there seemed to be little hope that Rhode Island has a commitment to creating bicycle resources, two things happened that could restore our faith that our state will be bicycle friendly someday.

### Charlestown bike route

In Charlestown bicycling along Route 1 is a grand adventure for only strong-hearted cyclists. Now there are plans on paper for a partially off-road bikeway parallel to Route 1 through town. We can give credit to the consultants, Bradford Associates, for their creative thinking and new idea. They are working with the Town of Charlestown to develop a management plan for Route 1 as part of the Charlestown Scenic Highway Designation. Their new idea for a bike route is a result of their work with the town

Mark your calendars for July 24 at 7:00 p.m. in Charlestown to see the map and discuss what improvements can be made, if any, and give encouragement to the Charlestown Planning Commission to pursue this plan vigorously. More details, including the location of the meeting will be posted on the NBW web site closer to the date. Oh yes, bring a friend!

### India Point Park, Providence

The Friends of India Point Park are urging the City of Providence to include a bicycling facility/meeting place in plans for the new India Point Park. Imagine the impact of a meeting place for cyclists in this Providence park with a shop where bike rentals, minor repairs and equipment would be available, and cyclist snacks could be purchased with a place to sit and relax with friends over a power bar and electrolyte drink. Think about "Local Motion" in Burlington Vermont ([www.localmotionvt.org/](http://www.localmotionvt.org/)). Can we dream of such a spot in Rhode Island at the apex of the four bike paths? Of course. Can we do it? Yes!

Stay tuned as this group moves forward with their idea and plan to help out when they need us. They are the folks who succeeded in having the power lines buried in India Point Park. A trailside center for bicyclists will be a piece of cake for this band of India Point Park supporters.

On the other hand, we should be very tired of hearing the same old story from Providence. Will we live to see the completion of the Providence Bike Plan?



## League of American Bicyclists 2007 National Bike Rally El Tour de Tucson November 15-17, 2007 Tucson, Arizona

### What is the National Bike Rally?

The National Bike Rally is the official annual cycling event of the League of American Bicyclists, held in conjunction with a nationally-recognized event. This year, the 25th El Tour de Tucson, America's largest perimeter bicycling event, is selected as the 2007 National Bike Rally.

The Rally consists of 3 days of fully-supported bicycling activities including (a) entrance into any one of El Tour de Tucson's main events: 109, 82, 66, 35 miles or Kids & Family Fun Ride on Saturday, November 17th; and (b) a choice of riding in any two different Rally tours (one on Thursday and one on Friday) which feature the scenic and cultural attractions of Tucson and Pima County, while showcasing our community as the League of American Bicyclists (LAB) first Gold Bicycle Friendly Region. Attendees have the opportunity to participate in the many El Tour activities, including: Wellness Conference, El Tour Bike Rides, Fitness & Health EXPO, Golf Classic, Dedication Dinner, Grand Cycling Awards Ceremony, Downtown Fiesta, Orientation Meetings, Rally Pre-Ride Dinner and Closing ceremony on Saturday evening

For more information, see the link on the LAB website, [www.bikeleague.org](http://www.bikeleague.org) which will take you to the 15 page (at least) detailed announcement with information and registration