**TRAINING THE TEACHERS**

EBBC looks forward to more bicycle education in 2009 - in schools, neighborhood bicycle centers, workplaces and to Spanish-speaking bicyclists

Hundreds of bicyclists have benefitted from the Fall series of Street Skills classes taught by Jason Agar in Oakland, Alameda, Dublin, Walnut Creek, Richmond, San Leandro and Fremont. EBBC will again offer the popular classes next Spring and Summer.

Our vision, however, is broader. Classes were neither available in all 33 cities in the East Bay, nor were the schedules suited for everybody. We are currently seeking additional funding for ongoing Urban Bicycle Safety Classes. By the Fall of 2009 classes could be available each month.

We also intend to offer a variety of education programs to address needs in more communities and age groups. Included in the mix will be family cycling workshops, bike rodeos, neighborhood bicycle centers, how-to-ride-a-bike classes and Spanish language classes. For large employers we hope to take “brown bag” bicycle safety messages directly to the workplace.

Graduates of the League of American Bicyclists’ certification program should find plenty of work if we succeed. All agree that Jason’s infectious enthusiasm and solid content sets a high standard for others to follow.

You can learn more at our November meeting or by clicking “safety” at www.ebbc.org.

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**Next Meeting**

EBBC’s Annual Board Meeting to nominate the Board of Directors and elect officers is open to all members at 7:00 pm immediately prior to the General Membership Meeting beginning at 7:30pm on Tuesday, November 18 at the Rockridge Branch Library, 5366 Manila Ave. Items for discussion on the General Meeting agenda will include plans for the 2009 EBBC Retreat, the 2009 legislative agenda, and a report on the Caldecott Fourth Bore Coalition lawsuit (Oct 31 hearing continued to Nov 5). Don’t miss our special guest speaker, Grey Kolevzon from Cycles of Change.

**EBBC Office**

at 3301 E12th St, Suite 143, Oakland is also located next to the busy Fruitvale Bike Station. This past month we were visited by a bicycle theft victim who “only needed to park for a few hours” and ignored our suggestion to let the free Bike Station guard her bike. See: *Kiss of Death*, p.2.

Holiday suggestion: drop by in person to give a friend an EBBC membership along with a new *West of the Hills* map (or *East of the Hills*, your choice) for only $20 (cash or check only). You may also renew your own membership in person and get the same deal. Sorry, EBBC does not mail maps. On Thursdays, the Farmer’s Market is a bonus attraction in Fruitvale Village.

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**Calling All New EBBC Members!**

November 18, 6:15pm, Rockridge Public Library

Come for the orientation, stay for the pizza!

Maybe you’ve started to wonder “Is anyone working to improve my bike routes?” or “How do I take advantage of shop discounts?” or “What all does EBBC do?”

This will be your live and in-person FAQ session! Plus you’ll be able to munch some goodies while you’re learning and meeting others...

The 1/2 hour orientation will break in time for our annual nomination meeting in the adjacent room.

Plan to come upstairs at 6:15 to enjoy friendship, food and Coalition-education.
Secure Bicycle Parking - Only pennies per hour!
BART dedicates new eLockers at six East Bay stations with more to come

Electronic lockers are for shared use and are available on a first-come, first-served basis. They provide secure bike parking and increased bicycle storage capacity at BART stations. In partnership with various funding agencies, BART recently completed the first phase of installation of its Electronic Bicycle Locker program, which includes approximately 200 lockers at various BART stations in the district.

Electronic lockers at Dublin/Pleasanton (12), North Berkeley (48), Rockridge (32) and San Leandro (20) BART stations were made possible by grants from the Alameda County Transportation Improvement Authority’s Bike/Ped Discretionary Fund and the Alameda County Congestion Management Agency through the cities of Dublin, Berkeley and San Leandro.

Electronic lockers at Ashby (12), Lake Merritt (32), MacArthur (20), Rockridge (32), and West Oakland (6) BART stations were made possible by grants from the Bay Area Air Quality Management District’s Transportation Fund for Clean Air. Twenty (20) more electronic lockers at MacArthur BART Station were made possible by grants from the Metropolitan Transportation Commission’s Safe Routes To Transit program.

- Laura A. Timothy, BART

Bicycle commuters need many more eLockers, and soon! During the opening ceremony on October 29 at MacArthur BART over half of the 32 new eLockers with already occupied. Another 107 bicycles were jammed into the racks outside the fare gates, and 24 bicycles filled the “temporary” racks inside the fare gates. EBBC is also advocating for more parking inside the paid areas and for additional Bike Stations. After three phases thru 2012 there will be 919 eLockers in the East Bay. To view a listing of the seventeen East Bay eLocker locations or acquire a Bike Link card to operate the lockers, visit: www.bikelink.org.

Crowded bike racks at MacArthur BART.

Kiss of Death - At Fruitvale BART we often suggest to bicyclists who are locking their bikes at the racks to consider using the free Fruitvale Bike Station. Twice in recent weeks we have been rebuffed and the bikes were stolen that day! One victim returned to the EBBC office only 4 hours after leaving her bike to report her cable lock was cut. Visit ebbc.org and click “theft” to learn how to lock your bike.

BikeLink cards are now available at EBBC’s office for $20 or you can purchase them online at www.bikelink.org
CYCLES OF CHANGE - The EBBC/Cycles of Change proposal to use Lifeline Transportation Funds to establish Neighborhood Bicycle Centers met unexpected opposition at the Alameda County Congestion Management Agency. AC Transit staff argued that our proposal to provide bikes to the poor was foolish because bicyclists tend to be well-off and that the money should go toward bus transit. We responded that numerous bicyclists are poor (we are everybody--rich and poor--and everywhere). Furthermore, establishing a bicycle recycle program at Oakland’s Day Labor Center would assist workers who need a bicycle to reach worksites not accessible by bus, or who can’t afford to pay bus fare. After a considerable battle, it looks like we will receive the funds. Please join us at the Nov 18 meeting to hear the full account from Grey Kolevzon, the extraordinary co-founder of Cycles of Change.

BERKELEY TRICK OR TREAT - The Downtown Berkeley Bike Station celebrated it’s 9th Anniversary on Halloween with plenty of costumes, plus food and drinks provided by EBBC and Alameda Bicycle, the operator of the BART Bike Stations. The event attracted Well attended public hearings in Alameda County generally abide by this reasonable concern.” It is absurd to argue that adding bike lanes impacts the environment. At EBBC’s urging, the California Bicycle Coalition will work to find a sponsor for a bill to exempt bike lanes from the California Environmental Quality Act in 2009.

BICYCLE COMMUTER ACT - Since 2004 EBBC has pushed for bicyclists to receive similar benefits that are offered to transit users and people who drive to work. It’s been a long time so please excuse us if we were surprised when Congressman Earl Blumenauer of Oregon included a bike commuter benefit provision in HR1424, the $700 billion Wall Street bailout package that was approved by Congress in early October. “We are delighted that the bicycle commuter benefits act has passed after a lengthy and persistent campaign spearheaded by Congressman Blumenauer (D-OR),” said League of American Bicyclists President Andy Clarke. “It’s an equitable and sensible incentive to encourage greater energy independence, improve air quality and health, and even help tackle climate change. Starting in 2009 bicycle commuters may be reimbursed by employers for up to $20 per month for “reasonable” expenses related to their bike commute, including equipment purchases, bike purchases, repairs, and storage if the bicycle is used as a “substantial part” of the commuter's trip to work for the month. The benefit is not available to commuters who claim tax-free benefits for driving or taking transit.

DATABASE TRANSITION - EBBC’s record keeping move to civiCRM will help us handle our growth and better serve you.

Please renew in advance to keep your EBBC membership current

Check your address label

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After the vote from a handlebar perspective

What will President Obama Barak do for bicycling? The most direct answer will come from whoever he appoints as Secretary of Transportation.

The short list of bicycling candidates looks very good! Minnesota Representative James Oberstar is the primary proponent for federal Transportation Enhancements. Since 1991 we have seen $8.5 billion in nonmotorized improvements nationwide. Representative Oberstar chairs the Congressional Transportation and Infrastructure Committee.

Oregon’s Representative, Earl Blumenauer, is another viable choice. As a bicyclist and rail supporter, he is an ideal leader for advancing greater options for a post peak-oil national economy.

Locally, EBBC’s 2-year campaign to help shape the East Bay Regional Park District’s expenditure plan for Measure WW received strong voter support. The $500 million bond will fund 67 projects with $375 million. Included among the projects is our request for augmented funds for the Bay Trail, plus the launch of the East Bay Greenway. We also expect to see links to the parks in southern Alameda County from either side of the hills (i.e., the Mission Pass Bikeway).

Also in Measure WW is $125 million that goes directly to local jurisdictions. In Oakland, EBBC has requested that Neighborhood Bicycle Centers be established in a few existing park recreation centers.

One of the most tremendous local triumphs for bicyclists was the election of Richmond activist Whitney Dotson as a Director in the East Bay Regional Park District.

AC Transit’s Measure VV succeeded and additional tax funds will keep buses on the road. Meanwhile, the Berkeley-only attempt to block Bus Rapid Transits, Measure KK, met a resounding defeat.

In Santa Clara County, Measure B, the BART to San José transportation sales tax failed. In 2005 federal officials recommended denying funding for the BART extension from Fremont. Measure B was intended to make up for this loss. Now the project is in jeopardy. In turn, Alameda County cannot move forward with the costly BART extension to Warm Springs requires that “funds for construction ... may not be used until full funding for the rail connection to Santa Clara County is assured.”

EBBC MEMBERS GET DISCOUNTS AT OVER 40 AFFILIATED SHOPS

- Alameda Bicycle 1522 Park St, Alameda (includes Fruitvale Bike Station)
- Bay Area Bikes 2424 Webster St, Oakland (new owners in 2008)
- Bent Spoke 6124 Telegraph Avenue, Oakland
- Bicycle Garage 4673 Thornton Ave, Fremont
- Bikes 4 Life 1344 Sunset Dr., Antioch
- Cal Bicycles 2053 First St., Livermore
- California Pedaler 495 Hertz Ave, Danville
- Castro Cyclery 20515 Stanton Ave, Castro Valley
- Cycle City 1433 High St., Alameda
- Cycle Sports 3530 Grand Ave, Oakland
- Cycle Path 22510 Foothill Blvd, Hayward
- Cycle Path 337 Main St, Pleasanton
- Danville Bike 115 Hartz Ave, Danville
- Dublin Cyclery 7001 Dublin Blvd, Dublin
- Hank & Frank Bicycles 3377 Mount Diablo Blvd, Lafayette
- Hank & Frank Bicycles 6030 College Ave, Oakland
- B. Spoke Tailor 895-1/2 55th St, Oakland (was Joy Rider clothing)
- Left Coast Cyclery 2928 Domingo Ave, Berkeley
- Livermore Cyclery 7214 San Ramon Blvd, Dublin
- Livermore Cyclery 2752 First St, Livermore
- Manifesto Bicycles 421 40th St, Oakland (new in 2008)
- Mike’s Bikes 2161 University Ave, Berkeley
- Mike’s Bikes 1150 Contra Costa Blvd, Pleasant Hill
- Missing Link 1988 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley
- Montano Velo 4266 Piedmont Ave, Oakland
- The Pedaler 3826 San Pablo Dam Rd., El Sobrante
- Pegasus Bicycle Works 439 Railroad Ave, Danville
- Pioneer Bike Shop, 11 Rio Vista Avenue, Oakland
- Pleasant Hill Cyclery 1100-C Contra Costa Blvd, Pleasant Hill
- Real Bicycles 3506-B Old Santa Rita Rd, Pleasanton
- Robinson Wheelworks 1235 MacArthur Blvd, San Leandro
- San Leandro Cyclery 471 E 14th St, San Leandro
- Schwinn City 814 A St., Antioch
- Sharp Bicycle 969 Moraga Rd., Lafayette
- Solano Avenue Cyclery 1554 Solano Ave, Albany
- Stone’s Cyclery 2320 Santa Clara Ave, Alameda
- Tip Top Bike Shop 4800-A Telegraph Avenue, Oakland
- Velo Sport 1615 University Ave, Berkeley
- Wheels of Justice Cyclery 2024 Mountain Blvd, Oakland
- wheelgirl 1714 Fourth Street, Store C, Berkeley
- Witts Bicycle Shop 22125 Mission Blvd, Hayward
- wrenchscience 1022 Murray St, Berkeley (new in 2008)

Present your valid EBBC membership card (clip mailing label on back cover) to obtain member discount at participating retailers. The mailing label must indicate that the membership is “Current” to qualify. Discount varies 5-25% on parts, bikes, and/or accessories depending on level of participation by retailer. Visit http://www.ebbc.org for further details.
Caltrans adopts revised policy to strengthen language for the routine accommodation of bicyclists and pedestrians in all State projects

Deputy Directive 64 signed following Governor's signing of Complete Streets (AB 1358) legislation

Bicycle advocates throughout California have long pushed for better policies that acknowledge bicyclists from our State Department of Transportation. Now, on the heels of the adoption of Complete Streets bill, we have a new policy that can further the States' goal to reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions.

The 2001 version of DD-64 contained a number of “weasel words.” For example, where the original policy read, “fully considers the needs,” the revised policy states, “provides for the needs of travelers of all ages and abilities.”

State guidelines only directly apply to State Highways. In the East Bay we have many State Highways that are regularly traveled or crossed by bicyclists (San Pablo, International, Doolittle, SR 84). Of course, having strong state guidelines that accommodate bicyclists helps to encourage local jurisdictions to adopt similar policies.

Text of the new State policy follows: The California Department of Transportation (Department) provides for the needs of travelers of all ages and abilities in all planning, programming, design, construction, operations, and maintenance activities and products on the State highway system. The Department views all transportation improvements as opportunities to improve safety, access, and mobility for all travelers in California and recognizes bicycle, pedestrian, and transit modes as integral elements of the transportation system.

The Department develops integrated multimodal projects in balance with community goals, plans and values. Addressing the safety and mobility needs of bicyclists, pedestrians, and transit users in all projects, regardless of funding, is implicit in these objectives. Bicycle, pedestrian, and transit travel is facilitated by creating “complete streets” beginning early in system planning and continuing through project delivery and maintenance and operations. Developing a network of “complete streets” requires collaboration among all Department functional units and stakeholders to establish effective partnerships.

DEFINITIONS/BACKGROUND

Complete Street - A transportation facility that is planned, designed, operated, and maintained to provide safe mobility for all users, including bicyclists, pedestrians, transit riders, and motorists appropriate to the function and context of the facility.

The intent of this directive is to ensure that travelers of all ages and abilities can move safely and efficiently along and across a network of “complete streets.”

State and federal laws require the Department and local agencies to promote and facilitate increased bicycling and walking. California Vehicle Code (CVC) Sections 21200-21212, and Streets and Highways Code (Sections 890-894.2) identify the rights of bicyclists and pedestrians and establish legislative intent that people of all ages using all types of mobility devices are able to travel on all State facilities (CVC, section 21960). Therefore, the Department and local agencies have the duty to provide for the safety and mobility needs of all who have legal access to...
GENERAL MEETING - 7:30pm

Draft for Approval

Board members present: Board members present: Dave Campbell, Dave Favello, Tom Ayres, Rick Rickard, Leo Dubose, Mary Norton, Ole Ohlson, Bill Pinkham, Steve Ardrey

Also present: Robert Raburn, Ian Mac-Donald, Ricardo Pedevilla, and several others

Minutes of the September Board and General Meetings: APPROVED

Upcoming events:

Oct 25: Valet bike parking volunteers are needed for Dia de los Muertos at the Oakland Museum.

Oct 29: BART celebrates its electronic locker program at MacArthur BART station at 10 a.m.

Oct. 31: The lawsuit, Caldecott Tunnel Fourth Bore Coalition VS California Department of Transportation, is on calendar for a 9 a.m. hearing in Alameda County Superior Court.

Oct. 31: There will be a celebration at the Berkeley Bikestation, 4-6 pm - as posted at the website.

Nov. 6: BCDC will hold a hearing at 1 pm in the Ferry Building (upstairs) on proposals for bicycle access on the Richmond – San Rafael Bridge; Caltrans is expected to oppose this, as before. [POSTPONED to December or January at the request of bicycle advocates and MTC]

Bike to Work Day 2009 - EBBC has been handling BTWD in Alameda County since 1994 when we inaugurated the modern version of the event. Motion to approve the contract for EBBC to run BTWD in Alameda County in 2009: APPROVED.

In 2008, we also contracted to run the event in Contra Costa County, because 511ContraCosta backed out. Now 511CC intends to participate again. Details of how BTWD will be organized in Contra Costa County are still being worked out, and should be reported at the next meeting.

Lifetime Transportation Grants in Alameda County - Two bicycle-related applications have gotten positive reviews – one by Cycles of Change (with EBBC as fiscal sponsor) for neighborhood bike centers in communities of concern. However, funds are limited, and ATC is seeking increased funding for their needs. Motion for EBBC to reaffirm support of the two bicycle-related proposals: APPROVED.

EBBC map marketing and shop outreach - West of the Hills maps have been delivered. Derek Liecty continues to take the lead on working with the bike shops for carrying our maps. Robert would like funds for display materials that could be offered to the bike shops for our maps. Motion for up to $250 to try this approach: APPROVED.

Treasurer’s Report: Rick Rickard presents a chart of new members per event in 2008, and a table of BTWD expenses in 2008. EBBC currently has approximately 1750 members.

Bike safety classes - Dave Campbell reports that the 10/22 Street Skills class stations, and one by Cycles of Change (with EBBC as fiscal sponsor) for neighborhood bike centers in communities of concern. However, funds are limited, and ATC is seeking increased funding for their needs. Motion for EBBC to reaffirm support of the two bicycle-related proposals: APPROVED.

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Bike safety classes - Dave Campbell reports that the 10/22 Street Skills class

in Oakland is full, and that upcoming classes are getting good advance registrations. People can sign up on-line.

Cycles of Change, TALC, and EBBC met recently to discuss needs for bike safety classes. A grant application for ACTIA is being developed, and will be presented to the November EBBC meeting.

Short announcements

Robert hopes the transition to the new membership database will be completed by November 20. EBBC hired Hal Keenan to correct errors in the data before the transition.

The Nominating Committee for the EBBC 2009 Board is still working on nominations, to be announced at the November 18 Board meeting.

Roundtable discussion of election issues - The meeting ended with a discussion of the high speed rail proposition and Measure WW (funds for East Bay parks EBBC campaigned for during the past 2 years).

Respectfully submitted by Tom Ayres,
EBBC Secretary

A favorable election dividend

EBBC Executive Director Robert Raburn chats with incoming State Senator Loni Hancock during the Berkeley “Big People” dedication on the Berkeley Bike/Ped Bridge.
CONTACT EBBC
510 533-RIDE (7433)
www.ebbc.org

Executive Director ........ Robert Raburn
510-533-7433 rraburn@ebbc.org
Fruitvale Village, 3301 E 12th St, #143
MAIL: PO Box 1736, Oakland 94604

EBBC OFFICERS & BOARDMEMBERS
Chair Dave Campbell ........ Berkeley
510-701-5971 dcampbel@mai.net
Vice Chair “BikeDave” Favello  Walnut Creek
925-939-9462 davevelo@mac.com
Secretary Tom Ayres ........ Kensington
510-528-4941 davevelo@mac.com
Treasurer Rick Rickard ........ Oakland
510-482-5968 rrick1@mindspring.com
Leo Dubois .................. Oakland
Craig Hagelin ................. Walnut Creek
Eric McCaughrin ............ Berkeley
Mary Norton ................... Oakland
Bruce “Ole” Ohlson .......... Pittsburg
Bill Pinkham ................. Richmond
Steve Ardyre .................. Concord

EBBC VOLUNTEERS
Hazard Elimination Reports  Ian MacDonald
510-832-6300 ian@roxymcdonald.com
Membership Coordinator Mary Norton
510-655-9945 nortonbryant@sbcglobal.net
EBBC Map Distribution Derek Liecty
510-339-2345 spoker@sbcglobal.net
Web  Eric McCaughrin  webmaster@ebbc.org

AFFILIATED RIDE CLUBS
Berkeley Bicycle Club  www.berkeleybik.com
Bicycle Trails Council of the East Bay
510-466-5123 www.bteastbay.org
Cherry City Cyclists Steve Yoder
510-357-3045 http://www.cherrycitycyclists.org
Delta Pedalers Dave Stoeffler 925-634-1793 http://www.deltapedal.org
Diablo Cyclists  http://www.diablocyclists.com
Different Spokes Derek Liecty 510-339-2345
Fremont Freewheelers Jeff Girard
510-414-0114 http://freemontfreewheelers.org
Grizzly Peak Cyclists Al Forkosh 510-655-4211
http://www.grizzlypeackyclist.org
Hikanbyke Niels Poulsen 510-375-1521
http://www.hikanbyke.org
Oakland Yellowjackets
http://www.oaklandyellowjackets.org
Velo Raptors (Montclair)
Ron Scrivani  scrivanir@aol.com
Santa Rosa Cycling Club
Bill Oetinger src@metro.net
Strada Sempre Duro Rick De Gette 925-944-7049
Valley Spokesmen Jim Kohnen 925-828-3623
http://www.valleyspokesmen.org

AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS
Albany Strollers & Rollers 510-525-4814
Nick Pilch nick@ mindspring.com
Bay Area Bicycle Coalitions  www.bayareabik.org
Andrew Casteel, ED andrew@bayareabik.org
Bay Trail Project http://www.abag.ca.gov
Laura Thompson, Exec Dir 510-464-7935
BikeAlameda  http://www.bikealameda.org
Lucy Gligi 510-595-4690
Bicycle-Friendly Berkeley Coalition (BFBC)
510-549-RIDE www.bfbc.org

COALITION PARTNERS
CA Association of Bicycling Organizations http://www.cabobike.org/index.htm
California Bicycle Coalition (CBC)  www.cabike.org
K.C. Butler, Exec Dir 916-446-7558
Cycles of Change www.cyclesofchange.org
Greenbelt Alliance www.greenbelt.org
Cristina Wong cwong@greenbelt.org
STownBike Advocates (Pleasanton)
James Van Dyke 925-462-0706
Transform http://www.transcoalition.org
Stuart Cohen, Exec Dir 925-740-3150
Urban Ecology  www.urbaneology.org
Don Nevirith don@urbaneology.org
Walk Oakland Bike Oakland (WOBO)
www.walkoaklandbikeoakland.org
Waterfront Action  www.waterfrontaction.org

COMMUNITY REPS & ADVOCATES
CoCoCo Reps:
Dave Favello (Chair) davevelo@mac.com
Craig Hagelin chagelin@astound.net
Alameda Co Reps:
Mike Jones mkjcal@hotmail.com
Eric McCaughrin meric@ebbc.org
Fremont Michael Graff 510-713-7441
Michael.graff@pobox.com
Lamorinda 925-299-1522
Bart Carr Bart_Carr@yahoo.com
Livermore Amador Valley, Trails Council TCLA
www.tclav.org
Dick Anderson 925 372-5889
Bart Carr bart_carr@yahoo.com
Livermore Amador Valley, Trails Council TCLA
www.tclav.org
Martinez Dick Anderson 925 372-5889
Pittsburg Bruce “Ole” Ohlson 925-439-5848
jvdleftcoaster@yahoo.com
West CoCoCo Bill Pinkham, pinkhammer@hotmail.com

-Grassroots “Spokespeople” Wanted-

EAST BAY BICYCLE COALITION annual membership form
Keep current! Send your tax-deductible donation to EBBC, PO Box 1736, Oakland, CA 94604
EBBC’s accounting methods assure that your early payment will extend your membership by a year.

Name
Address
City, State, Zip
Phone/Fax
E-mail Address (EBBC guards your privacy)
Workplace/City

☐ Commuter  ☐ Utility  ☐ Recreation  ☐ Touring  ☐ Transit User  ☐ Other bicycling interests?

Membership Type
☒ Sustaining ($25)
☒ Household ($40)
☒ Half-century ($50)
☒ Century ($100)
☒ Introductory ($12)
☒ Living Lightly ($6)
☒ Endow ($_____)

☐ New
☐ Renewal

☐ Never share my name with others
☐ Only share with EBBC affiliates
Fourth Bore Coalition Court Report

A ruling on the Caldecott Tunnel Fourth Bore Coalition (FBC) VS California Department of Transportation is pending. Judge Frank Roesch has 60 days to rule.

Attorneys for the 6 plaintiffs, including EBBC, began presenting arguments on October 31, 2008 in Alameda County Superior Court. The lengthy proceedings continued on November 5, 2008.

In the opening brief Antonio Rossman stated, “We are trying to reshape this project to work for the citizens.”

The FBC contests the project for failing to meet California Environmental Quality Act requirements that alternatives be considered and the project impacts adequately examined.

Only two alternatives were considered: a two-lane highway and a three-lane highway. Bicycle and transit enhancements were left out.

Significant traffic impacts from adding travel lanes will occur at five exit ramps in Alameda County. The added traffic will further degrade the unsafe conditions for bicyclists along Telegraph Ave, at Broadway and Keith Ave, and next to Rockridge BART at College and Miles Avenue. The Tunnel-Skyline Regional Bikeway is at risk.

Other impacts include added noise, growth, greenhouse gas emissions, and a host of construction impacts.

You can read the background materials and follow all the decisions by visiting Alameda Courts website: http://apps.alameda.courts.ca.gov/domainweb/html/index.html and entering the Case Number: RG07355832

Fourth Bore Coalition Lawsuit Please Contribute

Your contributions to the Fourth Bore Coalition (FBC) lawsuit are needed to pay attorneys and cover the costs of copying and indexing 34,000 pages of the record we had ready for the October 31 court date! (See: rideOn, July 2008)

The members of the FBC are the North Hills Phoenix Association, Parkwoods Community Association, Rockridge Community Planning Council, Claremont-Elmwood Neighborhood Association, FROG Park, and the East Bay Bicycle Coalition.

The financial strength of FBC, coupled with our proven legal representatives--Stuart Flashman and Antonio Rossmann--will enable us to prevail in court. Your tax-deductible contribution to support the lawsuit can be sent to EBBC, PO Box 1736, Oakland 94604 with FBC marked in the memo line of your check.