



## **Burlington County Bicycle Master Plan: Phase II Project Advisory Committee (PAC) Meeting #2 - 3/19/14 Meeting Summary**

### **Attendees:**

Joseph Powell, NJDOT  
Dan Sandiford, NJ TRANSIT  
Scott Hatfield, Burlington Township  
Marlene Jass, Committeewoman, Delanco Township  
Gene J. DiFilippo, Edgewater Park Township  
Nancy Jamanow, Evesham Township  
Leo Selb, Hainesport Township  
Chris Schultz, Medford Township  
Maureen Mitchell, Mount Laurel Township  
Jerry Mascia, Mount Laurel Township  
Paula Kosko, Pemberton Township  
Joe Barton, Mayor, Tabernacle Township  
John Boyle, Bicycle Coalition of Greater Philadelphia  
David Bennis, Team Evesham

Cassidy Boulan, DVRPC  
Carol Thomas, Burlington County Engineering  
Ed Fox, Burlington County Bridge Commission  
Martin Livingston, Burlington County Traffic Section  
Matt Johnson, Burlington County Resource Conservation  
Merrilee Torres, Burlington County GIS  
Kiersten Gauntt, Burlington County GIS  
John Engle, Burlington County Planning Board  
Bill Ragozine, Cross County Connection TMA  
Ronda Urkowitz, Cross County Connection TMA  
Patrick Farley, Cross County Connection TMA  
Matt Bodnar, Cross County Connection TMA

### **Meeting Summary:**

Ronda Urkowitz, Program Director of Cross County Connection Transportation Management Association, welcomed everyone to the meeting and led introductions from the Project Advisory Committee (PAC). Carol Thomas, Principal Planner for Burlington County, also welcomed the group and discussed the purpose of the Burlington County Bicycle Master Plan.

After introductions, Patrick Farley provided an overview of the development of the plan and reviewed the meeting agenda. He then explained the development of the Phase I document, including:

- The establishments of goals and objectives
- The documentation of existing conditions
- The development of primary and secondary corridors, which function as the spines and links of the proposed bicycle network

Patrick then reviewed the components of Phase II of the Burlington County Bicycle Master Plan. PAC members received several handouts at the beginning of the meeting, which included sample prioritization criteria, a draft bikeway design guide, and a list of current grant opportunities. These documents were used to facilitate discussion about the following topics:

### Prioritization Criteria

PAC members were asked to review draft prioritization criteria to provide feedback about criteria selection and weighting. Feedback from the Committee included, but was not limited to, adding criteria for connections to

municipal parks and Connect the Circuit routes as well as reweighing strongly correlated demographic variables to minimize double-counting.

### Bicycle-supportive Programs and Policies

The PAC discussed education, encouragement, evaluation, and enforcement programs, such as Safe Routes to School and bicycle advisory committees. Patrick reviewed the Complete Streets policies and described other ways local governments can build bicycle infrastructure, such as by incorporating their construction into routine maintenance and repaving projects. Chris Schultz from Medford Township explained how they use their Complete Streets policy to review upcoming roadway projects and identify potential locations for the installation of new bikeways.

### Types of Bicyclists

Patrick explained the four attitudes towards bicycling (Strong and Fearless, Enthused and Confident, Interested but Concerned, and No Way No How). He then polled the room to see how PAC members classified themselves. The majority of the room was Interested but Concerned, which coincides with results from public attitude surveys conducted in other Bicycle Master Plans throughout the country. Patrick explained that bicycle infrastructure should be designed with this group in mind. If roadways were safer and more accommodating for bicyclists, this large pool of potential bicyclists may be encouraged to start riding, maximizing the effectiveness of the money spent on developing a county bikeway network.

### Bikeway Design

Patrick transitioned from the conversation about types of bicyclists to a discussion of bikeway design. He discussed the utility and applicability of various bikeways, including standard bike lanes, buffered bike lanes, protected bike lanes, sharrows, and other facilities. He also described several mechanisms to provide bicycle lanes within existing road right-of-ways, such as “road diets” and lane narrowing projects. A design toolkit, which will compile established bikeway types into a digestible format for non-engineers, will be included in the Phase II document. All of the design specifications included in the document will be from American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials’ (AASHTO) Guide for the Development of Bicycle Facilities and the National Association of City Transportation Officials’ (NACTO) Urban Bikeway Design Guide, both of which are federally accepted engineering standards.

### Funding

Patrick highlighted several state and federal funding programs that can be used to construct bikeways, such as Municipal and County Aid. He also mentioned that the Phase II document will include a comprehensive list of planning and construction grant programs, as well as an easy to use eligibility matrix.

A key theme that resonated throughout the meeting was the need for more communication, both internal and external. Bill Ragozine, Executive Director of Cross County Connection, discussed how Cross County Connection’s periodic County Bikeway Inventories are a way to inspire communication between municipalities and facilitate the planning and implementation of bicycle infrastructure. Several PAC members then provided examples of collaboration. Chris Schultz from Medford discussed interacting with Burlington County while implementing the township’s Complete Streets policy, and Joe Powell of NJDOT explained how the department involves local governments and the public in their roadway construction projects. Patrick proposed the idea of creating a bicycle advisory committee and/or message board, in which communities could share accomplishments and collaborate on planning the county bikeway network.

As the meeting concluded, PAC members were invited to review the network map, identify pilot projects, and discuss bikeway design types in an informal setting. Patrick also informed them that he would be distributing a short online questionnaire to obtain more feedback for Phase II.