

RESOLUTION NO. 806

Oklahoma US Bike Route 66 Support Resolution

Whereas bicycle tourism is a growing industry in North America, contributing \$47 billion a year to the economies of communities that provide facilities for such tourists; and

Whereas the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) has designated a corridor known as Route 66 beginning in Illinois and terminating in California to be developed as United States Bike Route 66 (USBR 66), and

Whereas the Oklahoma Bicycling Coalition, the Adventure Cycling Association, and other stockholders, have proposed a specific route to be designated as USBR 66, a map of which is herein incorporated into this resolution by reference, and

Whereas the proposed route for USBR comes through Clinton, Oklahoma and can therefore provide a benefit to our residents and businesses, and

Whereas we have investigated the proposed route and found it to be a suitable route, and desire that the route be designated so that it can be mapped and signed, thereby promoting bicycle tourism in our area,

Therefore be it resolved that Clinton, Oklahoma hereby expresses its approval and support for the development of USBR 66, and requests that the appropriate officials see to it that the route is officially designated by AASHTO as soon as this can be achieved, and authorizes the posting of signs when available or appropriate within the

City of Clinton, Oklahoma right-of-way identifying the route through the community once the official designation has been made.

Passed and approved this _____ day of _____, 2012.

Allen Bryson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Lisa Anders, City Clerk

Clinton

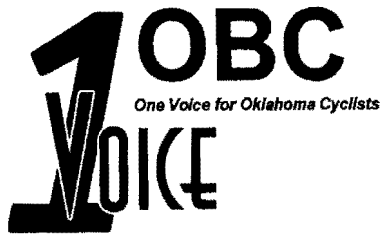


Google earth



S 10th to Neptune across I-40 to West Commerce Rd.
 (E. 1060 Rd)





Oklahoma Bicycling Coalition

Promoting bicycle access, safety and education throughout Oklahoma.

obc1voice.org

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To: Road Agency Managers and Engineers, DOT, and Metro Region Engineers

Subject: U.S. Bicycle Route 66 Development and Adventure Cycling Route Maps

Date: July 9, 2012

Ladies and Gentlemen:

In Oklahoma, the planning of Bicycle Route 66 and mapping is being coordinated by the Oklahoma Bicycling Coalition (OBC) and Adventure Cycling Association (ACA).

Your cooperation in the development of the proposed route is invaluable. We would like to meet with you to get your input and will be contacting you to set up an appointment.

Bicycle Route 66, is not a new facility. It will consist of available roads, established bike trails, and regional rail-trails that create a road network to help the long distance bicyclist travel across the state.

Bicycle tourism is a \$4.6 billion dollar industry. A designated route will allow communities to receive the benefit of touring cyclists who support local restaurants, hotels, campgrounds, bike shops, and other service establishments as they travel. They contribute to the local economy and the tax base through lodging and sales tax without contributing to congestion, or other negative social or environmental impacts.

Once we have proposed a route that is acceptable to the stakeholders, and approved by Oklahoma DOT, they will request a route designation from AASHTO. Once designated, it can be signed. Information on the U.S. Bicycle Route System is available at www.adventurecycling.org/usbrs.

Please contact Bonnie Winslow, (OBC Route 66 Liaison) at bwinslowok@gmail.com or Lary Willis, (ODOT) at lwillis@odot.org or me if you need more information or have questions.

Regards,

Kevin Mussett

**Route 66 Corridor Committee Chair
(405) 880-2568
musktrat911@aol.com**

**Enc: US Bike Route 66 Summary Sheet
Frequently Asked Questions**

Designation of Route 66 in Oklahoma as a US Bike Route

In 1978 the United States Bike Route System (USBRS) was established to promote bike travel by linking urban, suburban, and rural areas. To date routes have been established in Virginia and South Carolina; Kentucky, and Illinois; Michigan; Alaska; and in Maine and New Hampshire. US Bike Routes (USBR) are nominated by the state department of transportation to the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO.) The Association sets standards for highway system development, and is responsible for the numbering of national highways and interstates. In 2008 AASHTO approved a National Corridor Plan for Bicycling Routes that was developed by the Task Force on US Bicycle Routes. Route 66 from Illinois to California is one of the nationally significant corridors in the plan.

Route 66, the mother road, is a popular tourist attraction that brings in visitors from all over the country and the world seeking an authentic, Americana experience. In its heyday, the 2,400 mile long highway linked the urban Midwest to the scenic Southwest and the California coast. Unlike other cross country highways, Route 66 has and will continue to inspire blogs, websites, books, movies, songs, and even television shows romanticizing the adventures and traveling opportunities along the way. Oklahoma is proud to host the most remaining drivable miles, nearly 460 miles. The “father of Route 66”, Cyrus Avery, was a Tulsa citizen and Oklahoma Transportation official. It is only fitting that Oklahoma takes the lead among eight states in establishing Oklahoma’s portion of Route 66 as a US Bike Route.

In spring 2011, Adventure Cycling as a member of the AASHTO’s Task Force on US Bicycle Routes, began working with Oklahoma Bicycling Coalition to map a proposed Route 66 bike route through Oklahoma. As Adventure Cycling’s number one priority, this is part of a larger effort for mapping a bike-friendly Route 66 through all eight states. Based on the proposed route a draft map is being prepared, and will be shared with local jurisdiction/agencies, Route 66 stakeholders, and the biking community for their input.



To complete the application process, the Oklahoma Department of Transportation (ODOT) will require letters or resolutions of support from the various jurisdictions associated with the route. Oklahoma Bicycling Coalition is currently contacting each agency, providing them with a draft route map, and asking for their support. Letters or resolutions will be collected by OBC and forwarded to ODOT. Once there is an acceptable route, and it is approved by ODOT, Oklahoma Department of Transportation will then forward a route designation request to AASHTO.

The State of Oklahoma, local communities and businesses, and Oklahoma cyclists are all stakeholders and have interest in the designation of USBR 66. Items for consideration:

- The designation of US Bike Route 66 will have minimal impact on Oklahoma State's or local municipalities' budget. In fact, riders will add to the governments' coffers through lodging tax, sale taxes, and other taxes such as the transportation tax (airport taxes.)
- US Bike Route 66 will be under the jurisdiction of Oklahoma State, the county, or a local jurisdiction. AASHTO specifically declined in establishing road standards for US Bike Routes, differing to each state's own requirements or engineering judgment. Although signing, route improvements, and bicycling facilities would be preferred, they are not required in order for a route to be designated.
- This is an opportunity for communities and other stakeholders to define the best route through their area and to publicize their services and tourism opportunities. Regardless of Route 66 being designated as a US Bike Route, it will be mapped and included on the Adventure Cycling Route 66 Map. Bicyclists are already riding Route 66, and with a published map, numbers will increase.
- Most bicycle touring occurs in small groups of 1-15 riders. A community may experience 1,000 riders **over the course of a season**, April – October. This differs from an event ride where hundreds descend on a community for lunch, or an overnight stay affecting road travel, restaurant service, etc.
- Services required for touring cyclists are similar to what other travelers need: food, shelter, an occasional bike repair shop, a store for supplies, locatable tourist sites, good maps or signing, a laundromat, or medical facilities along the route. Most touring cyclists travel light and are used to fewer comforts provided in urban settings.
- US Bike Route 66 can complement an already well-established and promoted Route 66 tourism industry. Biking tourists tend to be heritage tourists seeking out authentic experiences such as a Route 66 ride. As the cyclist takes the trip at a much slower pace, this provides ample opportunity to visit local museums, purchase tourist items or locally made handicrafts, resupply, and sample the local fare. Whereas the average motorist may spend an average of 5 - 11 days traversing all of Route 66, a bicycling tourist will spend an average of 7 days just traveling through Oklahoma.



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