

**Mercer County Bicycle and Pedestrian Task Force**  
**Meeting Notes**  
**9/15/08**  
**5:00 p.m.**

**Attendees:**

George Fallat, Matt Lawson, Ken Carlson, Charles Carmalt, Tom Ogren, John Boyle, Cheryl Kastrenakes

**Meeting:**

- Charlie announced his new position as the Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator for the city of Philadelphia. Because of the new job requirements he will no longer be able to attend the task force meetings. He will let the administration in Lawrence Township know so that they can find a replacement for him.
- The focus of today's meeting was to review the Lawrence-Hopewell Bikeway Proposal. Since the proposal was introduced, the task force members have examined the proposal and the route. In addition, Chris Scherer biked and recorded the route. It is posted on You Tube for viewing.
- Initial reaction to the proposal was positive and that the proposal conceptually made sense. Discussion continued on details and difficulties that might present in creating the bikeway.
- George brought up that he Rt. 31 circle was to be looked at by NJDOT. There is the possibility of a redesign of the circle. Discussion ensued about importance of bicycle and pedestrian considerations in any redesign and that it should be compatible with any planned bikeway.
- George mentioned that there might be limited sight distance as you turn left onto Ingleside and that this would have to be looked at.
- There was a lengthy discussion about parking along the route and that this could be a problem. If there are areas where parking is permitted then it would need to be prohibited along a bikeway. Ken suggested that we might be able to use share the road signs where this is an issue. Charlie indicated that there might be some areas where it is wide enough for bike lanes, parking and roadway.
- In the proposal a pedestrian activated signal is suggested for the intersection of Rt. 31 and Ingleside Ave where there is currently a flashing light. Charlie told the task force of the pedestrian activated hybrid signal, which might be appropriate for the intersection. These signals would turn the flashing yellow to red on the major road when activated. It is anticipated that they will be included in the updated Manual of Traffic Control Devices in 2009.
- Some task force members suggested that it might be good to survey bike riders along the route or maybe just conduct a count of riders currently on the route. There was a comment that this might help to receive funding for the project.
- Discussion by members about the need for the bikeway. The consensus was that the bikeway would serve the need of connecting several parks throughout the county with bicycle access. It will also connect two residential private schools. The creation of the bikeway will encourage cycling. Its creation would also give the roadway the attention it needs to fix dangerous spots for cyclists that currently exist.

- The task force decided that a letter should be sent from the task force to the County in support of the bikeway proposal. NJDOT should also be made aware of the proposal.
- Ken informed that Share the Road signs would be placed on Cranbury Neck Rd. to 571. The WWBPA worked with the county to get the signs. They are the first Share the Road signs in the county.
- Matt spoke briefly about the Bicycle Level of Service Map project that DVRPC has approved for funding. Matt had submitted a scope of work for this project to DVRPC based on discussions at task force meetings. A meeting with DVRPC will be set up.
- Trish Long shared the following via email. This was not presented at the meeting.
  - 8/19/08 - I met with Mike Oliva of the East Coast Greenway to work on the signage plan for the ECG through Trenton
  - 8/28/08 - Trenton staff, Bill Valocchi and Sean Semple, met with staff of the D&R Canal Commission to review needed street markings for where the canal towpath comes from Bordentown and meets up with the proposed Delaware River Heritage Trail in Trenton
  - 9/8/08 - Leah Yasenchak, Stu Bressler, and I met with a rep from the Dodge Foundation to discuss Trenton's proposal for a planning grant to create a trail linking the Assunpink Greenway to the Trenton Train Station
  - 9/15/08 - Andrew Carten and I met with Fred Lockenmeyer to discuss the route and progress on the Capital to the Coast trail in Trenton (for the most part the route matches the East Coast Greenway route in Trenton)

Tentative date for next meeting with DVRPC is October 6<sup>th</sup>.

Meeting ended at 6:45.