

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS
RELATED TO DVRPC BOARD ACTION ITEMS

March 28, 2019

Agenda Item:

2b. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Action
PA19-38: US 202, Township Line Road to Morris Road (61N) (MPMS
#63490), Montgomery County

From: Leonard Fritz
County: Gloucester
Zip Code: 08094
Date Received: 03/18/2019

Comment/Question: Will there be any provisions for bicycles and other modes of transportation besides pedestrians and vehicles?

Response: Thank you for your comment. Your original comment was forwarded to the DVRPC Board, DVRPC Office of Capital Programs, and PennDOT.

Bike lanes adjacent to the outside travel lane will be provided in both the northbound and southbound directions.

3. DVRPC Regional Trails Program Phase VII Grant Awards

From: Tanya Seaman
County: Philadelphia
Zip Code: 19146
Date Received: 03/15/2018

Comment/Question: Bike trail funding often does not include winter maintenance, and yet trails are used year-round. They are dangerous to use by bicycle when they are not maintained, as tires get stuck in muddy ruts and on ice that develops due to puddles and lack of renewed surfacing. This is an equity issue, as trails are used for transportation as well as by people who cannot afford gym memberships. Trails are much less expensive to maintain than roads.

Response: Thank you for your comment. Your original comment was forwarded to the DVRPC Board, DVRPC Office of Environmental Planning, and the Philadelphia Department of Parks and Recreation.

Winter maintenance for bike trails varies across the region from trail to trail. Some trails receive no winter maintenance while others are plowed and salted. Often, though not always, more heavily used trails receive winter maintenance. The Kelly Drive and Schuylkill Banks portions of the Schuylkill River Trail, for example, are both plowed during the winter. Plowing may not occur immediately after a snow event, but usually occurs in a timely fashion. Naturally, even after plowing occurs, winter conditions are variable, and melting caused by warmer daytime temperatures can lead to icing when temperatures drop. Trail users must therefore exercise caution and be adaptable when riding or walking in winter conditions. To find out more about which trails receive winter maintenance, the local entity responsible for maintenance should be contacted. In Philadelphia, most multi-use trails fall under the jurisdiction of the Philadelphia Department of Parks and Recreation.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS
RELATED TO DVRPC NON-ACTION ITEMS

From: Andrew Cohen
County: Montgomery
Zip Code: NA
Date Received: 03/18/2019

Comment: There needs to be more funding for farmland and open space preservation.

Response: Thank you for your comment. Your original comment was forwarded to the DVRPC Board and DVRPC Office of Environmental Planning.

DVRPC's long-range plan, Connections, established a goal of protecting 1 million acres of open space by 2045. To reach that goal, the region must preserve 400,000 additional acres of farmland and open space. While the region has made great progress in preserving land over the past several decades, more funding than is currently allocated will be needed to achieve the 1 million-acre goal. However, DVRPC does not program funding directly for the preservation of open space. Decisions over such funding mechanisms are primarily vested with our municipal, county, state, and federal governmental partners. In addition, many non-profit organizations exist to raise and administer funding for open space preservation. DVRPC will continue to assist these partners in identifying and developing funding mechanisms to protect open space and we encourage the public to engage multiple levels of government and their elected officials on this issue.

Please visit DVRPC's Local Open Space Funding Program [page](#) for detailed information on funding generated for open space at the municipal and county level in the DVRPC region. In addition to the hundreds of millions of local dollars highlighted on this page, significant state and federal funding is available and used for open space and farmland preservation in our region.

Thank you for your continued engagement and participation in the region's development.