

**PUBLIC COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS**  
**RELATED TO DVRPC BOARD ACTION ITEMS**

**January 28, 2021**

**2c. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Action**

**NJ20-056: CR 616 (Church Rd), Vicinity of NJ 38 to Camden County Line (DB #D2013), Camden County**

**From:** John Boyle

**County:** Burlington

**Zip Code:** 08010

**Date Received:** 1/19/2021

**Comment/Question:** Comment from the Bicycle Coalition of Greater Philadelphia  
There is no mention of bicycle facilities in the TIP project description. Church Rd is listed in the Camden County Master Plan as "to be considered" for bicycle facilities on this road. If bicycle facilities are not included, then we request an explanation as to why they were rejected.

**Response:** Thank you for your comment. Your comment was forwarded to the DVRPC Board, DVRPC Office of Capital Programs, and Camden County.

The County Master Plan makes a distinction between Proposed, Planned and To Be Considered facilities. Facilities "To be Considered" are evaluated by our Complete Streets policy and checklist on a project specific basis. As determined by the project design engineer and safety concerns with the lack of cartway width, there is not sufficient room to allow for a bike facility on this stretch of Church Rd.

**2d. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Action**

**NJ20-057: CR 655 (Fries Mill Rd), CR 610 (Clayton-Williamstown Rd) to NJ 47 (Delsea Drive) (DB #D2015), Gloucester County**

**From:** Debbie Kaighn

**County:** Gloucester

**Zip Code:** 08322

**Date Received:** 1/19/2021

**Comment/Question:** I hope this happens. I live 3 miles from Fries Mill and cycle it often to link up to other designated lanes. I would also like Delsea Dr. in Franklinville to be considered since Clayton and Glassboro already have lanes designated.

**Response:** Thank you for your comment. Your comment was forwarded to the DVRPC Board, DVRPC Office of Capital Programs, and Gloucester County.

Thank you for your support of this project. Gloucester County is committed to include bicycle improvements whenever possible as part of our improvement projects. The County's project for the Board's action is limited to Fries Mill Road, County Route 655 as to the County's authority. The proposed bike lanes will provide the link to Delsea Drive; however, it will not include the designation of the State Highway for formal bike lanes as part of the project, as the authority lies with the New Jersey Department of Transportation. To have Delsea Drive be considered, please contact NJDOT directly at NJ Bicycle & Pedestrian Resource Center, <http://njbikeped.org/>.

### **Public comments on non-action items**

**From:** Michael Sousa

**County:** Bucks

**Zip Code:** N/A

**Date Received:** 1/25/2021

**Comment/Question:** My name is Michael Sousa.

I recently moved to a new area in PA, Sellersville.

I was hoping someone within your organization could help me with something pertaining to preserving a natural field.

The area is currently owned by the township and there were plans to build 5-10 different baseball/soccer fields as well as a bike path on the 37 acre parcel. These plans were originally designed in 2010 and revised in 2015.

I'm an avid outdoorsman and conservationist and would hate to see that beautiful parcel be turned into playing fields when there seems to be plenty of other fields organizations have access too.

My question to you is, what can I do to help put another option in front of the township for them to consider. This area could be such an important area for wildlife and forestation. I'd love to see them partner with an organization that does wildlife enhancement. I feel like the township is preserving a lot of open space here but then not utilizing them in any way to help our wildlife, native plants and other species.

I feel as if this area could be utilized to do something really good for our wildlife and ecosystem as a whole.

This is something I am super passionate about and would 100% be willing to do my own

fundraising and community outreach to generate awareness of this but I keep thinking that it'd be a great area for a nature preserve where wildlife and the ecosystem could prosper. With that being said you could still do some kind of natural trail system but keep it not so manicured.

Are you aware of any organization or programs for funding or anything that might be able to assist me with giving the township another option to consider instead of fields?

Any response would be very much appreciated.

Thank you for your time.

Respectfully,  
Michael Sousa

**Response:** Thank you for your comment. Your comment was forwarded to the DVRPC Board and DVRPC Office of Environmental Planning.

DVRPC recognizes the importance of maintaining open space in a natural state for wildlife and conservation. While our potential role in determining the use of this municipal parcel is limited, we recommend you contact Sellersville Borough to get a better understanding of why there may be a need for additional active recreation facilities (assuming the parcel lies within the borough). In addition, the [Bucks County Planning Commission](#) is a valuable resource. They can be reached at [bcpc@buckscounty.org](mailto:bcpc@buckscounty.org) and their Director of Open Space Programs is John Ives. Thirdly, both the [Heritage Conservancy](#) and [Natural Lands](#) work throughout the region to preserve open space, and they may have some ideas/thoughts on how to maintain the parcel in a natural state. Here is the [contact](#) for the Heritage Conservancy and the [contact page](#) for Natural Lands. Finally, Sellersville or the surrounding communities may have Environmental Advisory Councils that could offer assistance.

As for other resources to help you advocate for natural lands, DVRPC maintains several pages on [open space planning](#) on our website. We encourage you to take advantage of these resources and please let us know if you have any additional questions.

Thank you for your interest and best of luck in opening up a discussion about the future of this parcel.