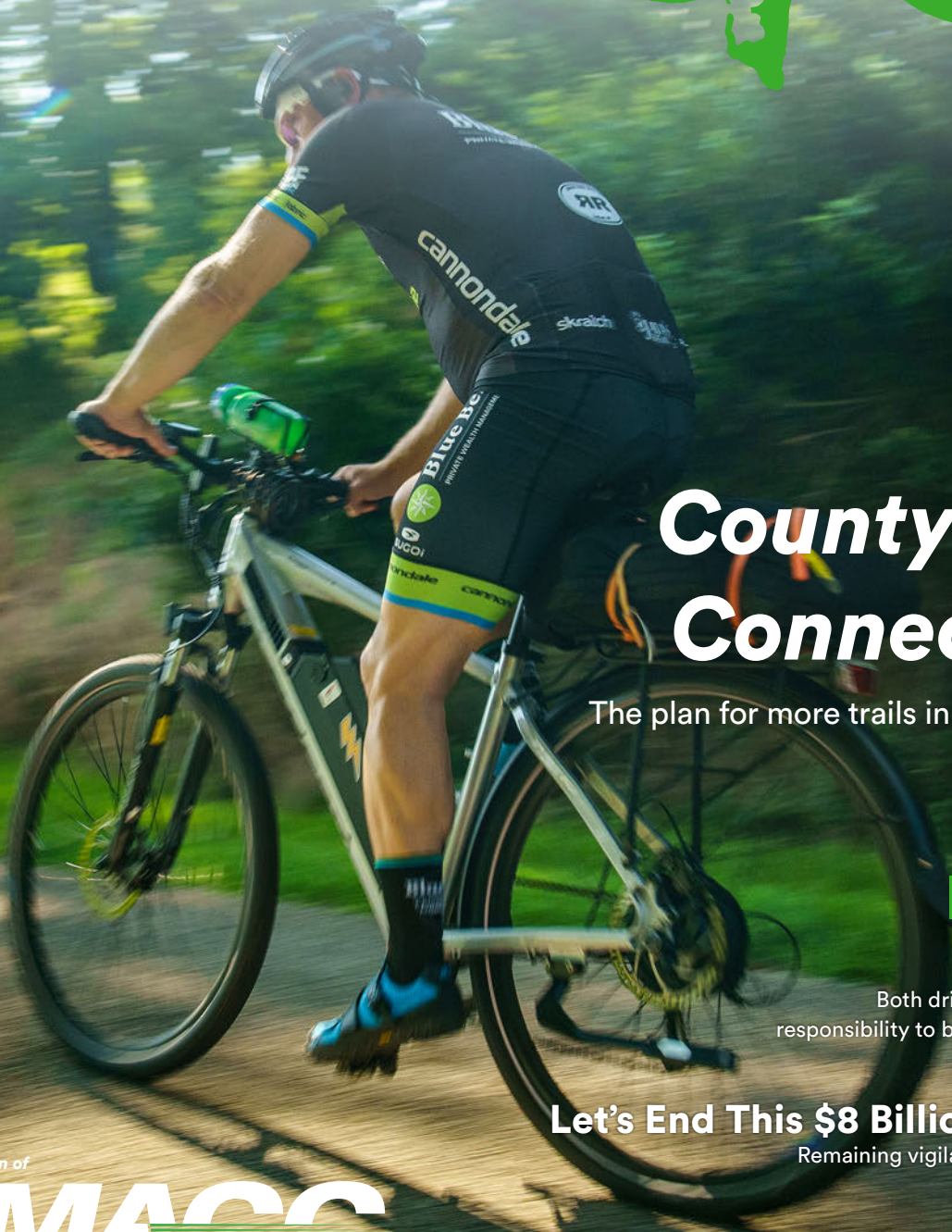


Ches

GO!

Improving the ways people move throughout Chester County since 1992.



County-wide Connections

The plan for more trails in Chester County.

Page 4

Also in this issue:

Be Safe

Both drivers and cyclists have a responsibility to be aware and respectful.

Page 10

Let's End This \$8 Billion "Industry"

Remaining vigilant is the best first step.

Page 16

A publication of



Transportation Management Association of Chester County



The mission of TMACC is to advance equitable, safe and sustainable multimodal transportation solutions by serving as

- a resource center for innovative mobility strategies,
- a collaborator of the public, private, and non-profit sectors, and
- a catalytic agent for advancing and implementing best practices.

Learn more at TMACC.org

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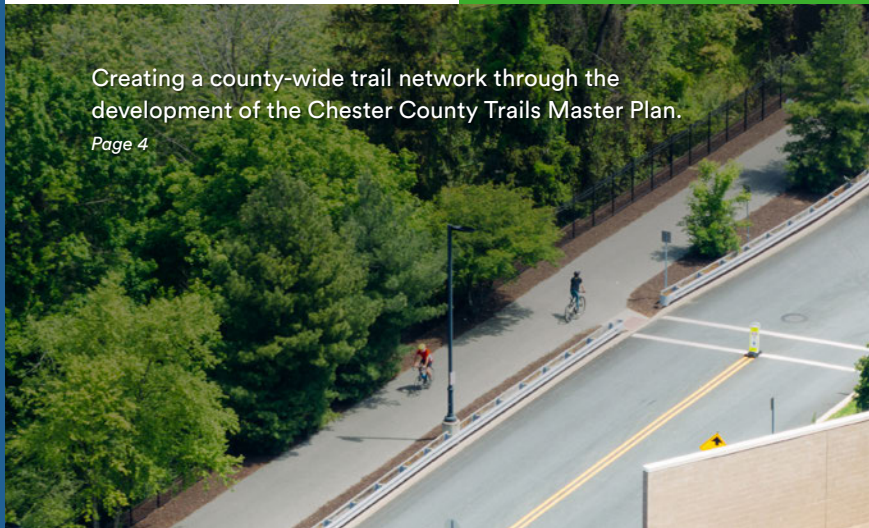
Transportation Management Association of Chester County

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610.993.0911 / TMACC.org

Creating a county-wide trail network through the development of the Chester County Trails Master Plan.

Page 4



Zooming Along

We are big advocates for cycling, and not only because we're advocates of smarter commuting but because, like a growing number of Chester Countians—we love bikes!

As National Bike Month came to a close in May, it's a great time to reflect on the successes and benefits of cycling as a mode of transportation. The Transportation Management Association of Chester County (TMACC.org) has been a strong advocate for improved commuting and promoting the use of bicycles as an efficient, cost-effective, and eco-friendly mode of transportation.

In May, National Bike Month took place, and many people across the country, including in Chester County, chose to commute by bicycle. TMACC.org supported the benefits of cycling and continued to promote it as a viable commuting option. With more people turning to cycling for their daily commutes, TMACC.org encouraged the use of safety gear and adherence to traffic laws to ensure a safe and enjoyable cycling experience.

In addition to promoting cycling, TMACC.org has been a key player in the development and maintenance of cycling trails in Chester County. The county boasts over 200 miles of multi-use trails, including the Schuylkill River Trail and the Chester Valley Trail. These trails provide safe and accessible routes for cyclists of all skill levels and are a great way to reduce traffic congestion and improve air quality.

Cycling to work also has numerous benefits for the individual, including improved cardiovascular health, reduced stress, and increased productivity. Plus, it allows for a level of freedom and independence that other modes of transportation simply can't match. TMACC.org encourages commuters to consider cycling as a way to improve their health, save money on transportation costs, and reduce their carbon footprint.

For those new to commuting by bicycle, there are a few things to keep in mind. It's important to have a reliable bike that is appropriate for the distance and terrain of your commute. Safety gear, such as a helmet and reflective clothing, is also crucial, as is obeying traffic laws and signals.

Overall, National Bike Month demonstrated the success and potential of cycling as a viable commuting option. With continued support from organizations like TMACC.org, we can work towards making cycling an even more accessible and attractive choice for commuters in the future. So, consider dusting off your bike and giving cycling a try—you might just find that it's the perfect way to get to work and improve your daily commute. ♦



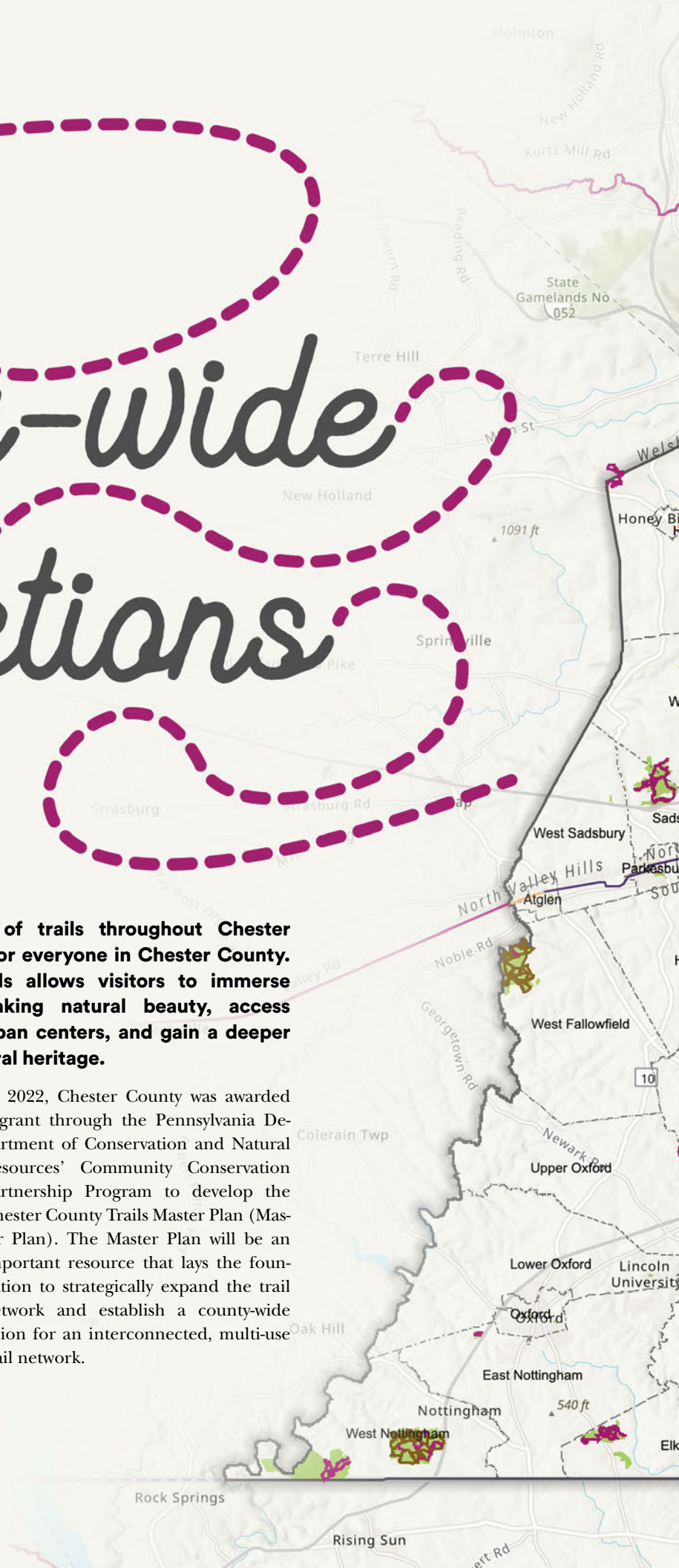
P. Timothy Phelps
Executive Director

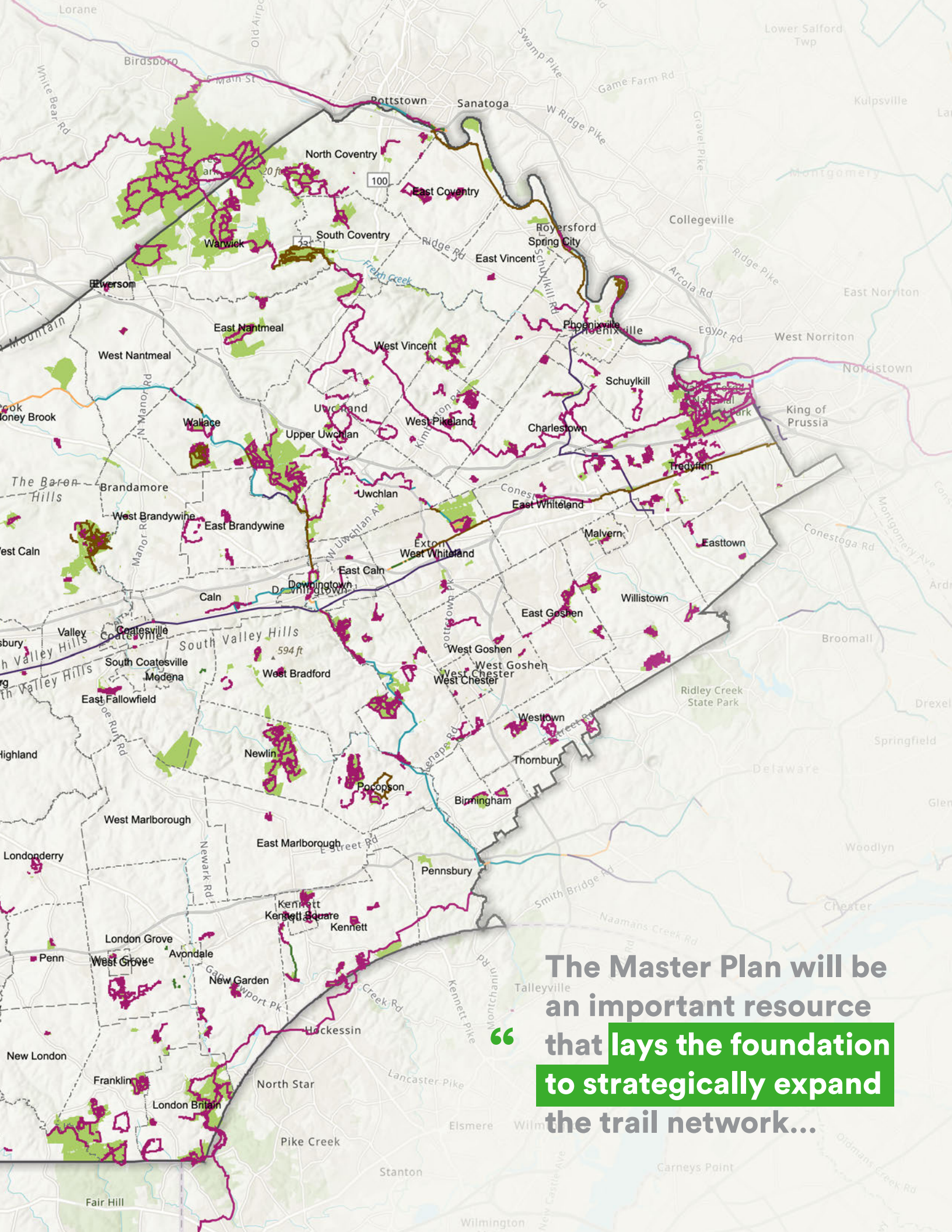
County-wide Connections

With more than 300 miles of trails throughout Chester County, there's truly a trail for everyone in Chester County. Exploring the county's trails allows visitors to immerse themselves in the region's breathtaking natural beauty, access diverse and growing urban and suburban centers, and gain a deeper appreciation for the county's rich cultural heritage.

Whether you're a nature lover seeking tranquility in one of the state or county parks, an adventure enthusiast craving excitement, or a commuter looking for a more sustainable and healthy way to get to work, Chester County's trails provide opportunities for people to connect with one another and their communities.

In 2022, Chester County was awarded a grant through the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources' Community Conservation Partnership Program to develop the Chester County Trails Master Plan (Master Plan). The Master Plan will be an important resource that lays the foundation to strategically expand the trail network and establish a county-wide vision for an interconnected, multi-use trail network.





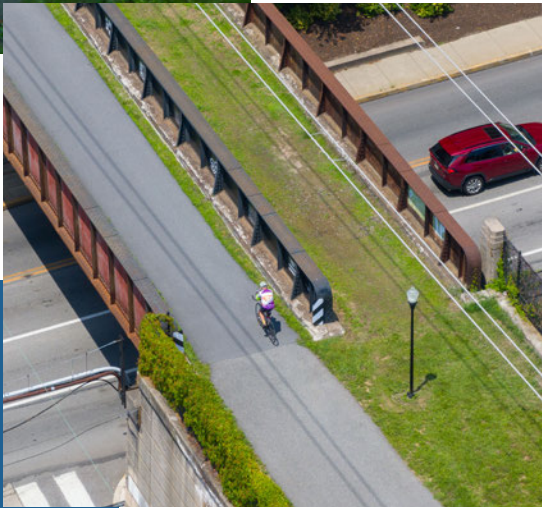
The Master Plan will be an important resource that lays the foundation to strategically expand the trail network...





“...the Chester Valley Trail, Schuylkill River Trail and Struble Trail are part of the Circuit—Greater Philadelphia’s planned 800+ mile regional multi-use trail network.”

Many of Chester County’s signature trails, including the Chester Valley Trail, Schuylkill River Trail, and Struble Trail are part of the Circuit—Greater Philadelphia’s planned 800+ mile regional multi-use trail network. More trail miles are being completed on the Circuit year after year, resulting in one of the country’s premier multi-use trail networks. In addition, many municipalities have recognized the important benefits trails provide and have proactively taken steps to develop trails within their communities through policy and capital improvements, however they may lack broader connections outside their administrative boundaries. Given the evolution of these various networks, along with the anticipated future growth of Chester County, it’s critical that there is an overall plan that identifies how these individual trail systems could be supported through a well-connected, safe, and accessible system of trails that benefit all Chester County residents and visitors.

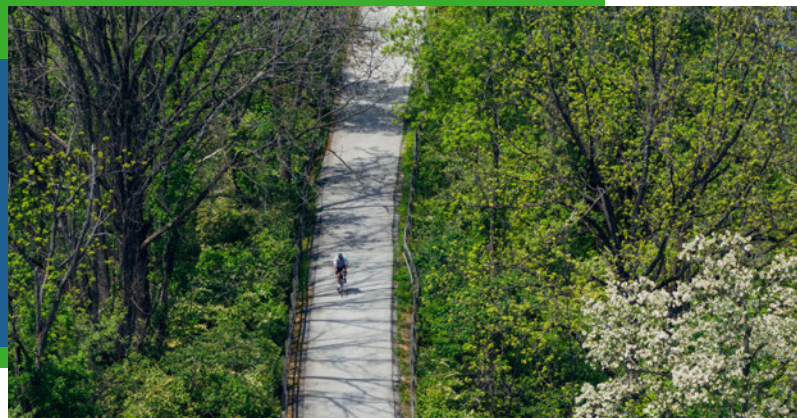


The Chester County Planning Commission is leading the development of the Master Plan in collaboration with the public and multiple stakeholders. Through various methods of public engagement, the Master Plan seeks to reflect the

More About the Master Plan

All Chester County residents, visitors, and trail users are invited to participate in an online survey to provide feedback on trails in Chester County.

For more information about the Chester County Trails Master Plan, including the process, schedule/timeline, and public survey, please visit www.chescoplanning.org/transportation/TrailsMasterPlan.cfm.



values and goals of the broader Chester County community. The Master Plan will identify opportunities to establish connections between trails and recreational resources, civic and community destinations, public transportation, and commercial and employment centers while prioritizing user safety and accessibility. The Master Plan will identify critical trail “gaps” and provide recommendations to fill these missing links. The Master Plan will also provide resources and recommendations regarding trail funding, design, maintenance, and regulatory policy to support municipalities and other trail partners in their trail development efforts.

The development of Chester County Trails Master Plan marks an exciting chapter affirming the county’s commitment to enhancing the network of trails in Chester County and the quality of life for its residents. As the plan is implemented and new trails are developed, residents and visitors can look forward to even more opportunities for exploration and adventure! ♦



A vital connection completed—the Schuylkill River Trail and Chester Valley Trail meet in Norristown where a Trail Junction Center is planned that will include restrooms, drinking water, trail information, places to rest, bicycle repair, and possibly a small café.

THANKFUL FOR
Chescobus

OXFORD **KENNETT SQUARE**

PARKESBURG **COATESVILLE**

SCCOOT
ALONG ROUTE 1

LINK
ALONG ROUTE 30

ACCESSIBLE BIKE FRIENDLY

FIND THE SCHEDULE & PLAN YOUR COMMUTE AT **TMACC.ORG/CHESCOBUS**

Sustainable Transportation Solutions for Chester County

For over 25 years the Transportation Management Association of Chester County (TMACC) has worked closely with municipalities to provide multimodal solutions to reduce traffic congestion and improve air quality. Our wide variety of members and multimodal expertise help improve municipal comprehensive plans and transportation projects.

Contact TMACC, Chester County’s Multimodal Experts Today!

We will provide you with our knowledge and experience in multimodal consulting to assess your commuter needs and make suggestions to improve your mobility.

TMACC
Transportation Management Association
of Chester County

610-993-0911 | www.tmacc.org

Welcome

TMACC gained a new team member this past month in its commitment to advance equitable, safe, and sustainable multimodal transportation solutions.

Our new Project Coordinator, **Braelin Quigley**, is a Temple graduate from Montgomery County and has experience as an electoral organizer, who has worked on multiple, successful political campaigns in PA.

A former West Chester University student, she feels right at home here in Chester County, and has seen firsthand how we can make travel more accessible and equitable everywhere. As a Project Coordinator, Braelin will work to build and maintain relationships and partnerships to maximize TMACC's impact on our communities.

As a biker, and longtime SEPTA rider, she can see and experience the methods used to keep commuters and drivers safe, whether at the wheel, or behind handlebars. In her free time, she likes to bike, snowboard, and obsess over her Airedale terrier, Satchel. Braelin is very excited to join the team, and we look forward to working with her to make green, safe, sustainable transportation options for everyone in the county!



Braelin Quigley
Project Coordinator



Share-A-Ride is a resource where employees can discover sustainable travel options like carpool, vanpool, transit, bike and walk. You can also record your sustainable trips and earn rewards.

JOIN SHARE-A-RIDE
DOWNLOAD THE APP TODAY



✓ Find Rides

Use the trip planner to find rides. Find a car ride or bicycle with other Share-A-Ride members or find the closest public transit. Just don't arrive by yourself.

✓ Record Your Trips

Record your greener trips, even work from home days, in your Share-A-Ride account and track the money you save, the emissions you prevent, and your reward points.

✓ Get Rewards

Redeem your commute points for restaurant coupons, retailer discounts and tickets to shows and attractions.



Join Share-A-Ride ▶ Find Rides, Record Your Trips and Get Rewards!

Air Quality:

It's as important to monitor as temperature and tire pressure.

Chester County is a wonderful place to live. In general, Pennsylvanians are fortunate for a lot of reasons. We have very few natural disasters and the air quality is usually good. Good, in this instance, means breathable without issue, as opposed to moderate, unhealthy, and very unhealthy.

We're also very fortunate that, here in the keystone state, we have the **Pennsylvania Air Quality Partnership**.

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection works with other agencies, like PennDOT and TMACC to communicate air quality issues as a function of the Air Quality Partnership.

In Southeastern Pennsylvania, comprised of Chester, Bucks, Montgomery, Delaware, and Philadelphia counties pollution levels are monitored hourly.

The Air Quality Partnership goals are to increase the public's understanding on the impact of air pollution, provide alerts for days with high air pollution, provide health effects information and guidelines to prevent or reduce exposure, and finally encourage voluntary actions to reduce air pollution emissions, especially on "Action Days."

Continued on page 23

Last month's very unhealthy levels brought about by the Canadian wildfires were an unusual sight for Chester County commuters. Make checking air quality via TMACC's social channels and website a regular habit.



FORECAST KEY

UNHEALTHY

Everyone should limit exertion outdoors.

UNHEALTHY FOR SENSITIVE GROUPS

Sensitive people should limit exertion outdoors.

MODERATE

Extremely sensitive people may wish to limit outdoor exertion.

GOOD

No health impacts are expected in this range

Source: aqs.deq.pa.gov/AQPartnersWeb/key.aspx

“During the weeks following the pandemic shutdown, the Chester County region reported some of the **best sustained air quality for commuters...**”



BE SAFE!

On July 19, 2020, the cycling community in Chester County, Pennsylvania lost a beloved member. Michael Hackman, a dedicated cyclist, avid commuter, and respected attorney, passed away in a tragic accident while cycling on the road.

His death served as a reminder of the importance of road safety and the need for all road users to be aware and respectful of each other.

Hackman was known among the cycling community for his passion for the sport and his dedication to using his bike as a means of transportation. He was also a vocal advocate for cycling safety, serving on the board of the local advocacy group,

the Bicycle Coalition of Greater Philadelphia. His tragic passing has left a hole in the community, but his legacy serves as a reminder of the importance of sharing the road and driving safely.

In the wake of Hackman's passing, local officials and organizations have redoubled their efforts to promote road safety and protect cyclists on the road. The Transportation Management

“...local officials have redoubled their efforts to promote road safety and protect cyclists on the road.”

Association of Chester County (TMACC), in particular, has been working to promote cycling as a safe and viable mode of transportation. Through events such as Bike to Work Day and advocacy efforts to improve cycling infrastructure, TMACC is committed to creating a safer and more accessible environment for cyclists in the area.

Hackman's death is a reminder that road safety is everyone's responsibility. Whether we're driving, cycling, or walking, we all have a role to play in keeping each other safe on the road. As we remember Michael Hackman and his contributions to the cycling community, let us also commit to driving safely and respecting the rights of all road users.

Michael had a passion for helping people and giving people a second chance. His way of living and his tragic death were influencers for Chester County's ongoing Bike & Pedestrian Safety Campaign. Ride Safe and drive aware! ♦

GO DEEPER:

2/11/23: **DAILY LOCAL NEWS**
<https://www.dailylocal.com/2023/02/11/michael-hackman-remembered-as-killer-goes-to-prison/>

7/22/23: **BICYCLE COALITION**
<https://bicyclecoalition.org/michael-hackman-killed-in-willistown-bike-crash/>

7/11/23 : **DAILY LOCAL NEWS**
<https://www.dailylocal.com/2021/02/10/delco-man-held-for-trial-in-fatal-hit-and-run-case-in-chester-county/>

GET TO WORK, safely.



One is commuting to work.
One is working.
Be aware of one another
and beware.

As advocates for safe commuting throughout the county, the Transportation Management Association of Chester County is the comma in the headline.

We're all about commuters, period.



610-993-0911 | www.tmacc.org



Bike to Work Month Recap: Annual Collaboration for a Greener Commuting

This past May marked another successful Bike to Work Month, with cycling enthusiasts across the country dusting off their bikes and hitting the road.

In Chester County, Pennsylvania, three organizations collaborated to promote the benefits of cycling as a mode of transportation: the Transportation Management Association of Chester County (TMACC.org), the League of American Bicyclists (bikeleague.org), and the Bicycle Coalition of Greater Philadelphia (bicyclecoalition.org).

Together, these organizations worked to raise awareness about the many benefits of cycling, including reduced traffic congestion, improved air quality, and increased physical fitness. They also encouraged individuals to consider cycling as a viable commuting option, highlighting the many cycling trails and routes available in the area.

TMACC.org played a key role in promoting Bike to Work Month in Chester County, encouraging individuals to pledge to bike to work at least once during the month of May. The organization also provided helpful resources and tips for cyclists, including safety gear recommendations, cycling etiquette, and route planning.

The League of American Bicyclists also contributed to the success of Bike to Work Month, providing a national platform for promoting cycling as a mode of transportation. The organization offered numerous resources and materials to support local efforts, including a Bike Month Guidebook and a National Bike Challenge to encourage individuals to bike more often.

Finally, the Bicycle Coalition of Greater Philadelphia played a critical role in promoting cycling in the greater Philadelphia area. The organization worked with local businesses and institutions to offer incentives and support for cyclists, such as free breakfasts for bike commuters and bike valet services at events.

Through their collaborative efforts, TMACC.org, the League of American Bicyclists, and the Bicycle Coalition of Greater Philadelphia demonstrated the power of community in promoting cycling as a mode of transportation. They showed that with the right resources, education, and support, cycling can become a fun, healthy, and eco-friendly option for commuters of all levels.

As Bike to Work Month comes to a close, it's important to continue promoting cycling as a mode of transportation year-round. With the help of organizations like TMACC.org, the League of American Bicyclists, and the Bicycle Coalition of Greater Philadelphia, we can work towards creating a more sustainable and enjoyable commuting experience for all. ♦

For more information:

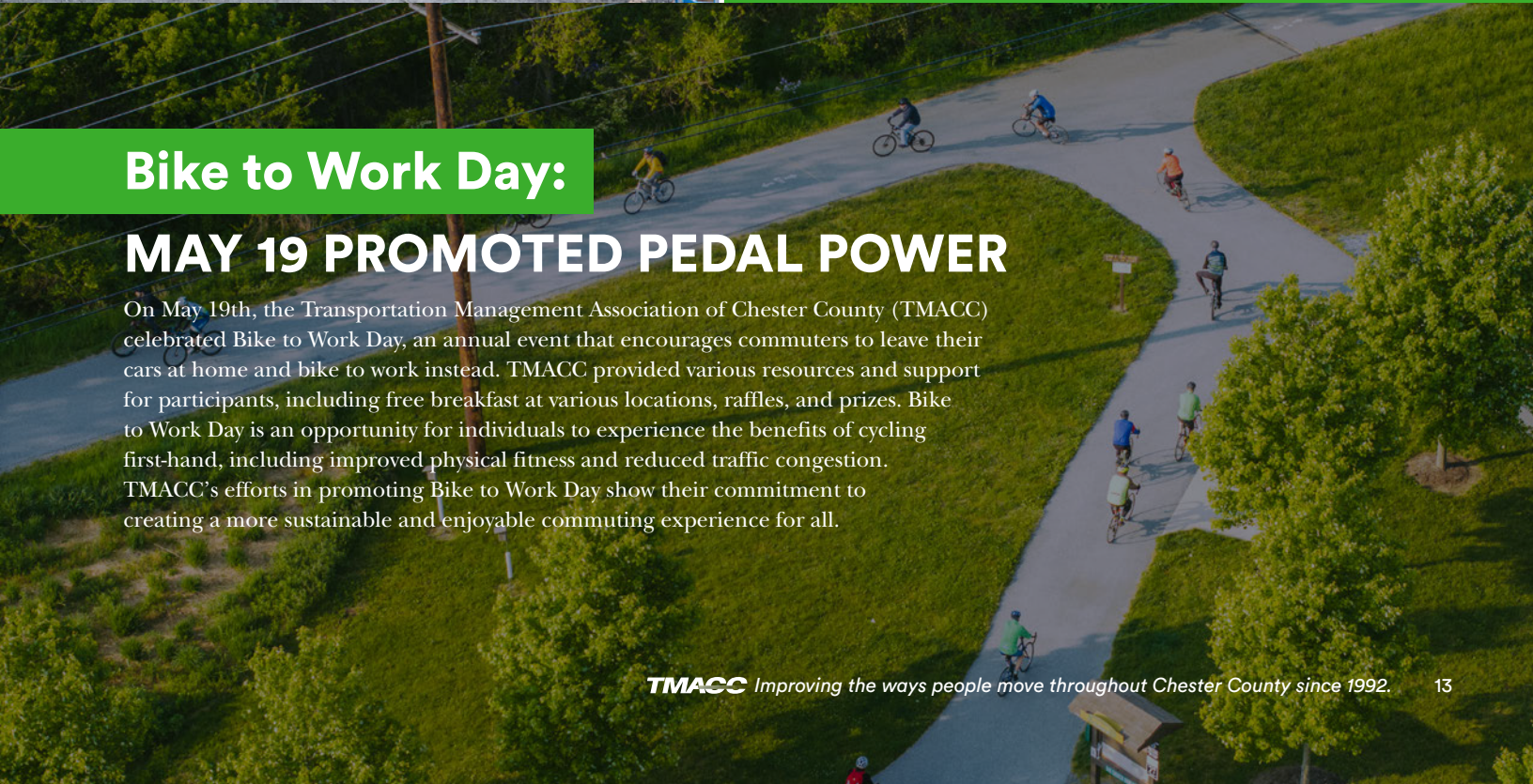
- Bikeleague.org
- Bicyclecoalition.org

Vanguard and other bigger county companies used the day for a big win!



Bike to Work Day: MAY 19 PROMOTED PEDAL POWER

On May 19th, the Transportation Management Association of Chester County (TMACC) celebrated Bike to Work Day, an annual event that encourages commuters to leave their cars at home and bike to work instead. TMACC provided various resources and support for participants, including free breakfast at various locations, raffles, and prizes. Bike to Work Day is an opportunity for individuals to experience the benefits of cycling first-hand, including improved physical fitness and reduced traffic congestion. TMACC's efforts in promoting Bike to Work Day show their commitment to creating a more sustainable and enjoyable commuting experience for all.



PennDOT's Commitment to Safe and Equitable Transportation: Balancing Mobility and Community Needs.

Q&A with Michelle Tarquino

Michelle Tarquino is a valuable member of the PennDOT (Pennsylvania Department of Transportation) team. She joined PennDOT in May 2006 and has been involved in programs and projects of varying complexity since then.

Michelle's experience spans across different Deputates, where she has collaborated with stakeholders at the federal, state, and regional levels, as well as with elected officials and local governments. Her role as Executive Assistant in the Multimodal Deputate encompasses responsibilities such as assisting in the implementation of PennDOT's Active Transportation Plan, assisting with management of the Multimodal Transportation Funding (MTF), policy development and coordination, and handling special projects.

If you're a Chester County commuter, it's very likely that Michelle's work has made your life better in some way. Michelle has a unique insight on a variety of projects throughout the County and *ChesGO!* thought it would be interesting to sit down with her and ask her a few questions.

How are projects prioritized?

PennDOT recognizes the importance of fostering strong partnerships to plan, evaluate, and implement transportation projects that prioritize safety and mobility for all modes of travel. PennDOT collaborates with regional partners to understand community needs to identify roadway and bridge improvements. Each project requires stakeholder involvement, time, and financial investment.

How are community and infrastructure needs evaluated?

The process of planning through project delivery takes time, as it involves a variety of factors, such as incorporating safe streets and traffic calming measures into a resurfacing project. PennDOT aims to create transportation systems, with our partners, that meet the evolving demands of changing technology, travel patterns, pavement and bridge condition, and varying modes of transportation.



Michelle Tarquino
Executive Assistant,
Multimodal Deputate



“ PennDOT recognizes the importance of fostering strong partnerships to plan, evaluate, and implement transportation projects that prioritize safety and mobility for all modes of travel. ”

How are multimodal transportation options being embraced?

In today’s diverse transportation landscape, individuals have numerous options to choose from, including buses, bicycles, walking, scooters, trains, and even horseback riding. PennDOT recognizes the importance of accommodating choices and supports the development of infrastructure that caters to all users, regardless of their preferred mode of travel. This commitment is reflected in the collaboration with federal, state, county, and local partners, as well as in engagement with residents to incorporate Active Transportation facilities suitable for users of varying skillsets and abilities.

How is Active Transportation incorporated into planning?

To ensure effective project planning and delivery, the PennDOT Connects process is implemented, which emphasizes early and frequent communication. This approach allows for meaningful discussions and consultations about the integration of Active Transportation design concepts into both on-road and off-road infrastructure. By involving stakeholders in the planning phase, PennDOT aims to create transportation systems that align with community expectations and needs.

What is an example of Active Transportation infrastructure?

An excellent example of PennDOT’s collaborative efforts is the Chester Valley Trail. In this project, the staff of PennDOT Engineering District 6-0 worked closely with county and local staff to implement a design concept that strikes a balance between safety and mobility for all users. The collaboration and coordination between various entities resulted in the successful development of infrastructure that caters to the needs of pedestrians, cyclists, and other active transportation users. The Chester Valley Trail exemplifies PennDOT’s commitment to delivering projects that prioritize safety, while also promoting multimodal transportation options. ♦

PennDOT’s commitment to fostering partnerships and prioritizing safety and mobility in transportation projects is evident in the department’s approach. By considering community and infrastructure needs, integrating safe street measures, accommodating various modes of transportation, and engaging with stakeholders, PennDOT strives to deliver reliable and equitable transportation systems. The success of projects like the Chester Valley Trail serves as a testament to PennDOT’s dedication to creating a transportation network that benefits all users. With leaders like Michelle Tarquino contributing their expertise and experience, PennDOT continues to make significant strides in the implementation of its Active Transportation Plan and the overall improvement of transportation in Pennsylvania.



Let's End This \$8 BILLION “Industry”

Take Action During National Vehicle Theft Prevention Month

Chester County commuters put in long hours to afford their beloved motor vehicles. Whether it's your daily driver you depend on to get to work, the family minivan that hauls the kids to practice and school, or a sporty hot rod that's fulfilling your long-awaited dream, that hard-earned vehicle should never end up in the hands of thieves.

July is *National Vehicle Theft Prevention Month* and the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) is warning vehicle owners about the threat of vehicle theft.

Vehicle theft is a multi-billion-dollar industry in the United States, costing vehicle owners more than \$8 billion in 2022 alone. That same year, more than one million vehicles were stolen in the United States, accounting for a 25% increase in vehicle theft totals over the previous few years. Historically, passenger cars made up more than 74% of all stolen motor vehicle. Estimates show that approximately one motor vehicle is stolen every 32 seconds.

In 2021, Pennsylvania was did not make the National Insurance Crime Bureau's list of top ten states with the most stolen vehicles but, still, theft happens in the Keystone State and commuters must remain vigilant.

How can you keep your vehicle safe? Always:

- Park in well-lit areas.
- Close and lock all windows and doors when you park.
- Hide your valuables.
- Do not leave your keys in your vehicle.
- Do not leave the area while your vehicle is running.
- Consider purchasing extra layers of protection for your vehicle if your manufacturer does not provide an anti-theft system. This could be something like an anti-theft system, which can be easily purchased online or in a store. ♦

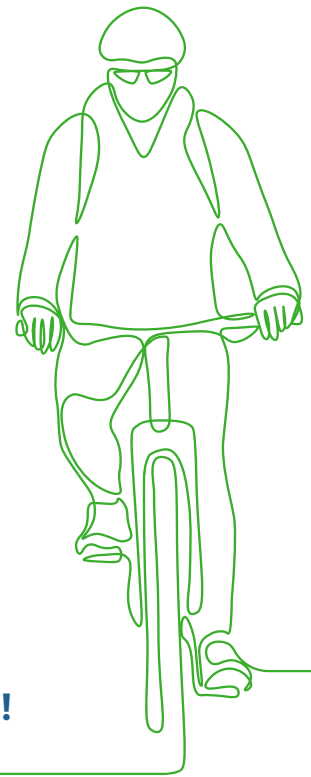
For more information on motor vehicle theft prevention, visit [NHTSA.gov/theft](https://www.nhtsa.gov/theft) or contact the Transportation Management Association of Chester County.

FAST FACTS

- 1,000,000+ cars were stolen in 2022
- 250,000 car thefts reported to law enforcement during the fourth quarter alone
- 2022 saw a 25% increase in vehicle theft totals from 2020 and 2021.
- Passenger cars made up approximately 74% of all stolen motor vehicles.
- A motor vehicle is stolen every 32 seconds in the United States.
- In 2022, thieves stole more than \$8 billion in motor vehicle value.

It Pays to Commute by Two Wheels!

Introduced in United States House of Representatives on May 18, 2023, HR3473 reinstates and expands the tax exclusion for employer-provided fringe benefits for bicycle commuting. It allows employees a bicycle commuting benefit equal to 30% of parking fringe benefits!



H.R. 3473: THE BICYCLE COMMUTER ACT OF 2023

The bicycle is the most efficient form of urban transportation ever devised. Cycling reduces carbon emissions, provides enormous physical and mental health benefits, and is one of the most cost-effective modes of transportation available. Communities across the country have realized these benefits and substantially invested in building better bike networks and improving facilities for biking to work. While rates of biking to work have increased by more than two-thirds since 2000, still, only 0.4% of workers biked to work in 2021.

THE PROBLEM—INCENTIVES TO DRIVE TO WORK BUT NOT TO COMMUTE BY BIKE

Despite these developments, there is no commuter tax benefit for biking to work—like we have for parking and transit. First enacted in 2009, the bicycle commuter benefit was a tax benefit that employers could offer to provide a reimbursement of up to \$20/month for expenses relating to bicycle commuting expenses. But if an employee elected to take advantage of the bicycle commut-

ing reimbursement, they were not eligible to receive transit or parking commuter benefits. The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (P.L. 115-97), suspended the bicycle commuting reimbursement benefit through 2025, taking away a valuable financial incentive for people who choose to bike to work.

THE SOLUTION—THE BICYCLE COMMUTER ACT OF 2023

With more employees choosing to bike to work, it is critical that Congress reinstates the bicycle commuter benefit and uses this opportunity to improve the benefit to reflect present-day commuting options. The Bicycle Commuter Act reverses the bicycle commuter benefit's suspension in Public Law 115-97 and changes the structure of the benefit by:

- 1) Making the benefit a pre-tax benefit, like parking and transit, rather than a reimbursement;
- 2) Allowing employees to receive a bicycle benefit of up to 30% of the parking benefit (currently equivalent to \$81/month, less than \$1,000/year, for bicycling);

- 3) Allowing the bicycle benefit to be used in concert with the transit and parking benefits;

- 4) Adding bikeshare and scootershare as eligible for the benefit and clarifying that electric bikes are eligible.

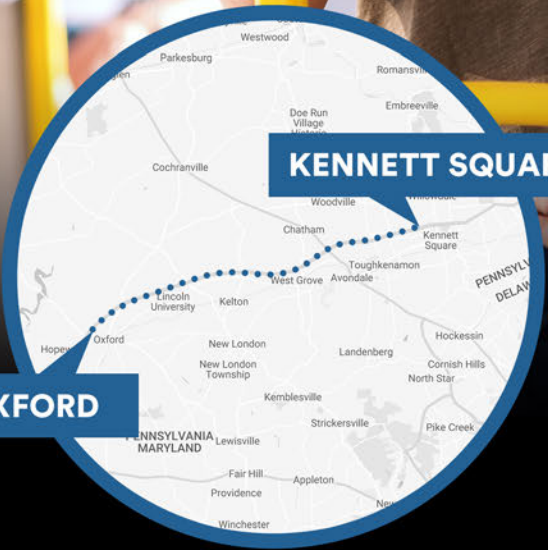
The bill, proposed by Congressman Earl Blumenauer, Third District of Oregon is currently endorsed by the *American Society of Landscape Architects, Association for Commuter Transportation, Coalition for Smarter Transportation, Florida Bicycle Association, League of American Bicyclists, North American Bikeshare and Scootershare Association, PeopleForBikes, Rails to Trails Conservancy, Safe Routes Partnership, Sierra Club, and the Transportation Management Association of Chester County* among others.

REACH OUT

to Chester County's Representative Chrissy Houlahan and tell her that you support this important bill!
<https://houlahan.house.gov>

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FOR FUNDING ChescoBus:
PennDOT, Chester County Commissioners,
and Municipal Partners!

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LINK
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ACCESSIBLE



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TMACC.ORG/CHESCOBUS

WEEK WITHOUT DRIVING

Could you do it?

Challenge yourself to leave the car at home!



The Transportation Management Association recently heard about the first-ever *National Week Without Driving Challenge*, organized by The National Coalition for a Week Without Driving to be held October 2-8, 2023. We were intrigued!

The *Week Without Driving* challenges elected leaders, advocates, and individuals to understand the barriers for non-drivers. Could you do it?

Participants can get around however they want, but can't drive themselves. This applies to all activities — not just work commutes. The challenge isn't about not using a car, rather it's to see what it's like to not be the one able to drive, to better understand what it's like to try to navigate their communities without the privilege of driving.

For the past two years, *Week Without Driving* has been focused on Washington State, but this year, the *Week Without Driving* will go national with the educational effort.

The National Coalition is inviting mobility justice advocates across the US to invite elected leaders and transportation professionals in their communities to take the challenge to better understand what it is like to not be able to drive yourself wherever and whenever you need or want.

Chester County businesses and organizations that want to take part could reach out to TMACC and we will facilitate a meeting with America Walks.

All participating corporations will take part in national coalition organizing meetings, and be provided with templates and other resources to make their own *Week Without Driving* challenges a success.

The National Coalition was convened by the Disability Mobility Initiative, America Walks, Access Living, and Front and Centered.

In addition to organizations that would like to host a #WeekWithoutDriving challenge, anyone individual driver can sign up to learn more and participate as an individual at weekwithoutdriving.org.

Want to challenge yourself to not drive for one week? Sign up for the challenge and get connected to local organizations hosting the events.

Organizations who want to host a *Week Without Driving* event in their own communities will get connected to The National Week Without Driving Coalition for resources, materials, templates, support, and more.

Participants are encouraged to promote their walks with the hashtag:

#WeekWithoutDriving



2023 TMACC AWARDS

The 2023 TMACC Membership Breakfast and TDM Awards was yet another popular TMACC event.

Attendees were treated to an informative presentation by keynote speaker Heather Martin of WSP, who spoke about equity and how to incorporate it into more deliverables for a successful project.

Seven awards were given out for the categories of Community, Connectivity, and Advocacy, including **West Whiteland Township**, **London Grove Township**, and **WSP** who were honored for their investment in furthering the sidewalk/trail network. **Vanguard** continues to support their employees through their commuter shuttle service and pre-tax commuter benefits, and **West Chester University's** bicycle lending library allows students to have transportation options.

The Chester County Freight Plan, a joint effort of the **Chester County and Delaware County Planning Commissions**, identifies freight transportation and needs across the area. The **Chester County Commissioners** were honored for their collaborative creation of the Schuylkill River Passenger Rail Authority, which will provide many TDM benefits for the region.

Chester County Commissioner Marian Moskowitz spoke about the history and future plans for the Schuylkill River Passenger Rail Authority. Congratulations to the winners, and thank you Heather and Commissioner Moskowitz! ♦



JULY
20

Transportation Briefing: PA Turnpike Edition

📍 Chester County Economic
Development Council
737 Constitution Dr, Exton, PA

🕒 7:30 - 9am

Learn about the widening project between Valley Forge and Downingtown/Exton and the Turnpike's modernization and integration of new technology for the tolling system.

More information and reservations at:
TMACC.org



Above, left to right: Brian Styche, Brian O'Leary, Kristen Scudder, Dan Wanger, Cat Bianco, Brian Dunn, Rajesh Kumbhardare, Jill McDonnell, Bradley Flamm, Tim Phelps

At left: Commissioner Marion Moskowitz, Tim Phelps, Commissioner Michelle Kichline

Bottom left: Heather Martin



SEPT
15

International Parking Day

Since the pandemic we continue to see the benefits of street closures for community gathering and dining. TMACC continues to advocate for Complete Streets which includes the concept of converting parking space for multimodal use. If your company or organization would like to design a fun space and participate in Park(ing) Day, please contact TMACC for more information.



TMACC Presents at DVRPC Workforce Mobility Summit

At the recent DVRPC Workforce Mobility Summit, Tim Phelps, the Executive Director of the Transportation Management Association of Chester County (TMACC), gave a presentation on the importance of alternative transportation options for employees.

Phelps emphasized that providing employees with alternative transportation options, such as biking, walking, car-pooling, or taking public transit, can have numerous benefits for both the employer and the employee.

Noting the alternative transportation options can help reduce traffic congestion, decrease carbon emissions, Phelps talked about improved overall air quality.

“These options can save employees money on commuting costs and improve their physical health and wellbeing,” he said “For employers, offering alternative transportation options can improve employee satisfaction and retention, as well as enhance their reputation as a socially responsible organization.”

The Transportation Management Association of Chester County’s challenges implementing alternative transportation programs were outlined, including overcoming the perception that driving alone is the most convenient option and ensuring that employees have access to safe and accessible infrastructure for biking and walking. However, Phelps noted that these challenges can be overcome through partnerships with local organizations and government agencies, as well as through education and outreach efforts.

Phelps stressed the importance of prioritizing alternative transportation options as a means of promoting sustainability and improving employee wellbeing. By working together to create a more sustainable and accessible transportation system, we can create a brighter future for both our communities and our planet.

“ These options can save employees money on commuting costs and improve their physical health and wellbeing. ”

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TMACC.org

Air Quality continued from page 9

The Partnership forecasts “Action Days,” or days when the air is expected to be unhealthy to breathe. Using a color-coded scale, the forecast informs people about the predicted ozone and fine particulate matter (PM2.5) levels and any precautions that need to be taken.

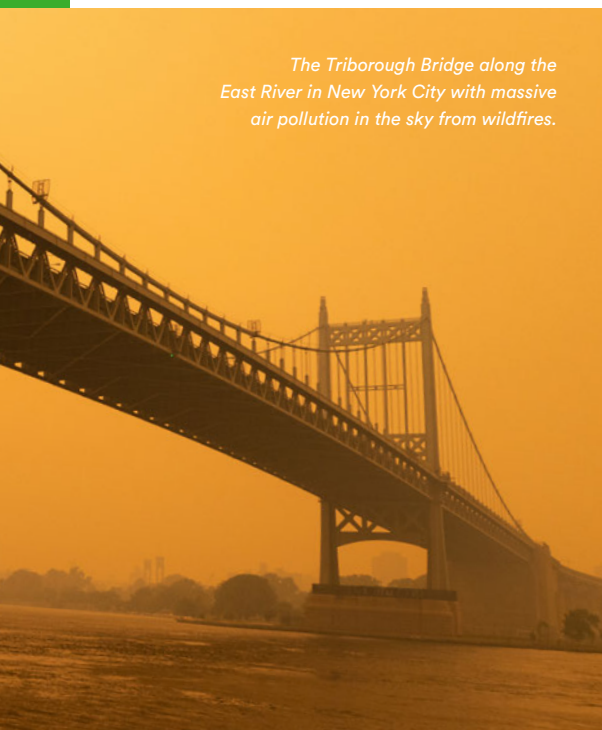
Ozone in the stratospheric ozone layer protects us from the sun’s harmful rays. But at ground-level, where we breathe it, it’s not so good for us. In the summer, sunlight and high temperatures ‘bake’ pollutants emitted by motor vehicles, power plants, industrial manufacturing and other sources to form high levels of ground-level ozone, commonly known as smog.

Particle pollution is the term for tiny drops of liquid or small particles of dust, metals and other material that float in the air. Some particles are large or dark enough to be seen as soot or smoke. Others are so small that they can only be detected with an electron microscope. Particle pollution comes from a variety of sources such as cars, power plants, factories, construction sites, forest fires, and municipal waste incinerators. ♦

For more information:

PA Air Quality Partnership

<https://www.ahs.dep.pa.gov/AQPartnersWeb/key.aspx>



The Triborough Bridge along the East River in New York City with massive air pollution in the sky from wildfires.

EVENT RECAP:

TMACC TRANSPORTATION BRIEFING OVER BREAKFAST

06.23 SEPTA EDITION

TMACC members gathered at the Desmond Hotel for the June Transportation Briefing presented by SEPTA. Attendees learned SEPTA’s micro transit routes in Chester County, future Paoli Thorndale service, and long range sustainability plans.

Visit [TMACC.org](https://www.tmacc.org) to join us for our next Transportation Briefing.



