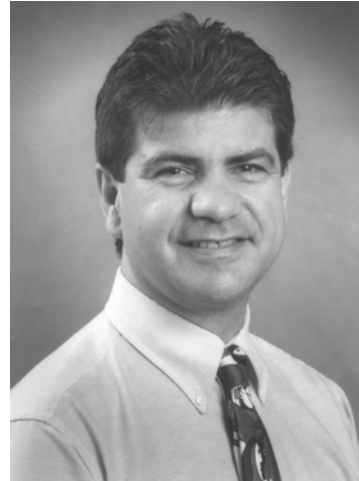


Michael Ronkin

Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator, Oregon Dept. Of Transportation

Michael Ronkin was born in France and lived in Geneva, Switzerland until early adulthood, where bicycling and walking were his main modes of transportation. He moved to the United States in 1973 and now resides in Corvallis, Oregon, the most bicycle friendly city in the state.

Mr. Ronkin has been employed with the Oregon Department of Transportation since 1984, when he was hired as a Transportation Engineering Specialist. He worked in construction for five years, which enabled him to learn the basics of highway design and road building. In 1989, Michael became the Oregon DOT's "Bikeway Specialist" and was promoted to Bicycle and Pedestrian Program Manager in 1993. As such, he reviews project plans for compatibility with cyclist and pedestrian needs, created design standards for cyclists and pedestrians regarding sidewalks, driveways, intersections, etc., is a member of the Oregon Highway Design Manual "Core Team," and was the primary writer of the Oregon State Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. This Plan is a model for the nation. It lays out a strategy to make all the cities of Oregon better places to walk and bike, with the great emphasis on proper design standards.



Mr. Ronkin has also worked at the national level. His achievements include:

- Helping develop the 1998 AASHTO Guide for the Development on Bicycle Facilities.
- Authoring the "Main Street Handbook" which is a tool to help guide state Departments of Transportations and local interests when a highway runs through town.
- Chairing the NCHRP panel. This was formed to oversee the creation of the AASHTO Guide for the Design of Pedestrian Facilities.
- Participating on the TRB Panel on Pedestrians that guides the national research agenda on pedestrian issues.
- Assisting the Minnesota DOT and Caltrans adopt policies, procedures, and standards for better accommodation of cyclists and pedestrians.

On top of his duties at Oregon DOT and his various other activities, Mr. Ronkin has been offering Bicycle and Pedestrian Design Courses around the U.S. since 1994 in over 25 locations in 12 states. In 1998, Michael was co-presenter at a Bicycle Planning and Design Workshop conducted by NOACA in Cleveland, where he earned high praise from the workshop participants as a highly knowledgeable and enjoyable speaker.