

W. Reed Gusciora

Mayor

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The Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission 190 N Independence Mall West, 8th Floor Philadelphia, PA 19106-1520

A Letter Expressing Support for Request by Mercer County Planning Department for Grant Funding under DVRPC's Transportation and Community Development Initiative

To the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission,

I am writing to express my support for Mercer County's application for grant funding under the Transportation & Community Development Initiative from the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC).

The Mercer County Planning Department is hoping to apply these funds to perform a feasibility study of a project that could link the City of Trenton, Ewing Township, Lawrence Township, and the Municipality of Princeton by a green trail known as the Johnson Trolley Trail Corridor. Like many other projects in the state such as the Middlesex County Greenway, this project would link these already close communities by way of a safe, open, and accessible trail that will incentivize healthy activities for Mercer County residents. I am particularly intrigued by the prospect of connecting this trail directly to downtown Trenton, granting further ease of access to the Capital City and its storied history, and giving the City's residents another resource to use for travel, physical activity, and outdoor recreation.

As my colleagues on the Trenton City Council shall also make apparent in their resolution, The City of Trenton has full understanding of the proposed project and study, and is more than willing to cooperate and coordinate with the Mercer County Planning Department and the other local organizations involved in this project. Among them is the Lawrence Hopewell Trail Corporation (LHTC), which has helped construct and maintain the Lawrence Hopewell Trail for over twenty years. I have the utmost confidence in LHTC and in their leadership, including

LHTC's Board chair David Sandahl, whom I met with to discuss this project in March, and Executive Director Lisa Serieyssol, whom I have known for many years and am certain will ensure this funding's efficient and effective use.

I hope that my commentary has encouraged you to support this partnership. I look forward to seeing the results of this feasibility study, and with all hope, seeing this trail constructed and witnessing the City of Trenton's residents utilizing this resource for decades to come.

Sincerely,

W. Reed Gusciora

Mayor, City of Trenton