October 2, 2013

Jerry Foster, President
West Windsor Bicycle and Pedestrian Alliance
P.O. Box 625
West Windsor, NJ 08550

Dear Mr. Foster:

Governor Chris Christie has forwarded to the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) for response your letter regarding the ongoing reconstruction of Route 35 on the Barnegat Peninsula. I appreciate the opportunity to address your concerns.

The NJDOT understands the opportunity this project offers in regard to addressing bicycle and pedestrian mobility on all 12.5 miles of the project from Bay Head to Island Beach State Park. In light of this, the project will replace sidewalks that have been damaged or worn out, and we have coordinated with each local community to fill in missing gaps in the sidewalk where they agreed the work should be performed. If sidewalks are not constructed, it is at the request of the local municipality.

In regard to bicycle lanes, the NJDOT is currently finalizing options and recommendations for the entire 12.5 miles of roadway. Please keep in mind that due to the emergency nature of this project and time constraints, we are not looking at any options which would involve buying property for bike lanes or sidewalks. Also, all options must be carefully evaluated for safety and local issues, such as the need to maintain on-street parking along the highway.

Preliminary recommendations have been developed, and the Department is currently in discussions with local officials. Once the concepts have been adjusted to reflect those discussions, they will be shared with the general public.

I hope this information is helpful. If you have any additional questions, please feel free to e-mail us at restore.nj35@dot.state.nj.us.

Sincerely,

Anthony J. Attanasio
Assistant Commissioner
Government and Community Relations

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