

Mary Frances Dunham
545 West 111th Street, #5B
New York, NY 10025

maryfrancesdunham@yahoo.com
212-749-3832

MEMO

To: Paul S. White (T.A. Exec. Dir.), John Kaehny (ex officio), Charlie Komanoff (ex officio), and other past and present members of the Board of Directors of T.A., and all other NYC pro-bikers.

Subject: a written history of the progress of bicycling in New York City.

I propose that it is time that we have a written history of the pro-cycling movement in New York while its progress has reached considerable success. My view of the movement over some fort years to date suggests that we have come a long way and that the story could inspire other such movements as well as the specifically cyclists' one.

An illustrated book (or booklet/pamphlet) could trace the history through especially the growth of T.A., but also could include the input from many other sources. The meeting venues could be traced from Charlie McCorkel's shop in the early seventies through the subsequent venues. The concerns have changed over the years from early struggles simply to gain access to the subway, bridges, etc., to the creation of lanes and greenways and to improved support from city agencies. The history is full of impressive leadership, volunteer work, and significant pro-bike successes.

I have myself a small archive of photos, address cards, books, and articles mostly from the 1980s and 1990s. Newspaper and magazine articles can be researched through the public library. I imagine that T.A. has saved back issues of "City Cyclist". We already have book publications such as the "Bicycle Blueprint" to refer to. The meetings of the bicycle community with the DOT during the early ISTEAs may be on record. Past and present bicycle community leaders could be interviewed. And there are many other sources to tap.

The project could be a team effort. What do you think?

Expectantly, MfD