



Burlington County Bicycle Master Plan: Phase I **Steering Committee Meeting #1 - 10/17/12** **Meeting Summary**

Attendees:

Greg Krykewycz, DVRPC
Larry MacDonald, Wheelies Medford
James Minster, Southampton Township
Nancy Jamanow, Evesham Township
Dave Bennis, Team Evesham
Bill Corbi, Riverton Township
Lynn Solomon, Mount Laurel Township
Maureen Mitchell, Mount Laurel Township
Chris Ridings, Mount Laurel Township
Chris Schultz, Medford Township
Beth Waltrip, NJ TRANSIT
Lisa Levan, Wrightstown Borough
Carol Thomas, Burlington County Engineering
Scott Hatfield, Burlington Township Engineering

Chuck Finley, Burlington Township Green Team
Mark Remsa, Burlington County Bridge Commission
and Economic Development
Ed Fox, Burlington County Bridge Commission and
Economic Development
Matt Johnson, Burlington County Resource Conservation
John Engle, Burlington County Planning Board
Merrilee Torres, Burlington County GIS
Kiersten Gauntt, Burlington County GIS
Maria Tranguch, New Jersey Conservation Foundation
John Boyle, The Bicycle Coalition of Greater Philadelphia
Ronda Urkowitz, CCCTMA
Patrick Farley, CCCTMA
Graydon Newman, CCCTMA

Meeting Summary:

Carole Thomas, Principal Planner for Burlington County, welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Cross County Connection Transportation Management Association (CCCTMA). Ronda Urkowitz, Program Director, provided background on CCCTMA and its selection as the Bicycle Plan's lead organization in partnership with the County. Ronda then led introductions from Steering Committee members.

After introductions, Graydon Newman provided some context for the Plan. He explained that this effort will be the first phase of a two-phase planning effort that will result in an integrated Burlington County Bicycle Master Plan. Phase I of the Plan is funded through DVRPC's Supportive Regional Highway Planning Program (SRHPP). The first phase will focus on planning a county bikeway network, while phase two will focus on implementation of that network and bicycle-supportive infrastructure and policy. He then outlined the purpose and timeline of the three Steering Committee meetings:

- Meeting #1 (October 2012) - Establish Vision/Goals
- Meeting #2 (January 2013) - Review Existing Conditions & Determine Network Priorities
- Meeting #3 (May 2013) - Present & Comment on Draft Bicycle Master Plan

The final draft of Phase I of the Plan will be delivered in June.



Graydon then gave a presentation on bikeway types, typical/potential users, existing bikeways and bicycle crash incidents in the county. Graydon then asked representatives from various organizations who were involved in recent bicycle related planning efforts to provide some details on their bicycle-related projects in the county:

Burlington County Roadway Resurfacing Program - Carol Thomas discussed the County's ongoing resurfacing program, which has been successful in widening shoulders and implementing new bicycle facilities in many areas of the county, including the Pinelands.

Shifting Gears & Burlington County Bicycle Lane Study - Greg Krykewycz from the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC) discussed their 2011 Shifting Gears project that conducted a bikeway inventory, identified bicycle trip generators and surveyed residents about bicycle facilities in Burlington County. The 2012 Burlington County Bicycle Lane Study evaluated the bicycle level of service of county roads.

NJDOT Complete Streets Program - Joseph Powell from the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) described the Department's Complete Streets Program that encourages local governments to adopt complete streets transportation policies that provide for the safety of all roadway users, including pedestrians and cyclists. The NJDOT currently has a complete streets policy in place. Medford became the first Burlington County municipality to adopt a complete streets resolution on 10/16/12.

Delaware River Heritage Trail - Matt Johnson from the Burlington County Resource Conservation Department discussed the Delaware River Heritage Trail, a bi-state initiative to create a trail loop on both sides of the Delaware River in New Jersey and Pennsylvania. The first 3-mile segment is under construction within the Burlington County municipalities of Bordentown City, Bordentown Township and Fieldsboro Borough.

Next, Graydon led the group through a discussion of the goals and vision of the Bicycle Master Plan. The following items were identified in the discussion:

- Emphasize regionally connected trails, such as the Delaware River Heritage Trail.
- Create bikeways that are safe for all riders, including those that inexperienced.
- Create bicycle facilities in town centers that are innovative, attractive and safe.
- Provide bikeway connections to parks, agricultural and historical destinations.
- The availability of bicycle parking is a significant problem in the county. More of it is needed throughout the county, especially in town centers and daily errand destinations.
- Connections are needed between town centers in the county.
- County residents need better access to biking information (maps, biking safety instruction), such as an online clearinghouse of maps and biking information. This is an important step to increasing the number of residents biking in the county.



- The goal of the plan should be to create a high quality, connected, regional bikeway network.
- Areas with good regional mobility and that are already conducive to biking should be prioritized first.
- Model ordinances (bicycle parking etc.) would be helpful to municipalities.
- High quality, consistent design standards should be used in constructing bikeways.
- Connections to transit, including the RiverLINE, are important to bicycle commuters and should be emphasized.
- Coordination between the County and municipalities is an extremely important part of creating a countywide bikeway network.
- Safety of bicyclists on narrow rural roadways is a concern.

After this discussion, Graydon invited members of the Steering Committee to take part in a mapping session. Participants were asked to make additions to the preliminary bikeway inventory by noting these locations on large-format maps, and identify priority corridors that should be addressed in Phase I of the Plan.

Before concluding the meeting, it was decided by the Committee that there should be public outreach meetings conducted in an open house format and a web-based survey open to the public to provide their input during the planning process. Graydon informed the committee that he would compile goals and objectives from the items discussed at the meeting and prepare a Draft Vision Statement for the Committee to review. The next planned meeting of the Steering Committee will occur in January of 2013.