February 18, 2011

To: Plainsboro Mayor Peter Cantu

Cc: Plainsboro Council Members, Forrestal Bicycle and Pedestrian Advocates

Re: Clearing Snow from Township Trails

Dear Mayor Cantu,

This letter is written to support the recent letter to you from the newly formed Forrestal Bicycle and Pedestrian Advocates, regarding clearing snow from the paths along Scudders Mill Rd, and which we co-signed. Despite our name, the West Windsor Bicycle and Pedestrian Alliance (WWBPA) serves surrounding communities as well, and have been especially active working with Downtown Hightstown.

Recent WWBPA activity in Plainsboro include working with NJ DOT to place a sign on the ramp from northbound Rt 1 onto the westbound Scudders Mill Rd overpass, alerting drivers to the upcoming trail crossing, which has extremely limited visibility. We’re advocating a trail connection between West Windsor and Plainsboro, ideally serving the school campus and linking to the other trails in both towns. We’ve also supported Plainsboro residents’ efforts to calm traffic near the elementary schools on our website. We offer college scholarships to students at the West Windsor-Plainsboro high schools, including Plainsboro students. We recognize the close connection between West Windsor and Plainsboro, and I have deep personal connections, having lived in Plainsboro, volunteered as an EMT with the Plainsboro Rescue Squad, and served as Scoutmaster of Troop 168, sponsored by the Plainsboro Fire Company.

The WWBPA understands the strains on townships that this year's unusually persistent snow has caused with regard to cleanup efforts, and we appreciate your attention to keeping paths clear for bicyclists and pedestrians. We know you appreciate that it is more than an issue of convenience - here in West Windsor, 2 pedestrians were hospitalized after being struck by cars while walking along the roadway last month.

We look forward to working with you and the Forrestal Bicycle and Pedestrian Advocates to make our communities more bicycle and pedestrian friendly.

Sincerely,

Jerry Foster
President
West Windsor Bicycle and Pedestrian Alliance