

Comments to "Are We The Right Ones for the Job?"

I found it difficult to give scores for the Discover tour and the annual dinner. They are designed to be fundraisers and differ very much from the other items.

Bike to Work Day and Discover Hartford seem more like an "encouragement" activities than advocacy or education.

I think we should have a CT Bike/Walk Summit and I think that, perhaps in year one and, maybe two, we should see if we can coerce Eric Weis' New England Bike Walk Summit to Hartford. We should be a hub for bicycle education throughout the state and we should be the source of materials and ideas for helping local groups and shops implement Bike to Work Day in their town.

As the only statewide bike/walk group, it falls to us to take leadership roles on important issues (statewide and national advocacy) and to lead efforts to educate others both in the policy and planning aspects related to bike/walk (e.g. the summit) and physical aspects of safe cycling (e.g. TS 101 and children's classes). The tour and the dinner are important fundraisers and incorporate fun into what we do. The only program or event that raises an issue for me is the Tour. I think it's important to continue it and if we don't and don't benefit from the funds raised, we lose visibility with the casual cycling public and funding that goes along with it. I would be in favor on exploring spinning it off to a separate organization like what was done with the Mayor's Charity Ball.

Comments to "Is it Effective?"

State and local advocacy and bike education have the potential to engage people across the state, but we aren't doing that yet.

Not all of the questions are appropriate for each program. Looking at the matrix, advocacy is in the top left (low sustainability) but that doesn't mean we shouldn't do it. Advocacy should all be 5 - not sure we are there on collaborative yet. We have greatly benefited from our connection with LAB and keeping federal money flowing is absolutely essential to our mission. Both the Tour and dinner rate high on sustainability but lower on mission impact - again doesn't mean we should abandon one or both.

Although we say we are a statewide organization, a lot of our work still seems very Hartford-focused. People outside greater Hartford are not going to get behind us because we run the Discover Hartford Tour, and they're generally not interested in participating in it.

Comments to "Is it feasible?"

I don't think this survey is a very effective way to tackle these issues. Thoughtful conversation, with data to help inform the discussion, is needed

BWCT cannot continue to exist if it doesn't do advocacy

It seems like the activities that are most lucrative for us, and most labor-intensive, are the least related to our mission. We might get more traction (members, donors, funders, press) if we put more time into activities that are directly related to the advocacy and education aspects of our mission?

Not sure how to answer severable in this context.

Not sure how numbers relate to severability - we can exit all if we had to but if we exit advocacy, there would be no reason for org to exist. Ditto for summit and bike ed. As to capacity, we have expertise resident in staff, board members and volunteers. Additional staff time is required for robust bike ed program and probably to lead summit and bike to work efforts, the last two supported by board member and volunteers. A board member can be LAB summit state coordinator and Bike Walk CT rep at the summit. Dinner and auction can be mostly run by board and volunteers.