May 4, 2010

To: West Windsor Township Mayor Shing-Fu Hsueh

Cc: West Windsor Township Council Members; Robert Hary, Township Business Administrator; Patricia Ward, Township Community Development Director, Sam Surtees, West Windsor Township Land Use Manager, Marvin Gardner, Chair of West Windsor Township Planning Board, Sharon Young, Township Clerk, WWBPA Trustees

Re: Proposed Master Plan Changes and Ordinance for Complete Streets, Roundabout Facilities

Dear Mayor Hsueh,

Please find attached (1) proposed changes to the Circulation Element of the Township Master Plan and (2) a related draft ordinance to require bicycle and pedestrian facilities in future roundabouts.

These proposals are similar to the proposed changes that were not accepted in the Planned Mixed-Use Neighborhood (PMN) ordinance, aka Maneely Tract, which were brought to the Township Council at the public hearing in November last year. The reasons given were that that public hearing was too late in the process, and that the proposed bicycle and pedestrian facilities were more properly applied to all future roundabouts, instead of just the one in the PMN ordinance. The proposed ordinance addresses these issues.

The proposed Master Plan Circulation Element changes include a Complete Streets policy, which is modeled after a policy adopted late last year by the New Jersey Department of Transportation, and is an element of both the township's Sustainability Plan and the League of American Bicyclist's Bicycle Friendly Community program. It would be exciting to be one of the first municipalities in New Jersey to adopt a Complete Streets policy, and we could be the state's first Bicycle Friendly Community!

I spoke with Marvin Gardner regarding these proposals, requesting time on the Planning Board agenda, which he declined to grant, suggesting several possible alternate paths. We look forward to working with you to implement these changes, to improve our community's bicycle and pedestrian friendliness.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jerry Foster
2nd Vice President

The WWBPA is a private non-profit 501(c)(3) organization whose mission is to build a bicycle and pedestrian friendly community in West Windsor Township and neighboring communities.