

## **2005 Iowa Bicycle Summit**

More than 60 bicyclists and bicycle facility planners met in downtown Des Moines April 9 for the 2005 Iowa Bicycle Summit. The summit, sponsored by the Iowa Department of Transportation, Iowa Bicycle Coalition and Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation, was a day-long conference focusing on bicycle advocacy, trails development, bicycle clubs, and national programs and trends.

Speakers included members of the Iowa Bicycle Coalition, bicycle club representatives, and trail and facility planners. The topics expanded past the Iowa borders with presentations from Caryn Giarratano from the Missouri DOT talking about bicycle facilities and Anthony Yoder from the League of American Bicyclists who shared information on bicycle-friendly communities. The lunch speaker, Colleen Chapleau, a cancer survivor who rode the eight-day Tour of Hope ride with Lance Armstrong, kept the crowd captivated.

The meeting, held at the Holiday Inn Downtown at Mercy Campus, concluded with a bicycle ride around Des Moines on the Neal Smith Trail.

*While visiting with other advocacy organizations across the country, they are all amazed by the relationship we have with the Iowa DOT. Most advocates that have this relationship have worked many years to develop a positive relationship. In Iowa, it's because our Iowa DOT is comprised of passionate and dedicated individuals who care about bicycling.*

*From: **Mark Wyatt**, Iowa Bicycle Coalition*

*I would like to extend our congratulations on a job well done with the 2005 Iowa Bicycle Summit. The Summit was well-organized, presented relevant information and drew a wide range of participants from various groups.*

*From: **Jim Lane**, Chair of the Central Iowa Bicycle Pedestrian Roundtable, Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization*