

## Safe Routes Everywhere!

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# SWACC: SAFE WALKING AND CYCLING COMMITTEE

Sean Meehan, Co-Chair, Highland Park SWACC

### How Did I Get Started?













### What is SWACC? What do we do?



- Volunteers appointed by Mayor/Council
- Established by ordinance & overseen by a Council member
- Advise, review & monitor bike/ped policy and programs
- Started as a Complete Streets Advisory Board



### How to we recruit members & partners?



- Recruit via word of mouth
- Work with existing committees
- Attract via events
- Meet people where they are





### What has worked?



- School Travel Plan
- Community Events
- Grant Funding
  - 2 SRTS Grants
  - SRTS Design Assistance
  - LTA for Bike/Ped Master Plan
- Development Review









### What are some "lessons learned?"



- Dedicated Council Liaison has been essential
- Public outreach is vital
- Make sure positive feedback is recorded





### What is next for SWACC?



- Continue public outreach & events
- Implement Bike/Ped Plan
- Update Complete Streets Policy







## Safe Routes Everywhere

Lisa Serieyssol
Safe Routes to School Coordinator, GMTMA
Princeton Bicycle Advisory Committee, Chair

### How I got started:

 Concerns about the safety led me to volunteer on our bike & pedestrian advisory committee, PBAC.

- Then, 5 years ago our young son asked: Can I ride my bike to school?
  - 2 mile ride to school
  - cross 3 County roads
  - at rush hours
  - no crossing guards at intersections

### Instead we started the first Walk/Bike to School event in our town



### Now it's happening twice each year at 5 district schools



### Princeton Bicycle Advisory Committee

#### Role:

- advise Mayor and Council on future pedestrian and bicycle facilities
- promote and accommodate safe walking and bicycling

### Structure:

- 9 full members apply for 3 year term
- Two liaisons- Council member, Municipal Engineer
- Officers: Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, sub-committees

#### **Partners:**

- Mayor, Council, Municipal staff
- Other municipal boards & committees: Planning, Site Plan, Transit, Environmental, Health, Youth, etc.
- Sustainable groups, Green Team
- Police
- Neighborhood associations
- Cycling and walking groups
- School district, PTOs, school nurses, high school and middle school clubs, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts
- Bike-friendly businesses
- Library

### PBAC advises on bike infrastructure



TRANSFORMING WIGGINS/HAMILTON FROM
SYLVIA BEACH WAY TO WALNUT LANE
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# PBAC and community volunteers installing Beta Bike Lanes



## PBAC organizes/participates in many community events

### May is National Bike Month!

- April 1 Riverside Walk/Bike to School Day
- April 22 John Witherspoon MS Walk/Bike to School Day
- April 26 Communiversity
- May 6 (tentative date) Littlebrook Walk/Bike to School Day
- May 8 (tentative date) Johnson Park Walk/Bike to School Day
- May 9 Princeton Green Fest
- May 11-17 National Bike to Work Week
- May 15 National Bike to Work Day
- May 15 Community Park Walk/Bike to School Day
- May 16-17 East Coast Greenway NYC-PHL Ride (overnight in Princeton)
- May 16 Wheels Rodeo
- June 13 Ciclovia & Chasing George (& Chasing George All Around)





Updates on more events:

@princetonPBAC

Princeton Bicycle Advisory Committee

### Successes

- Bicycle Mobility Plan adopted into Master Plan, 2017. Implemented as roadworks are scheduled
- ❖ Beta Bike Lane experiment leads to Engineering and Complete Streets study – 1.1 mile corridor
  - -- Connects Schools to Central Business District
  - Recommendations to improve safety of pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists
- Safe Routes To School grants:
  - Pedestrian signals and upgraded traffic lights near high school and middle school
  - County road intersection redesign in front of elementary school - traffic & pedestrian signal installation, sidepath reconstruction and sidewalks extended

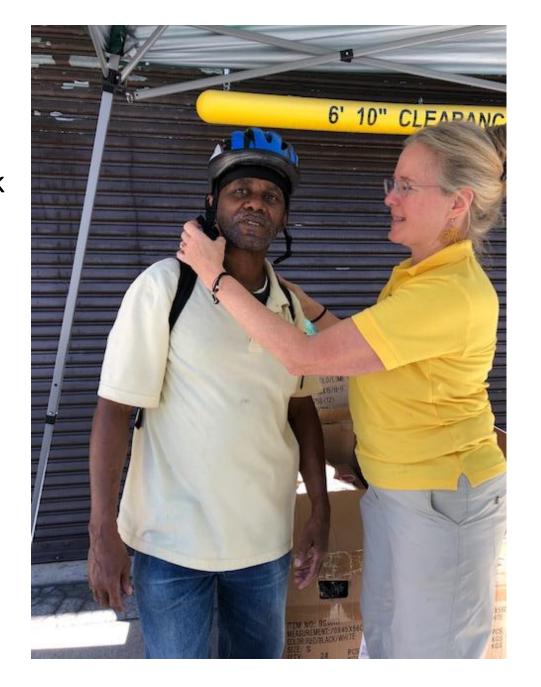
### Lessons learned:

- Identify "champions" and create a network of them
- Strategy: appeal to grassroots and municipal officials
- Build a broad base of support, including community members and residents
- Takes time to get infrastructure changes pack your patience
- Change is hard for most

### What's next:

- Corridor study to Mayor and Council this year for final consideration
- Propose adoption of Vision Zero policy
- Bike Mobility Plan Bike Boulevards to be installed this year
- New edition of Princeton Bike Map
- Host overnight stay of East Coast Greenway NYC-PHL fundraising ride-300+ cyclists. Community, merchants, municipality welcome riders!
- Planning 2 Ciclovias in 2020

After 7 years of being a volunteer and champion, I now work at **Greater Mercer TMA** as ProgramCoordinator for Safe Routes to School and **Street Smart** 





### Overview

- · How I personally started
- Millburn Pedestrian Safety Advisory Board
- Partners
- Successes (what has worked)
- Lessons learned (what did not work)
- · Looking ahead

### How I personally started

- Transportation engineering classes
- · Urban Areas as Environments
- Environmental Engineer
- · Idle free Millburn
- Millburn Bike Network
- Complete Streets
- · Bike&Walk Millburn
- · Parent Teacher Organization Council Safety Committee
- Millburn Pedestrian Safety Advisory Board (PSAB)













## Millburn Pedestrian Safety Advisory Board (PSAB)

- Volunteer advisory committee to the Township Committee concerning issues affecting pedestrian safety and acting in a manner consistent with the Traffic Issues Management Policy adopted by Resolution 19-079 and as amended.
- Mission: To make Millburn Township's streets and paths safe for all users through education and enforcement of mindful behaviors, while advocating for access for pedestrians and cyclists, providing input into design and operation of crossings and roadways, and serving as a forum for community input.
- Meetings: quarterly on the first Wednesday of the month at 8:00 a.m. and one evening
- 9 members: 3 residents, Township Committee Liaison, PTOC Liaison, Superintendent, Engineer, Chief of Police, Business Administrator
- Website: Important Documents, Crash Data Information, Helpful Links

### Partners

- · Schools (Millburn is SRTS GOLD!)
- Transportation organizations
- · Municipal boards
- · Police
- Administration
- Health organizations









### Successes (what has worked)

- Safety
- · Health
- Economics
- Passion
- · Resilience

- Public outreach
- Funding
- Public officials
- Master Plan
- Empowerment



### Lessons learned (what did not work)

- Lack of public outreach
- Funding
- · Public officials and turnover
- Volunteers
- Cyclical nature of environmentalism

### Looking ahead

- · Meeting regularly
- Subcommittees of residents for areas
- Collaborating with schools
- Collecting projects
- Organizing for the future



# Q&A



**SafeRoutes** 

