



West Windsor Township

Public Presentation

on the

Conover Road Bikeway

Presented by the

Department of Community Development

August 10, 2016

Proposed Conover Road Bikeway

- West Windsor Township passed Resolution 2010-R175 adopting a “complete streets” policy which commits to creating safe access for all users by designing and operating a comprehensive, integrated, connected multi-modal network of transportation options.
- Area residents have requested safe pedestrian access along Conover Road.
- Proposed dedicated off road pedestrian and bicycle pathway.
- 8 foot wide bikeway constructed of porous asphalt.
- Provides interconnection between previously constructed South Post Road Bikeway and Edinburg Road bike lanes.
- Provides safe route for Caspersen Rowing Center and high school student athletes along with area residents. Conover Road is also utilized for the Twp. Bikefest and the NJ State Triathlon.
- Bikeway located within Township right-of-way.
- Area around s-curve presents potential landscaping impacts and driveway modifications. Preferred alternate route along sanitary sewer easement and County lands eliminates impacts to residential frontages.

Proposed Conover Road Bikeway Aerial Map

Google Maps

<https://www.google.com/maps/@40.2738103,-74.6259975,1589m/data=!3m1!1e3>



Imagery ©2016 Google, Map data ©2016 Google 500 ft

Conover Road existing conditions

Photo of Conover Road located adjacent to Conover Playing Fields. Future expansion of Conover Playing Fields include additional recreational facilities and bathrooms. Proposed bikeway located within Twp. ROW adjacent to farm field.



Conover Road existing conditions

Photo of Conover Road located adjacent to Ginnie Lane. Proposed bikeway located within Twp. ROW adjacent to farm field.



Conover Road existing conditions

Photo of Conover Road located adjacent to Ginnie Lane. Proposed bikeway located within Twp. ROW along wooded area.



Conover Road existing conditions

Photo of Conover Road located near 79 Conover Road. Proposed bikeway located within Twp. ROW adjacent to wooded area.



Potential landscaping impacts and driveway modifications

Proposed bikeway could be located within the Twp. ROW. Picture located at driveways for 102 and 106 Conover Road.

Conover Rd - Google Maps

<https://www.google.com/maps/@40.2727446,-74.6219875,75.2134118861701data=!5m3!1e1!5m3!1s2e2X1aP0r1s1d1e3H1U301A12e075L341286666>



Google

Image capture: Aug 2011 © 2010 Google

Preferred alignment along sanitary sewer easement



Existing sanitary sewer easement

Photo of sewer easement located adjacent to 92 Conover Road. Preferred bikeway alignment could be located within easement.



Existing sanitary sewer easement

Photo of sewer easement located adjacent to 92 Conover Road. Preferred bikeway alignment could be located within easement.



Mercer County Park - farm field

Preferred bikeway alignment could be located within a County farmland easement along the edge of the wooded area.



Mercer County Park - farm field

Preferred bikeway alignment could be located within a County farmland easement along the edge of the wooded area. Looking towards northeast corner of County farmland closest to Conover Road.



Proposed Bikeway

Preferred bikeway alignment could be located within the existing clearing between County farm field and Conover Road.



Proposed Bikeway

Preferred bikeway alignment could be located within the existing clearing between County farm field and Conover Road.



Terminus of Proposed Bikeway

Conover Road at the intersection with Galston Drive.



Proposed Route Extension on Existing Roads

- Proposed bikeway will end at the intersection of Conover Road and Galston Drive
- Pedestrians would utilize existing concrete sidewalks along Conover Road or Galston Drive
- Bicyclists would share the road along Conover Road or Galston Drive and proper signage would be installed



W11-1 / W16-1
Share the Road with Bicyclists assembly

Sign images from the Manual of Traffic Signs

Existing South Post Road Bikeway - west end of project

- Dedicated off road pedestrian and bikeway.
- Completed in Fall, 2011.
- Received NJDOT Bikeway Grant.
- Memorandum of Understanding executed with County.
- Provides safe route for Caspersen Rowing Center and high school student athletes along with area residents.
- Connects New Village Road bike lanes to Mercer County Park - Lake area.

Existing South Post Road Bikeway - west end of project

South Post Road near Garnet Lane adjacent to Mercer Oaks Golf Course



Existing South Post Road Bikeway - west end of project

South Post Rd & Conover Rd intersection adjacent to Mercer Oaks Golf Course



Existing Edinburg Road Bike Lanes - east end of project

- Dedicated on road bike lanes.
- Completed in Fall, 2014.
- Funded through WWT Capital Program.
- Connects New Village Road bike lanes to Mercer County Park East entrance.

Existing Edinburg Road Bike Lanes - east end of project

Conover Road and Edinburg Road intersection.



Existing Edinburg Road Bike Lanes - east end of project

East entrance to Mercer County Park along Edinburg Road.



West Windsor Township Approved Master Plan: Section V - Circulation Element

- Adopted June 26, 2002.
- Updated and revised August 2010.
- “Goal B. – Encourage alternate circulation modes & networks to increase opportunities for recreational bicycling and walking.”
 - “Policy 1. – Provide and interconnect pedestrian and bicycle pathways throughout the Township with particular emphasis on interconnections between recreational uses and schools.”
- “Goal C. – Create a pedestrian & bikeway system which improves bicyclist and pedestrian safety.”
 - “Policy 8. – Coordinate with neighboring communities, the County, and the Greater Mercer TMA to provide linkages to create a regional bicycle / trail network.”

Principles of Bicycle / Pedestrian Facility Design

- Bicycle circulation system should be achieved utilizing utility ROW and possibly parallel easements along Greenbelt, consistent with the Open Space & Recreation Plan and Greenbelt Plan.
- For two-directional bicycle pathways, a paved width of 8-12 feet is necessary per NJDOT standards.
- Mercer County Park has an extensive bike pathway system. The Township Bikeway Plan identifies pathway to connect to County system.
- Mercer County Park has approximately 11.2 miles of naturalized trails and a sizeable amount of paved pathways.
- West Windsor Township currently has:
 - Approximately 17.2 miles of on-street bike lanes
 - Approximately 4.1 miles of paved shared pathways
 - Approximately 4.5 miles of naturalized trails
 - Approximately 98 miles of sidewalk located on both sides of the road
 - Approximately 29.6 miles of sidewalk located on one side of the road

Figure 4 of Master Plan Circulation Element Bikeway and Multiuse Trail Facility Map

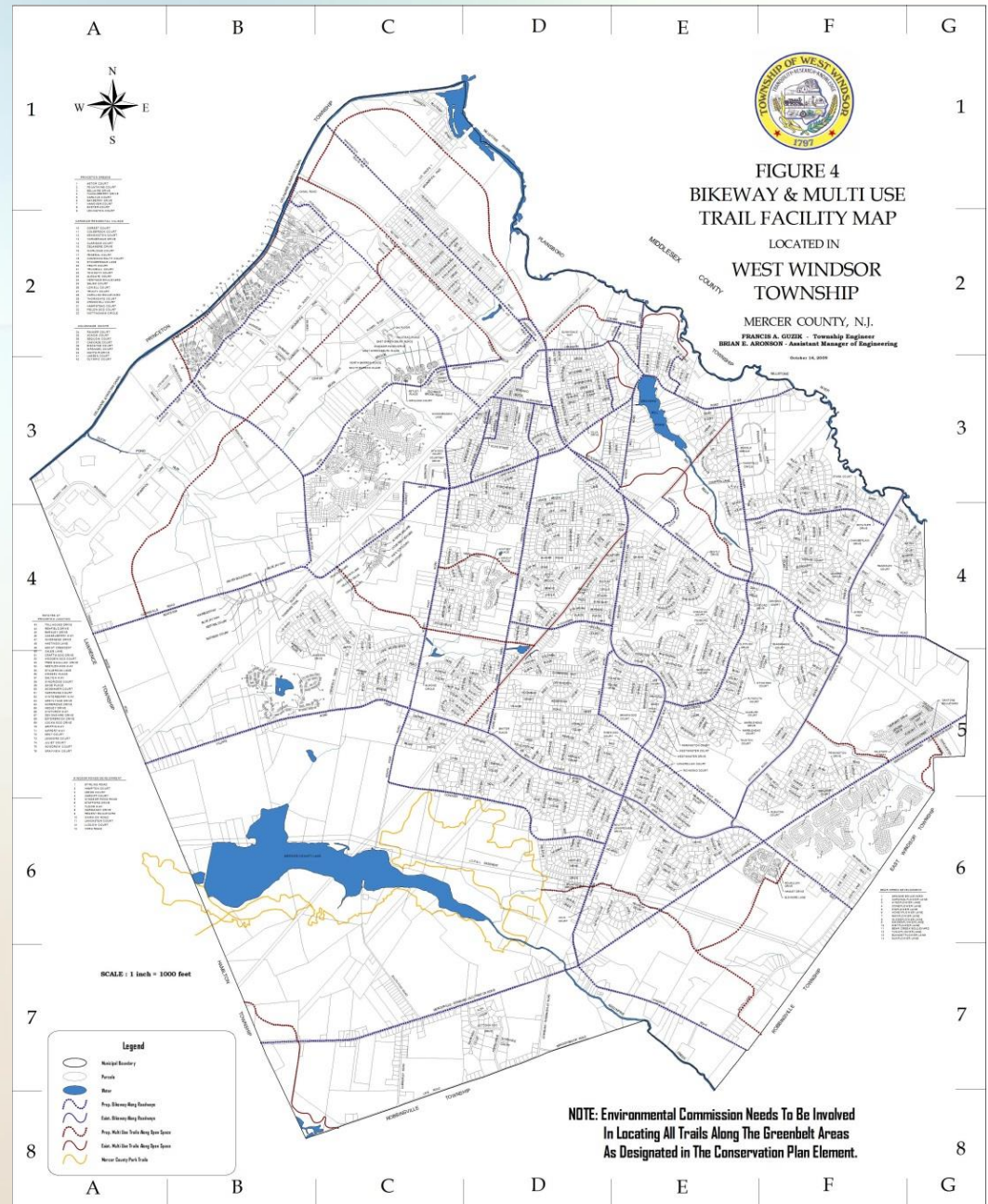
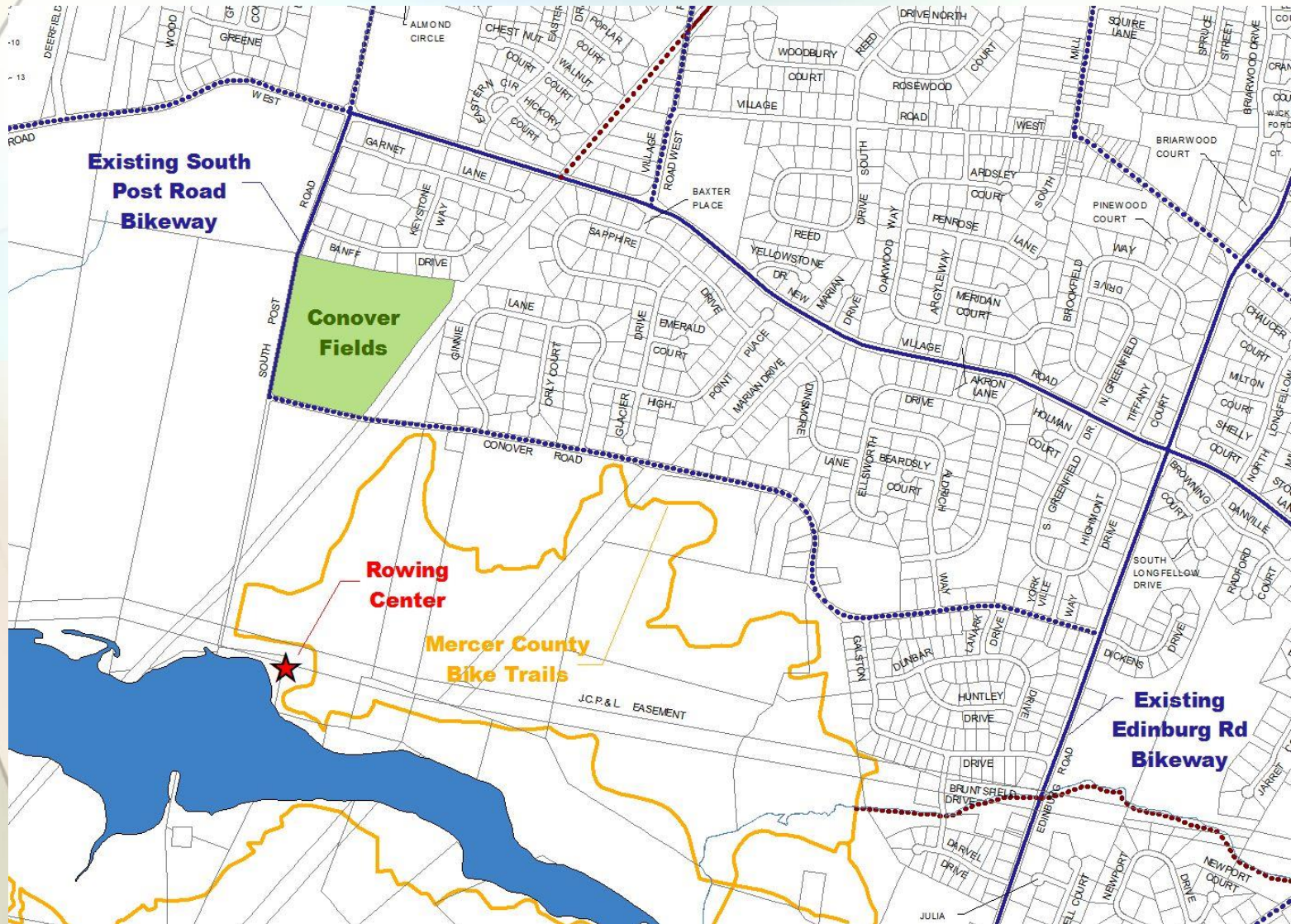
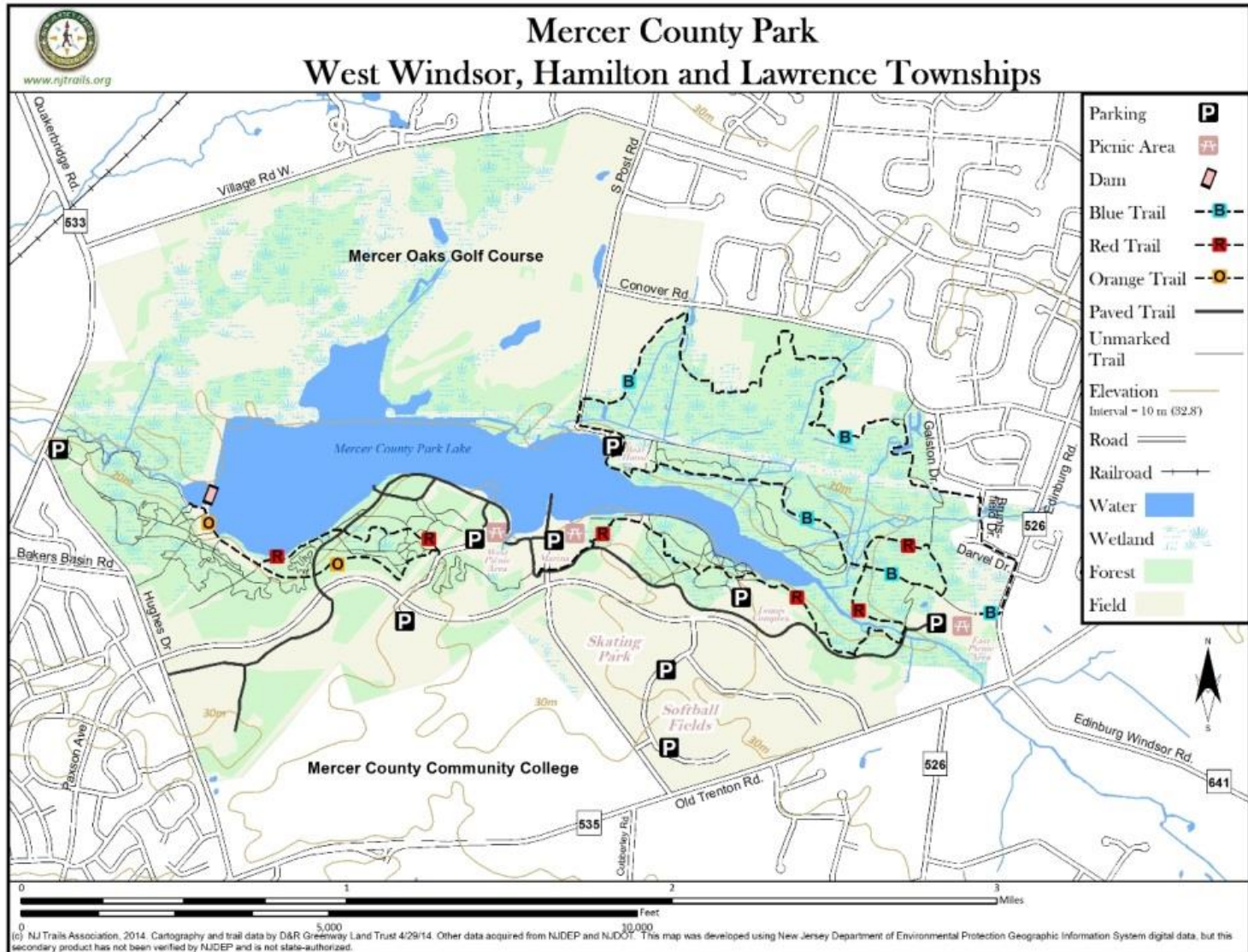


Figure 4 - Bikeway & Multiuse Trail Facility Map enlargement of Conover Road area



Bicycle and Pedestrian Trails within Mercer County Park



Mayor, Council, and Administration efforts

- NJDOT Grant application in fall, 2013.
- Received NJDOT Bikeway Grant in August 2014, Engineering survey, design and permitting contract awarded April, 2015.
- Initial resident outreach letters to homeowners along the s-curve sent out in March, 2016 after environmental survey work was completed.
- Community Development Department met with Mercer County officials to discuss project and potential bikeway locations along with possibility of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), similar to South Post Road Bikeway.
- Engineering Division met with individual residents in area of s-curve about the project. Majority of directly affected residents along s-curve were supportive of project in preferred location rather than impacting the frontages of their properties.
- Engineering Division met with local farmers and discussed County farmland agreement which outlines a 30 foot buffer area along the boundary of the farm field for County utilization. Also discussed potential impacts to bikeway regarding their equipment and located entry points into the farm fields.

Mayor, Council, and Administration efforts

- Administration and Community Development Departments met with residents along s-curve directly affected and opposed to preferred location along farmland.
- Council members met with residents along s-curve directly affected and opposed to preferred location along County farm field.
- Mayor met with residents along s-curve directly affected and opposed to preferred location along County farm field.

Support

- Township Council actions to date:
 - 9-30-2013 - Resolution 2013-R212 approving Conover Road Bikeway Grant application.
 - Passage and Adoption of the 2014 Capital Budget including the Annual Bike Lane Extension Program which outlined the Conover Road Bikeway.
 - 7-14-2014 - Resolution 2014-R145 amending Capital Budget for Conover Road Bikeway.
 - 4-13-2015 - Resolution 2015-R081 awarding the engineering design, survey and environmental permitting to Engineering consultant.
 - 12-21-2015 - Resolution 2015-R246 approving a grant extension from the NJDOT for the Conover Road Bikeway.

Support

- Mercer County have no objections of this bikeway and will provide the necessary easement.
- Project supported by the West Windsor Bicycle and Pedestrian Alliance.
- The League of American Bicyclists, which has designated West Windsor Township as a Bicycle Friendly Community at the Bronze Level, supports projects such as this to promote and create safer roads, stronger communities, and a bicycle friendly America.



TRUSTEES

Jerry Foster, president
Alison Miller, 1st vice president
Daryl McMillan, 2nd vice president
Kathy Brennan, secretary
Stacey Karp, treasurer
Chris Scherer
Dave Robinson
Sonia Gawas
Mike Ruderman
Joe Gorberg
Beth Zeitler

ADVISORY BOARD

Ken Carlson, founding trustee and past president
Sandy Shapiro, founding trustee
Michael Ogg, former trustee
Dan Gerstenhaber, chairman,
West Windsor BikeFest
Alan Hershey, chairman,
NJ Trails Association
Joe Pica, Chief of Police,
West Windsor Twp

STUDENT ADVISORS

Alex Inkiow
Alisha Kanitkar
Crystal Lee
Sanjana Saskena
Aji Sjamsu
Brendan Werth

Robert Kenny, Esq.,
counsel

September 16, 2013

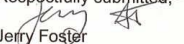
To: West Windsor Mayor Shing-Fu Hsueh, West Windsor Business Administrator Marlena Schmid, West Windsor Community Development Director Patricia Ward, West Windsor Township Engineer Francis Guzik

Re: West Windsor Township's Grant Application for a Bikeway Along Conover Road

The West Windsor Bicycle and Pedestrian Alliance is an all-volunteer, not-for-profit, private charitable 501(c)3 organization dedicated to building a bicycle and pedestrian friendly community in West Windsor and neighboring municipalities.

We support West Windsor Township's grant application for a bikeway along Conover Road from South Post to County Road 526/Edinburg Rd. In addition to bicycle use, this route may be used by rowers running from nearby Caspersen Rowing Center in Mercer County Park, as well as by the West Windsor-Plainsboro High School South Cross Country team.

Respectfully submitted,


Jerry Foster
President

12/5/13

P.O. Box 625
West Windsor, NJ 08550
wwbikeped@gmail.com
www.wwbpa.org

Next steps:

- Township requests 6 month NJDOT grant extension at the August 15th Council meeting along with NJDEP permit extension while exact location of preferred alignment is finalized with public comment.
- Township consultant completes technical specifications and construction documents.
- Mercer County Bikeway MOU for preferred alignment is executed and NJDEP permit is issued.
- Project is publicly bid.
- Township Council awards construction contract.
- Township residents benefit from contiguous bicycle and pedestrian pathway.

