



2006 Annual Report

Our mission is to promote bicycling and walking in West Windsor Township and neighboring communities, emphasizing access, education, mobility, and safety.

President's Message

It's been a terrific inaugural year for the West Windsor Bicycle and Pedestrian Alliance. We incorporated as a private non-profit corporation in January, attained 501(c)(3) status in May, and grew to 110 area members. Our first year is best summed up by an excerpt from the December 29th *Princeton Packet* review of the year in West Windsor:

In January, the WWBPA "became a full-fledged organization, and it worked hard for the last 12 months to establish a place for itself in the community. Throughout the year, the WWBPA strove to raise awareness and push for improvements for cyclists and walkers throughout the township. The group scheduled several walks to draw attention to dangerous areas in the township, including the Alexander Rd. S-curve and train station area along Princeton-Hightstown Rd.. Shortly after the group's final walk of the year-which took place at the Village Shoppes on Clarksville Rd.- a serious pedestrian accident occurred at the very spot members had attempted to highlight as a dangerous area. That incident in particular helped add teeth to the new group's mission, and it continued to work with the township and state to make West Windsor a safer place for cyclists and pedestrians."

- Molly Petrilla,

Princeton Packet, page 3A, December 29, 2006

The article highlights one of our most important achievements - a potential solution on Clarksville Rd. to one of the most dangerous locations for pedestrians in the township. Our efforts led to a series of recommendations to create a safe pedestrian crossing of this road. Additional street lighting has recently been installed, and further recommendations have been endorsed by both the township and the county and are now under review by the state DOT. This demonstrates the impact a volunteer organization can have in affecting change to what are seemingly intractable problems. Thanks to our members for their support and encouragement, which has enabled us to build an effective grass-roots organization in our first year. We look forward to making even greater strides (and revolutions) in 2007.

- Ken Carlson

Annual Meeting
Thursday, February 8, 2007, 7:30 PM
West Windsor Senior Center
Clarksville & North Post Roads

Advocacy



Our major focus in 2006 was bicycle and pedestrian advocacy. We lobbied the township, the county, and the state for improvements to bicycle and pedestrian safety and mobility. Much of our advocacy came from a series of educational "West Windsor Walks" to highlight needed bicycle and pedestrian improvements in the township. Examples of our efforts are the following (details are on our Web site):

Township

- ❑ Recommended bicycle and pedestrian improvements to the Alexander Rd. S-curve near the D&R Canal, including interim improvements (e.g., lane re-striping and better overhead lighting) and long-term improvements (e.g., better traction, a sidewalk and bike lanes).
- ❑ Advocated creation of the Trolley Line Trail along the PSE&G right-of-way.
- ❑ Recommended pedestrian improvements to the east side of the train station, including an improved crosswalk at Sherbrooke Dr. and Rt. 571, and pedestrian improvements to the intersection of Wallace Rd. and Rt. 571.
- ❑ Recommended bicycle and pedestrian projects to be included in the 2007 Township Capital Budget.
- ❑ Lobbied for a road diet (reduction in travel lanes from four to two with inclusion of middle turning lane and bike lanes) on Canal Pointe Blvd., reductions in speed limit on many roads in town, and enforcement of traffic laws.

County

- ❑ Recommended improvements to Clarksville Rd. at the Avalon Watch apartment complex.
- ❑ Recommended bike lanes on Washington Rd. from the train station to the D&R Canal.
- ❑ Lobbied for the placement of *share-the-road* signs along Cranbury Rd., a major cycling route in town.
- ❑ Met with local bicycle and pedestrian advocates to focus on regional bicycle and pedestrian issues, and proposed the establishment of a Mercer County Bicycle and Pedestrian Task Force to further advance our advocacy effort.



State

- ❑ Recommended construction of sidewalks on the Washington Rd. bridge over the NE Corridor train tracks.
- ❑ Proposed a dedicated bicycle and pedestrian bridge over Route 1 in Penns Neck.

Education

We also focused on promoting bicycle and pedestrian education. On October 4th, the WWBPA, in collaboration with the Greater Mercer Transportation Management Association, sponsored an event at Maurice Hawk School in celebration of National Walk to School Day. More than 800 children learned about pedestrian safety and walked on local streets in the school neighborhoods to teach them what makes a walking route safe.



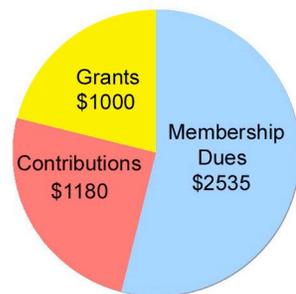
We staffed an information table at the Farmers' Market on many Saturdays to educate residents as well as to get input on bicycle and pedestrian issues in town. We are now developing a bicycle and pedestrian map of West Windsor Township, which will be available in the spring.

We developed a bilingual outreach program to local Hispanic communities to increase awareness and education about bicycle safety. We will conduct workshops in target communities beginning in early 2007.

2006 Financial Summary

The financial summary for 2006 is shown below. In addition to membership dues and contributions from individuals, we also received two grants of \$500 each from The McGraw-Hill Companies. We received a commitment from the West Windsor BikeFest Organizing Committee to help fund printing of the bicycle and pedestrian map.

Total Income \$4715



Total Expenses \$2453



Communication and Meetings

Monthly Meetings

Second Thursday of every month at 7:30 PM in Room A of the West Windsor Township Municipal Center at North Post and Clarksville Roads.

Annual Meeting

Our Annual Meeting will be Thursday, February 8th at 7:30 PM at the West Windsor Senior Center (*Note: different location*). Members of the Alliance who are in attendance will vote for Trustees. Members are encouraged to attend and, as always, all meetings are open to the general public as well.

Community Events and Community Service Opportunities

We sponsored the second annual Pedals for Progress Bike Drive at the Princeton Junction train station, collecting 105 bicycles for donation to people in need of transportation in developing countries; volunteers included trustees, members, and high school students. Many of the WWBPA trustees also participated in the West Windsor BikeFest in May.



In June, we celebrated National Trail Day by conducting a walk of the Millstone River and Rogers Preserve Trails. We also held a series of trail building events during the year on both of these trails.

Administrivia

Thanks to our talented Web Consultant, Giuliano Chicco, we have a fully functioning Web site to keep our members and potential members informed. We also created a blog which is a great way for residents in our community (and those in neighboring communities) to share ideas, concerns, and experiences, and to communicate about bicycle and pedestrian issues.

In September, we delivered an electronic newsletter to our members and supporters and will continue to provide newsletters throughout the year.



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Web site: www.princetononline.org/wwbpa

E-mail: wwbikeped@gmail.com

Blog: <http://wwbpa.blogspot.com>

Yahoo! group: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/WWBikePed>

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