

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE MONMOUTH COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL'S SUPPORT FOR WIDENING THE GEORGE WASHINGTON BRIDGE'S SIDEWALKS TO ALLOW FOR MORE EFFICIENT AND SAFE BICYCLE /PEDESTRIAN TRANSPORTATION

WHEREAS, The Monmouth County Transportation Council supports active transportation and the construction of active transportation facilities; and

WHEREAS, The George Washington Bridge's sidewalks are the only connection across the Hudson River between New York City and New Jersey for pedestrians, runners, and bicyclists; and

WHEREAS, New York City cyclists frequently travel across the George Washington Bridge to access trails and businesses in New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, The bridge's heavily utilized shared-use paths are seven feet wide where constrained by the bridge's suspender ropes; and

WHEREAS, The Federal Highway Administration guidelines establish that shared-use paths should be between ten and fourteen feet wide when heavily used; and

WHEREAS, The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey is planning an extensive renovation that will replace all of the Bridge's suspender ropes beginning in 2018 and lasting until 2025; and

WHEREAS, As part of the project, the paths will be replaced and new ramps that will provide access to the paths will be constructed, but that the paths themselves will not be widened; and

WHEREAS, The planned renovation project for the George Washington Bridge presents a unique opportunity to build improved sidewalks able to safely and comfortably accommodate the increasing number of pedestrians and bicyclists expected to use the bridge in the decades to come; and

WHEREAS, Improving active transportation infrastructure and capacity increases the resilience of the transportation network; and

WHEREAS, New sidewalks along the George Washington Bridge would be able to accommodate a much larger number of cyclists and pedestrians in the event of a disruption affecting other transportation infrastructure connecting New Jersey and New York City; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED due to the opportunity for a significant improvement in regional active transportation infrastructure, as well of as to support growing bicyclist tourism throughout New Jersey, the Monmouth County Transportation Council is in support of improved width and capacity of the paths on the George Washington Bridge.

Motion by Eric Nelson

Seconded by member Barry Frost and adopted on the following roll call vote:


In the affirmative: Anthony Garaguso, Jeffrey Vernick, Nicholas Ponzio, Eric Nelson, Barry Frost

In the negative: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Nancy Grbelja, Betsy Barrett, Benjamin Lucarelli, Peter Van Nortwick

I do hereby certify that the foregoing
is a true copy of a resolution adopted
by the Monmouth County Transportation
Council at a meeting on April 9, 2019



James Bonanno
MCTC STAFF ADVISOR