

THE NEED FOR BICYCLE TRANSPORTATION



Efficient transportation remains a critical factor to the economic and social prosperity of any Nation. It is in this regard that articulating an all inclusive, people oriented and sustainable modes of transportation becomes imperative.

The desire to respond to the ever increasing transportation and traffic bottlenecks in Nigerian cities and the need to rise up to the challenges of increasing cost of transportation to families, environmental pollution, and health problems resulting from lack of exercise informs the need to include Bicycle transportation as part of existing modes of movement. In addition, an efficient and planned bicycle transportation system will have positive impact on national vehicle usage and by implication, Road Traffic Crashes and even National fuel consumption.



The Federal Road Safety Corps Establishment Act 2007 empowers the Corps to undertake research into Causes of Road Traffic Crashes and ways of preventing them and putting into use the results of such research, a result of one of such research indicated that a reduction in number of urban motor vehicle usage will lead to reduction in road crashes and by implication attendant deaths, injuries and other damages.

The world over, there is an ongoing global drive to drift from motorised modes of transportation to non motorised means of movement especially in urban centres. More importantly, introducing planned bicycle transportation system in Nigerian cities conform to Nigeria's Vision 2020 on Road Traffic Crashes which seeks to place Nigeria among the first 20 nations in the global safest roads ranking from its present 91st position, a study conducted by the Corps indicated that virtually all the 20 nations presently in the global safest roads ranking have successful, planned bicycle transportation.

It is therefore a wakeup Call to all Nigerians to partner with FRSC and the National Stakeholders Forum on Bicycle Transportation set up for this all important purpose in our collective quest to get Nigerians riding in pleasure along our streets and roads without concern of being trapped in traffic, fuelling and getting places to park their cars or even worry about wasting time and money to get to the gym as they will be exercising daily while making their trip.

ACTIVITIES

VELO-CITY Global Cycling Conference in Vancouver Canada, 24th to 29th June, 2012;

The National Stakeholders Forum on Bicycle Transportation participated in the VELO-CITY Global Cycling Research and Planning Conference in Vancouver Canada. This gave members opportunity to learn best practices in bicycle transportation as obtainable in other Nations across the world. Highlight of the conference includes;



1. The presentation of a key note address and a research paper During the conference by the Corps Marshal and Chief Executive of FRSC
2. Members of the forum understudied cycling facilities in the city of Vancouver and also participated in the technical cycling tour



3. Members of the forum witnessed the signing of the "**Charter of Vancouver on Children and Cycling**" the Charter calls on the United Nation General Assemble to see the right of children to cycle as a fundamental human right based on the UN convention on the right of the child which is in force since 2nd September, 1990 and UNICEF's mission to advocate for the protection of children's rights, to help meet their basic needs and to expand their opportunities to reach their full potentials. It also call on all Governmental, Intergovernmental and non-Governmental organisations;
 - a) To adopt a goal to improve the situation of children around the world in part through sustainable transport policies and strategies;

- b) To include cycling as part of all sustainable transport policies and strategies;
- c) To adopt a target of providing opportunities to cycle for all people around the world;
- d) To promote active mobility for people of all ages and abilities and to improve the safety and accessibility of roads and public spaces, especially for children;
- e) To develop and promote programs that encourage walking and cycling to school;
- f) To develop and provide cycling skills training to all children at an early age; and
- g) To cooperate closely with cycling advocacy and promotion organizations and other citizens' organizations to encourage more children to cycle more often

National Stakeholders Forum 3rd Meeting 20th June 2012



3rd Meeting of the Forum held at FRSC headquarters conference room Zone 3 Wuse, Abuja. 16 of the 25 members attended the meeting

Highlights include;

- ❖ Report of the ad-hoc committee to obtain relevant documents including the Abuja transport master plan from Ministry of the Federal Capital Territory and Safety Engineering Department of FRQSC was presented. the ad-hoc committee noted that while cycle parts were included in the Abuja road master plan, they were not considered at the point of construction, as the visit of the committee to selected roads within the city showed. however, the

committee recommended approval for a more comprehensive study of the roads to be able to arrive at concrete recommendations for the FCTA.

- ❖ a draft of the National Cycling Policy and Strategy was presented by the Secretary as directed from last meeting. Members took turn to discourse vital issues in the draft. Several decisions were reached, further resolutions are expected in future meetings.

National Stakeholders Forum 2nd Meeting 15th February, 2012



The second meeting of the forum held at Bolten White Apartments, Zone 1 Wuse, Abuja, 22 of the 25 members of the forum attended the meeting. Highlights of resolutions include among others;

- ❖ that Government should pilot the initial scheme but let it graduate into private public partnership in the process of time, this will enhance greater and faster impact. The state Governments and FCT administration will create the enabling laws and provide needed infrastructure/furniture.
- ❖ that the FGN should provide the National Policy & strategy framework and legislations that require national outlook. the secretariat was directed to prepare a draft for discursion in the coming meeting.

Fourth Australian Cycling Conference, Adelaide South Australia, 15th-17th January, 2012

Owing to the detailed data on cycling from an African perspective, the Federal Road Safety Corps alongside the Forum was invited to present a paper during the Fourth

Australian Cycling Conference which held in Adelaide South Australia. the paper was presented on the 17th.



Roundtable session

Two staff of the Corps who are also members of the forum attended the conference. the various experiences and lessons learned from the conference is impacting greatly on the ongoing planning process of cycling in Nigeria. the conference focused on cycling infrastructure designs, planning, mapping and getting government authorities committed to implementing it through advocacy

Presentation of a paper at the International Engineering Conference, Calaba 4th to 9th December, 2011



In a bid to improve partnership for the promotion of Cycling in Nigeria, the FRSC presented a paper on the viability of Cycling in Nigeria in the International Engineering Conference an annual conference of the Nigerian Society of Engineers, held at Calaba, Cross River State from 4th to 9th December, 2011. the presentation generated great interest among the delegates who showed willingness to cycle if and only if there are cycling parts and facilities. this position was stated in the conference communiqué even as the NSE showed interest in partnering with the Forum, they subsequently became a member of the forum.

Inauguration of the National Stakeholders Forum on Bicycle Transportation 17th October, 2011



Arising from the proposal that led to the commencement of activities towards bicycle transportation in Nigeria to which the Corps Marshal and Chief Executive of FRSC directed a follow through, all important stake holders in the project as identified by the proposal were constituted into a National Stakeholders Forum on Bicycle Transportation. The forum was inaugurated on the 17th October, 2011 at the conference hall of Gubabi Royal Hotel, Zone 5 Wuse, Abuja. details of membership and terms of reference are contained in the segment on National Stakeholders

Study conducted on the state of urban transportation in Nigeria with particular reference to bicycle transportation, 17th to 24th May, 2011

A survey was carried out by the FRSC Technical Committee on Cycling to ascertain the present state of bicycle usage in Nigeria, why the decline and what can be done to generate public interest in cycling. the weeklong survey commenced on the 17th to 24th May, 2011. Nine state capitals and Abuja were selected for the study, the state Capitals includes; Lagos, Ibadan, Port Harcourt, Owerri, Enugu, Yola, Gombe, Kano and Sokoto. The amazing outcome of the research showed amongst others that 62% of Nigerians are willing to ride Bicycle if Necessary infrastructure and enabling Laws are in place, and 62% of reasons for many not riding bicycles even though they had at one time or the other used it bothered on attitude. details of the report is available in the forum's secretariat at the FRSC HQ, Abuja.

Inauguration of an FRSC take off Technical Committee, 9th March, 2011

To kick start the process leading to bicycle transportation in Nigeria, and in line with the initial proposals recommendation, a 7 member FRSC Technical Committee on Cycling was set up and inaugurated on the 9th March, 2011. their assignment was to articulate all issues in preparedness for the inauguration of the National stakeholders Forum and to conduct a study on the state of urban transportation with particular reference to bicycle usage in Nigeria. the members includes;

1. AA Omidiji (Deputy Corps Marshal- Head Policy Research & Stat.) - Chairman
2. GE Lawal (Assistant Corps Commander- Safety Engineering Dept) - member
3. A Iliyasu (Chief Route Commander Policy Research and Stat. Dept) - member
4. JM Dajangla (Chief Route Commander - Corps Public Educ. Office) - Member
5. CS Luka (Chief Route Commander- Operations Department) - Member
6. GU Aluku (Chief Route Commander-Motor vehicle Admi. Dept) - Member
7. ES John (Assistant Route Commander- Corps Marshals' Office)- Secretary

NATIONAL STAKEHOLDERS

The National Stakeholders Forum on Bicycle Transportation was inaugurated by the Corps Marshal and Chief Executive of Federal Road Safety Corps as part of the Corps's drive to engage all stakeholders towards from the planning process to the implementation of Bicycle transportation in Nigeria. The FRSC Establishment Act 2007 empowers the Corp to Collaborate with Bodies, agencies, groups and persons towards the reduction of Road traffic Crash in Nigeria,



Terms of Reference

The Forum was inaugurated on the 17th of October, 2011 with the following terms of reference;

- Shall serve as the think - tank for articulating relevant issues that will culminate in the production of national bicycle policy and strategy.
- Shall serve as linkage between the Corps and their respective organization on bicycle transportation and related issues.
- Shall complement the efforts of FRSC in the propagation of the message of bicycle transportation in Nigeria
- Shall recommend to appropriate authority such issues as may be deemed necessary to the implementation of this transportation initiative.
- Shall meet periodically until the launch of bicycle transportation in Nigeria.
- Shall perform any other function as may be communicated from the appropriate authority from time to time.

List of Stakeholders

1. Representatives of the Government of Rivers
2. Representatives of the Government of Lagos,
3. Representatives of the Government of Enugu
4. Representatives of the Government of Kano
5. Representatives of the Government of Adamawa
6. Representatives of the Government of Kaduna
7. Representative of Federal Ministry of Transport

8. Representative of Federal Ministry of works
9. Representative of Federal Ministry of FCT
10. Representative of Federal Ministry of Environment
11. Representative of Federal Ministry of Urban Development
12. Representative of Federal Ministry of Information
13. The Nigerian Police Force
14. The Bicycle Federation of Nigeria (BFN)
15. The Trustee, lifestyle bicycle club Port-Harcourt
16. Federal Roads Maintenance Agency (FERMA)
17. National planning Commission
18. National Environmental Standards Regulation and Enforcement Agency (NESREA)
19. Automotive Council of Nigeria (ACN)
20. Standards Organization of Nigeria (SON)
21. Energy Commission of Nigeria (ECN)
22. National Institute of Transport Technology, Zaria (NITT)
23. Head of a Secondary school (rep of the school system)
24. National Orientation Agency (NOA)
25. Nigerian Society of Engineers (NSE)
26. Institute of Town planners of Nigeria
27. Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC) to Serve as Secretariat

Note;

1. *Appropriate Authority indicates the Presidency, the Federal Ministry of Transport and Federal Road Safety Corps*
2. *The highlighted areas are yet to be represented in the forum*