

## ***BikeWalk Virginia News***

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## **BikeWalk Virginia Applauds Governor's Executive Order**

Richmond, VA, June 13, 2008 – BikeWalk Virginia, a statewide non-motorized transportation and recreation advocacy organization, applauds Governor Timothy Kaine's June 11, 2008, Executive Order Number 69 establishing a Commonwealth of Virginia Sub-Cabinet on Community Investment. The purpose of the Sub-Committee is to advise users of the existing state discretionary funds and ensure that investment decisions promote economically and environmentally sustainable communities.

"The Executive Order draws attention to the need to better link land use with transportation and to conserve open space," said Dr. Kimberly Perry, BikeWalk Executive Director. "Since much of our program work involves promoting biking and walking and ensuring access to recreational trails, we are pleased to be able to reinforce the Governor's work."

In addition to statewide activity, BikeWalk Virginia's local chapter program works in Virginia communities to advocate for local government policies and tools that educate and protect users of sustainable, non-motorized alternatives to automobiles for transportation and recreation. The Executive Order specifically directs the use of funds toward investments that "Make alternatives to automobile travel – such as rail, transit, teleworking, walking, and bicycling – available and attractive, and provide intermodal connections."

"In addition to being economically and environmentally desirable," continued Dr. Perry, "community investment in intermodal connections promotes health through physical activity. Use of alternatives to the automobile definitely require Virginia's citizens to walk a few to many more steps a day. Optionally, they may elect to use their bicycles more for errands and to commute to work. We see more individuals and organizations concerned about obesity and chronic health conditions becoming members of BikeWalk to participate with us in making communities more walkable and bikeable."

Read more about the Governor's Executive Order on Sustainable Community Investment at <http://www.governor.virginia.gov/Initiatives/ExecutiveOrders/index.cfm>.

***BikeWalk Virginia*** was founded as a 501(c)(3) organization in 2000 to educate and advocate for bicycle and pedestrian safety and access. In 2004, the Virginia Trails Association merged with BikeWalk and the organization's mission was broadened to include on and off road riders, hikers, kayakers, canoeists, and equestrians. ***BikeWalk Virginia members and chapters*** help communities embrace alternatives to motor-vehicle use for transportation and recreation.

Chapters have formed in Williamsburg, Alexandria, Roanoke, and Norfolk as well as in the New River Valley, Northern Neck, and Middle Peninsula regions.

**BikeWalk Virginia** is funded through grants, memberships, and a portion of the proceeds from [nationally recognized Bike Virginia rides](#) and recreational events. To follow national, state, and local issues affecting non-motorized transportation and to work with BikeWalk Virginia to improve recreation and transportation options for Virginians and visitors to Virginians, visit [www.bikewalkvirginia.org](http://www.bikewalkvirginia.org) to become an individual or business member.

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Digital photos are available upon request. Contact Sara Lewis, Communications Director, BikeWalk Virginia, 804-261-0507 or [slewis@bikewalkvirginia.org](mailto:slewis@bikewalkvirginia.org). See other [recent BikeWalk Virginia press releases](#) online.