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Boston Bicycle REFLECTOR

Issue #1
FREE
Autumn
'07

Mayoral Feat



Mayoral feet at Press Conference 9/07

Good news: Mayor Menino announced that Boston will be The Biking City. We have a Bike Czar once again. At first, one might be struck with skepticism; the title czar does imply an unreachable, supreme ruler who never glances an Oakley'd eye from upside-down-looking City Hall to notice flailing cyclists. Please decide to go with the sliver of optimism behind this defeatism. I take the mayor's claims very seriously. Despite a history of broken promises and red tape extremism, it seems that we may be on the road to a czar-bolstered uprising.

Our czar, Nicole Freedman, said she is interested in hearing from Boston cyclists. That is an old idea refreshed, and it is far more fertile if you actually take advantage of that offer and talk.

City Hall claims to be looking for input from us as well as engineers and city planners from other cities. That is a move in a great direction, but don't think that your sigh of relief can end there. We as Boston cyclists should not leave these important improvements to "them" – check out examples of viable and successful, tried and true solutions to unsafe streets: try Bogota, Copenhagen, Berkeley. Learn what it could be like to bike and live in your city, talk a lot, and then do something.

This is too critical a time for us to be isolated and apathetic. More cyclists means more waving hello. More healthy riders in the street are a real way to defeat the ignorance and antagonism that become a threat to our lives in traffic.

I hope you like our first booklet and pass it around. Check out our website: www.bostonreflector.com and write comments, suggestions. Offer to contribute!

THANKS- Jasmine

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BBR is dedicated to the memory Kirsten Malone: incidentally the most energetic and encouraging friend I've ever known.

US Secretary of Transportation denies bike paths & trails are
"transportation related": Newshour, 8/15/07, pbs.org