



# NEWS

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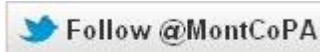
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## **Montco Receives Grant for New County Bicycle Mobility Plan**

**Norristown, PA (July 13, 2016)** – Montgomery County has received a \$30,000 Transportation and Community Development Initiative (TCDI) grant from the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC) for development of a new county bicycle mobility plan. TCDI grants, available to municipalities and counties in the DVRPC region, support smart growth initiatives that implement the region’s long-range plan for Greater Philadelphia, *Connections 2040*, and enhance the efficiency of the transportation network.

Montgomery County’s new bicycle mobility plan, *Bike Montco*, will add to the county’s efforts to advance bike and pedestrian mobility and will include design improvements and key policies for bicycle safety. The county has supported improved bicycling opportunities through trail development, new development site planning, and assistance to municipalities in preparing bicycle and trail plans. In addition, in 1998 the county prepared and adopted the *Bicycling Road Map*, a countywide bike plan that provided a good outline of future bicycle mobility policy initiatives.

“We want to make biking safer and easier for more people around the county. This plan will propose more bikeable connections to trails, parks, downtowns, retail centers, and schools,” said Jody L. Holton, AICP, Executive Director of the Montgomery County Planning Commission.

“*Bike Montco* will achieve a major goal of the county’s recently adopted comprehensive plan, [Montco 2040: A Shared Vision](#). That goal involves improving bicycle access to provide more transportation choices, improve health, and create better community connections to make the county more appealing for young workers and to improve the environment by reducing vehicle miles traveled,” said Dr. Val Arkoosh, Vice Chair of the Montgomery County Board of Commissioners and Chair of the DVRPC.

The plan will fully address the current bicycle needs of the county. It will look at existing conditions in Montgomery County, such as the location of bicycle lanes and trails, bicycle accident history, and bicycle traffic counts, and will include a Regional Bicycle Planning Level of Transportation Stress (LTS) map. It will also examine bicycling destinations and preferred routes and the countywide bicycle network utilizing state, county, and local roads, and trails.

The plan will focus on specific bicycling opportunities. Four types of opportunities – safe bicycle routes to parks and trails, bicycle mobility in towns, biking to transit, and biking near colleges and high schools – will be further defined through the evaluation of specific case study areas in the county. Local stakeholders will be invited to provide input on opportunities and challenges associated with each case study, and specific design solutions will be developed to address needs. Overall design principles and solutions will be developed to be used in other similar cases.

Bicycle mobility design recommendations will address bicycle lanes, trail standards, bike friendly roadway design, bicycle storage facilities/destination amenities, bicycle signage, and street crossing design. The plan will also focus on county bicycle policy and will highlight implementation opportunities and funding.

For more information, please contact Montgomery County Planning Commission staff members Janet Arcuicci, AICP, Senior Multimodal Transportation Planner, at 610-278-3445 or via email at [jarcuicc@montcopa.org](mailto:jarcuicc@montcopa.org) or Henry Stroud, Trail Program Manager, at 610-278-3746 or via email at [hstroud@montcopa.org](mailto:hstroud@montcopa.org).