

Taking Powered Two- and Three-Wheeled Vehicles into Consideration

Imre F. Szauter

Government Affairs Manager

American Motorcyclist
Association

iszauter@ama-cycle.org

614-856-1900 x1125



Agenda

- Introduction to AMA
- Definition of a Motorcycle
- Sample of Engineering Issues
- Local, State, Federal and International Level Activities
- References

Introduction to AMA

- Founded in 1924, AMA has about 300,000 members nationwide.
- Over 21,100 members in Ohio.
- Government Relations Department focuses on protecting on- and off-highway motorcyclists' rights and representing their interests at the local, state, federal, and international levels.

Definition of a Motorcycle

- Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS)

Motorcycle means a motor vehicle with motive power having a seat or saddle for the use of the rider and designed to travel on not more than three wheels in contact with the ground.

Definition of a Motorcycle

- Ohio Revised Code (ORC 4511 & 4513)
“Motorcycle” means every motor vehicle, other than a tractor, having a seat or saddle for the use of the operator and designed to travel on not more than three wheels in contact with the ground, including, but not limited to, motor vehicles known as “motor-driven cycle,” “motor scooter,” or “motorcycle” without regard to weight or brake horsepower.

Sample of Engineering Issues

- Cable barriers
- Construction zones
- Crack sealer
- Gravel shoulders
- Materials used for snow and ice removal
- Painted and plasticized pavement markings

Sample of Engineering Issues

- Promoting motorcycle awareness
- Steel plates used as utility trench covers in construction areas
- Supplemental awareness signage
- Traffic-actuated signals
- Use of motorcycle warning signs

Sample of Engineering Issues



Local Level Activities

- Direct contact with village, township, municipality, and county DOTs or departments of engineering when roadway engineering or maintenance issues arise.
- Example
 - Location of excess sand/gravel used in winter roadway treatment operations.

State Level Activities

- Fostering relationships with ODOT, ODPS, OSHP, Motorcycle Ohio (rider training program) and the motorcycling community to address engineering, education, and enforcement issues.
- Examples
 - 2006 roundtable at ODPS headquarters
 - 2008 list of engineering concerns to ODOT

Federal Level Activities

- Motorcyclist Advisory Council to the Federal Highway Administration (**MAC-FHWA**), coordinates and advises the Secretary of the Department of Transportation, acting through the Administrator of the Federal Highway Administration, on infrastructure issues of concern to motorcyclists, including: (1) Barrier design; (2) Road design, construction, and maintenance practices; and (3) The architecture and implementation of Intelligent Transportation System technologies.

Federal Level Activities

- The MAC-FHWA provides a forum for the development, consideration, and communication of information from a knowledgeable and independent perspective.
- Authorized by section 1914 of SAFETEA-LU
- Edward Moreland, AMA vice president for government relations, is a member.
- <http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/mac>

International Level Activities

- Working with Federation of European Motorcyclists' Associations (FEMA), Federation Internationale de Motocyclisme (FIM) and Motorcycle Riders Foundation (MRF) on roadway safety issues.
- Example
 - International Transport Forum of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, June 10-11 workshop in Lillehammer, Norway.

References

- National Agenda for Motorcycle Safety

<http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/people/injury/pedbimot/motorcycle/00-NHT-212-motorcycle/toc.html>

- Roadway Safety for Motorcycles: *Tips for Designing, Constructing, and Maintaining Roadways for Increased Motorcycle Safety*

http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/mac/mac_road_safety/mac_road_safety.pdf