

WINDBUSTERS

June 2023



Pictured above: The new southward extension of Yukon road. It has a nice shoulder, low traffic on weekends, smooth pavement and a low speed limit. It can be accessed off of 1788 at CR100 or by going west at the airport traffic signal. There will be an underpass at 191 eventually that will allow riders to continue northward on Yukon.



Important Dates

June 4 First Sunday Lawn Concert Ride

June 19 PBBA meeting

July 15-16 Cactus & Crude MS RIDE

September 16-17 Fort Davis Cyclefest



June 4th
MIDLANDAIRES
 @ 7:00PM

June 11th
SMALL TOWN
 @ 7:00PM

June 18th
SARAH JOHNSON
 @ 7:00PM

June 25th
**THE WEST TEXAS CHAPTER
 OF THE GOSPEL
 WORKSHOP OF AMERICA**
 @ 7:00PM

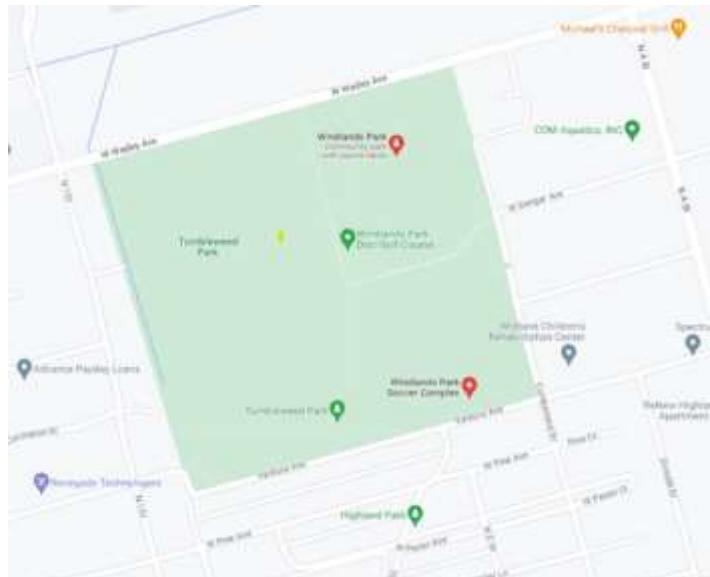
July 9th
TALL CITY BAND
 @ 7:00PM

July 16th
UNSWEET T'S
 @ 7:00PM

July 23rd
DIRTY GLASS
 @ 7:00PM

July 30th
THE CROAKIN' TOADS
 @ 7:00PM

Summer is upon us, so meet the PBBA and friends for the Museum of the Southwest Lawn Concert Rides! Ride off at 6:15 from Windlands Park (1000 W Dengar Ave). All ages are welcome, but helmets and lights are required. This is an easy group cruise through old Midland riding back on your own or with the group after the concert is over around 8:30ish. For more info call Tom Elliott at [432-638-2600](tel:432-638-2600). Hope to see you there!





The Burleson Honey Tour was held on May 27, 2023, in Burleson, Texas. The Burleson Chamber of Commerce, along with other sponsors, hosted the event for cyclists of all levels. Riders chose from courses of 7, 20, 30, 46, and 67 miles through Johnson County, Texas.

The family friendly Burleson Honey Tour was a great event for cyclists and the spouses, grandparents, and kids that support their cyclists. The cycling event is part of the City of Burleson's Memorial Day observance. The Parks and Recreation Department held the four-day BTX Honey Tour Carnival in Old Town Burleson. The festival featured live music, carnival rides, vendors, arts & crafts, entertainment, food, and fun. The city of Burleson certainly went all out for Memorial Day, making the cycling event fun for riders and their families.

Cyclists assembled at Burleson Centennial High School for the early morning ride-off. Many American flags were on display at the starting area as we honored our Veterans. It was quite moving to see all the cyclists with their hands over their hearts as the National Anthem played. The 67-mile and 46-mile routes started at 8:00 am, followed by the second wave of cyclists. The courses were well planned, marked with signs & spray paint, and supported with rest stops approximately 10 miles apart. The county roads led the cyclists through the towns of Alvarado and Grandview and smaller towns like Egan and Briar Oaks.

Prior to the ride, I reviewed the 67-mile course with a total elevation change of 1,748', beginning at 725' and ending at 879'. I am relatively new to cycling, so this would be my longest ride to date. After a bit of training around Midland, taking on the hills around Kerrville, and fighting the wind in Sweetwater, I decided that I was up to the challenge.

I arrived in time to stretch and warm up a bit, unlike another recent ride that I started "cold" with a Cliff Bar hanging out of my mouth. At the mass start, I hung back and let the faster riders take off at an impressive pace. I hoped to average around 16 miles per hour for the 67-mile ride, but in reality, I my goal was to enjoy the ride. This was not a chip-timed race, so I had time to take in the scenery and take full advantage of the rest stops.



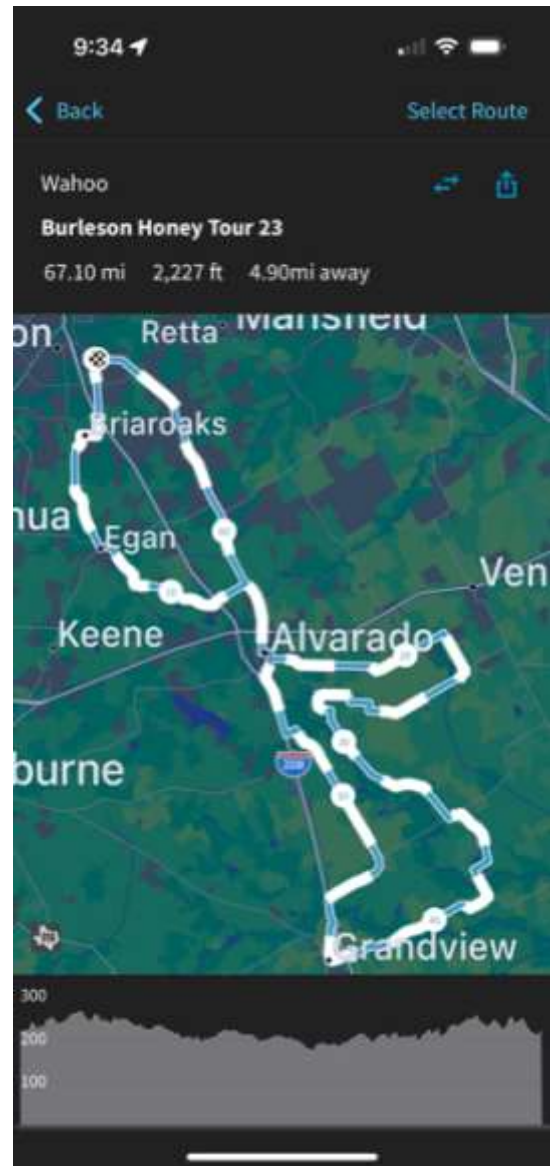
By Kyle Farmer

Johnson County is beautiful this time of year. Green trees, wildflowers, pastures, ranchettes, and picturesque farmhouses made for a nice ride in the country. I really appreciated the cornfields and wheat fields. The course was easier than the hills I experienced when riding the Marfa 100K or the Easter Hill Country Tour. I was riding on some sort of gradient on most of the course, but the hills were not difficult.

The course was not difficult, but on some segments the roads were rough! Cyclists really had to keep their eyes on the road to avoid potholes, aging repairs, and bumpy patches. Many potholes were marked with orange spray paint, which was helpful. I am sure that it took hours to mark the course. I really appreciated the effort to make the course safe.

I finished the ride with an average speed of 14.9 miles per hour, a little slower than I hoped. I could blame the rough roads, the bike, extra stops to take pictures, or the wind, but I won't. I need to harden up!

The 2023 Burleson Honey Tour and BTX Honey Tour Carnival was a great event for cyclists, their families, and support groups. I plan to ride again in 2024 and recommend that any cyclist make the trip next year. If you see me at a PBBA ride in my purple and white Burleson Honey Tour 2023 jersey, be sure to ask me about the event.



The Trail Warrior Project hosted a 6 day bikepacking trip from Coahoma to Fredericksburg on April 29th. The trip was a rare bikepacking route as it is hard to find routes in Texas due to private property. Ruben Holguin came up with the route and pre-rode it to verify for us.

The route primarily followed county roads with some pavement mixed in. The first day was a short 27 miles from Coahoma to Colorado City State Park. The second day we had about 64 miles of hot riding before we made it to Oak Creek Lake to find a camping spot and a few locals to hang out with at the lake. The third day was about 40ish miles to Ballinger at the City Park, which was super nice. We stopped at a local bistro on the way to camp for a huge burger and ice cream. The next day we started getting into hill country heading to Brady on a 75 mile day, which got hot and we ran low on water. We were so happy to get to the hotel to clean up and relax and have some pizza and adult beverages. After a few days on the trail, you really NEED a bath and to wash your clothes! The last night on the trail was at the Dos Rios campground on the Llano river. We pretty well had the entire place to ourselves and the campsite overlooked the river. We headed straight for the water and took a dip, which felt wonderful! We hung out at the campsite and enjoyed watching the stars and chatting out the last night of the trip. It is always hard to believe a long trip like that goes by so fast. The last day was definitely the roughest as we made our way toward Fredericksburg. We had some super steep and punchy hills to deal with after leaving Doss, where we ate the best hamburger ever! Luckily, we dodged an afternoon thunderstorm on the way and got to Fredericksburg just in time to head to the local bike shop and hang out before heading to our hotel room.

It was an amazing trip, especially for Texas. We are working on some more trips that are Texas based and will have them up on our routes section of our website. Join us on a trip as everyone is welcome!

-Odis Franklin




Wednesday Night worlds Podium for the spring series

A Group

- 1st  Fidel Ruvalcabe
- 2nd  Eric Burkhart
- 3rd  Justin Willoughby

B group

- 1st  Von Doria
- 2nd  Ricky Guadarrama
- 3rd  Ivan Dominguez

Team standing after first series

- 1st  with 10 points
- 2nd  with 8 Points
- 3rd  with 7 points
- 4th  with 5 points

May 3

Trek of Midland

Wednesday Night worlds

- 1.  Fidel Ruvalcaba
- 2.  Eric Burkhart
- 3.  Carlos Traslócheres

Trek of Midland

Wednesday Night worlds

- 1.  Matt Rodriguez
- 2.  Ricky Guadarrama
- 3.  Jerry Hill

May 10

Trek of Midland

Wednesday Night worlds

- 1.  Shawn Harris
- 2.  John Cornejo
- 3.  Oscar Salazar

Trek of Midland

Wednesday Night worlds

- 1.  Ivan Dominguez
- 2.  Ricky Guadarrama
- 3.  Jerry Hill

May 24

Trek of Midland

Wednesday Night worlds

- 1.  Oscar Salazar
- 2.  Calvin Layman
- 3.  Whakin Traslócheres

Trek of Midland

Wednesday Night worlds

- 1.  Ivan Dominguez
- 2.  Mike McEnaney
- 3.  Von Doria



The following unworn **ladies jerseys** are available on a first come, first serve basis. These items have been in storage and are now available:

- 1 large short sleeve white
- 1 large, 1 medium short sleeve lime
- 1 large, 2 medium short sleeve orange
- 2 medium long sleeve lime

The jerseys are \$20 . Text Kathy at 432-638-7038 to purchase.

New PBBA jerseys are in the design phase and members will be alerted when it is possible to place an order.



June PBBA Meeting

Who: All PBBA members

What: In person meeting

When: Monday, June 19 at 7 p.m.

Where: Mission Fitness, Classroom A,B
8050 Highway 191 Frontage, Odessa



Bike MS: Cactus & Crude Ride is coming up! The wheels are moving fast – so get registered.

The National MS Society is working towards a world free of MS. When you ride with us, you help us fund groundbreaking research and provide life-changing services to help people with MS live their best lives.

Register today, and let's work towards curing MS for every single person as fast as possible.



**Have you joined or renewed your membership for
2023?**

Go to www.pbbatx.com/join or hit the “Join PBBA” button from anywhere on the website



Wednesday May 17, 2023



Threatening weather conditions resulted in an abbreviated Ride of Silence. Many riders attended to show their respect for riders that have lost their lives or have been injured participating in the sport we love. Thank you to John Floyd for leading the ride. John Kerrigan secured the permit and escort. Texas King provided the PA system and Sarah Kate Epperson was there to SAG if it had been needed. WTGO mowed the ghost bike sites in preparation for the ride. We will continue to mourn lost cyclists and work toward education of drivers and cyclists.



Weekly Gravel Rides

6:30 PM Monday & Wednesday

Location: CactusJaX Cycle WorX
 Coahoma, Tx

Everyone welcome!
 Bring your family!

Starts Monday March 13



432-394-4137 for more info



M&M Ride

Mission Fitness

8050 Highway 191 Frontage, Odessa

Ride off: 6:15 pm Mondays

All paces

One out and back is 12 miles



Wednesday Greentree Ride

Depart from the Trek Store

Ride off: 6:15 pm Wednesdays

All paces

Riders determine their distance according to the number of loops in Greentree and Fasken

Miners MTB out of El Paso, TX competed in the 2nd edition of “Peyotazo”. A MTB race that is held out in Camargo, Chih, MX on May 7, 2023.

Team members that competed were: Amed Gomez (15th place), Paco Torres (7th place), Joe Lopez (12th place), Wuiliam Lopez (10th place) and Hermul Bojorquez (8th place)—in their distinctive categories.

Miners MTB will be competing in different races in the state of Chihuahua throughout the summer and fall.

If you are interested in any details of upcoming races and/or would like to join the team, please feel free to contact us via Instagram @miners.mtb



The Prelude to the Wildcatter Meeting

Note: This information is copied from the May 2023 edition of the Permian Basin Metropolitan Planning Organization. This information is included to inform readers as to the process and events that led up to the public Wildcatter meeting.

Additional information about the corridor can be found on the MPO's website at www.permianbasinmpo.com

On Monday March 20, 2023, the Metropolitan Planning Organization shared its recent award for Planning Excellence received earlier that month from the Texas Recreation and Parks Society. The award was given to the MPO for its recently completed work on the Wildcatters Trail, a bicycle and pedestrian corridor connecting the cities of Midland and Odessa.

The trail would generally run east to west and parallel to SH 191 from the Scharbauer Sports Complex to the UTPB Midland Campus, it then would turn southward and parallel to FM 1788 to north of Business 20 where it would turn west toward the main UTPB campus. The entire trail length is approximately 19 miles.

In January 2023 the cities of Midland and Odessa both applied for TxDOT grants funds to begin construction on the westernmost and easternmost portions of the trail. UTPB also applied for grant funds to tie onto the western portion of the trail and to serve the university's campus. All three applications have received preliminary approval to submit detailed documents which would lead to the start of construction.

The Wildcatter Trail planning work has been ongoing under the MPO's guidance since 2018 with the award-winning work completed by the MPO's consulting firm, Dunaway Associates in the summer of 2022.

Both Midland Mayor Lori Blong and UTPB President Dr. Sandra Woodley were present at the Policy Board meeting to comment on the work effort and the importance of the trail in the communities. Mayor Blong stated “As co-chair of the Wildcatter Trail Committee, I am thankful for the opportunity to work with other leaders to advance this good project. The Wildcatter Trail initiative has been a great example of collaboration and partnership between the communities of Midland and Odessa, as well as with our regional MPO and UTPB. We are all so proud of the trail design, the award, and the continued work toward funding and completion of the

Wildcatter Trail. This award marks a great milestone of accomplishment and brings us closer to the reality of a family-friendly trail of connectivity between Midland and Odessa.”

Dr. Woodley also commented “I am so proud of the collective efforts of so many to move this dream forward. This project is an important economic development initiative. These kinds of amenities will help us retain the best and brightest in our community and workforce and can improve the quality of all of our lives. The University is all in.”



PERMIAN BASIN WILDCATTERS TRAIL

A MULTIMODAL CORRIDOR



**THURSDAY
MAY 4**

FROM 6-8:30 PM

BUSH CONVENTION CENTER

105 N. Main Street



Clif Coleman, Landy Adkins and Fidel Rubalcava represented the cycling community at the Wildcatter public meeting. To view more pictures of the meeting please visit the Friends of the Permian Basin Bicycle Association Facebook page post on May 5.

WILDCATTER TRAIL by Kathy Hester

Will the 19-mile, paved, multimodal trail between Midland/Odessa become a reality in the near future? Shake your Magic 8 Ball as you may have as a child. I think if you shook it the following answers would come up:

Most likely

Outlook good

Signs point to yes

As you noticed, none of those answers are a definitive “yes, it is certain, without a doubt ” that could appear on the Magic 8 ball.

On May 4, the Wildcatter Committee hosted a public meeting to inform the public about the status of the trail, hear concerns from cyclists and runners and answer questions. Those of us that have lived in the Permian Basin since the eighties have heard discussions about a trail project connecting the two cities; therefore, we entered with a certain amount of skepticism. I must confess that I came away optimistic.

I counted 57 runners and cyclists in the crowd that I knew; therefore, the true number exceeded that amount. There were many other interested parties and city officials in the audience.

The meeting began with a video featuring Fidel Rubalcava who was hit while cycling on the 191 access road near Cinergy. Fidel endured 17 surgeries, months of hospitalization and a long rehabilitation process. Next, Fidel spoke of his experience and emphasized the need for the trail to keep cyclists away from vehicles. Despite his accident, Fidel still encourages his two sons to be involved in the sport of cycling.

Clif Coleman, PBBA vice president, spoke next encouraging city leaders to live up to the name of the trail by “being a wildcatter, take a risk for an uncertain future.” Clif emphasized the need for families to have activities in our community.

Landy Adkins, owner of Broken Spoke Bicycle Repair, has been in Midland 22 years. Landy referenced a recent Bloomberg article which labeled Midland as the city that doesn’t want to invest in itself. Landy is an avid runner and cyclist and emphasized that quality of life matters. Landy reviewed attempts to educate the public with media campaigns through radio and television over the years. The reality of more traffic and more cyclists has resulted in several tragedies. Cyclists mourn the loss of many riders including Dr. Brandey Ackerman on a clear day, on a straight road being hit by an inattentive driver.

Input from the audience at that point included concerns that a rider hesitates to pull his child in a bicycle trailer due to the risk. Another person mentioned that there are some bike lanes, but keeping the lanes swept is a problem. Riders sometimes avoid the lanes to avoid the debris and glass which result in flat tires.

Cameron Walker, Executive Director of the Permian Basin Metropolitan Planning Organization, explained the process of Midland and Odessa presenting details to TXDOT. Final details are to be submitted by June 5. At that point the Wildcatter competes with other projects in communities throughout the state for funding. Eighty percent of the funding should come from the federal level. The remaining funding will come from the cities of Midland and Odessa, UTPB for phases on their property, private and corporate donations.

Tim Hair, Regional Executive Director of Dunaway, explained the planning phase of the trail that his company was hired to develop. Initially, there were nine routes proposed and scored. In 2020, a survey asked to help determine features and the final preferred route.

Cameron Walker, Tim Hair, Lori Blong (Midland Mayor), Javier Joven (Odessa Mayor), Jack Ladd (Midland City Council) and Mark Mata (Odessa City Council) were on stage as a panel to answer questions.

Some points from this discussion include:

It will be in phases

June 5th deadline to apply for grants

This is like the transcontinental railroad—start in each city and meet in the middle

“we will get this done” Jack Ladd

“How do you eat an elephant? One bite at a time. This trail is an elephant.” Lori Blong

What objections could there be to the trail? Expense, right of way, pipeline and lease road concerns, Fencing of dangerous equipment, lighting

Projected timeline:

Ten phases, 6-7 year time frame as grants become available in 2 year cycles.

October 1 we will know if initial funds approved, TxDOT then schedules and the project is let to bidders.

Estimate 2025 start—break ground in 2 years for the start of something great

What can we do?

Organizations write letters of support, submit to Cameron Walker

Attend city council meetings and county commissioners meetings, call representatives

Update from the May 23, 2023 Midland City Council Meeting

2023-072 – RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION TO THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION’S 2023 TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES SET-ASIDE PROGRAM FOR THE PROPOSED WILDCATTER TRAIL PROJECT; SUPPORTING THE FUNDING OF THE DEVELOPMENT, IMPLEMENTATION, CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE, MANAGEMENT AND FINANCING OF SAID PROJECT; AND AUTHORIZING THE INTERIM CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PROJECT IF THE PROJECT IS SELECTED FOR FUNDING (DISTRICT 4) (COMMUNITY SERVICES)

Jack Ladd moved to approve Resolution No. 2023-072; seconded by John Norman. The motion passed by the following vote:

AYE: Stretcher Burkes, Corrales, Poole, Blong, Dufford, Ladd, Norman NAY: None ABSTAIN: None ABSENT: None



PBBA 2023 Officers and Chairpersons

President: Eric Burkhart

Vice President: Clif Coleman

Secretary: Isaac Navarrete

Treasurer: Kye King/ Brent Hoke

Mountain Bike Director: Stephen Mitchell

Committees and Chairpersons:

Tour Committee

Chairperson: Sarah Kate Epperson

Members: Angie Kayastha

Race Committee

Chairperson: Oscar Salazar

Members: Martin Vega

Publicity Committee

Chairperson: Kathy Hester (Newsletter), Tyler Putnam (Webmaster), Texas King

Mountain Bike Committee

Chairperson: Stephen Mitchell

Odessa MTB Park: Jack Henry, Erik Urquidi

Midland Trails: Jeff Ledford, Justin Thompson

Cyclefest Committee

Chairperson: Bob Haskell

Members: Kathy Hester, Eric Burkhart, Ron Appling, Javier Morales