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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
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**MAYOR REDD APPLAUDS \$23 MILLION IN FEDERAL RECOVERY ACT FUNDING  
FOR BIKE AND PEDESTRIAN PATH**

CAMDEN – Mayor Dana L. Redd issued the following statement regarding today’s announcement of a \$23 million federal Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery grant for a bike and pedestrian path project that will connect Camden and Philadelphia:

“This bike and pedestrian path project is welcoming news not only for the economic impact it will have for Camden, Philadelphia, and the surrounding region, but also for the positive effect it will have on our environment,” Mayor Redd said. “The approval of this project is yet another example that emphasizes Camden’s revitalizations efforts are moving forward. I look forward to continue working with U.S. Senators Bob Menendez and Frank Lautenberg and our entire congressional delegation and President Obama’s administration to take full advantage of exciting opportunities that will help transform Camden and the surrounding area into a prosperous economic region.”

The project would construct a number of trails that would connect several bicycle and pedestrian trails between Camden and Philadelphia.

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## Making the Ben Franklin Bridge Safer for Biking and Walking

Since early January 2012, the Bicycle Coalition of Greater Philadelphia and Tri-State Transportation Campaign has organized the submission of 15 letters from area organizations (including Campbell Soup and AARP New Jersey) and letters from Senators Lautenberg and Menendez, Rutgers-Camden and Pennsylvania Center for Adapted Sports and the comments from over 1000 petition signers asking that DRPA restore funding for the ramp in its 2012 Capital Program.

On February 1st, DRPA designated \$350,000 to design the ramp, and committed to building it. More information is available on our blog. Thank you to everyone who signed the petition, made phone calls, and attended meetings to support the ramp's construction!

**December 9, 2011**

The Delaware River Port Authority recently announced that the access ramp promised for the Camden side of the bridge is no longer in the capital budget.

The ramp, publicly promised in 2010 by DRPA CEO John Mattheussen, would make the bridge accessible to bicyclists and pedestrians with disabilities.

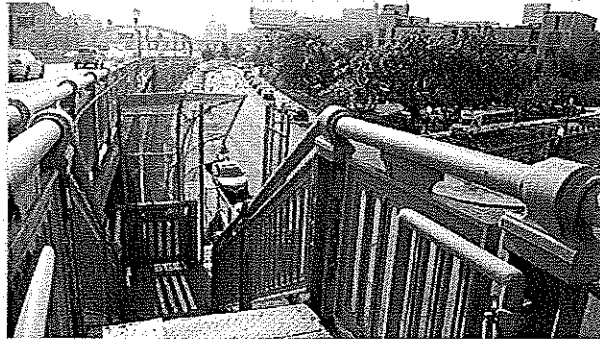
Less than one week remains in which to contact the DRPA and tell them to keep their promises to the region's bicyclists and pedestrians with disabilities. Read the Bicycle Coalition's letter to the DRPA Board of Commissioners

**SIGN OUR PETITION to send a message to DRPA: Build the Ramp!**

Based on the findings of *Crossing the Delaware for Transportation Independence* issued in June 2010, the Bicycle Coalition of Greater Philadelphia is calling upon the Delaware River Port Authority (DRPA) to take the following measures to transform the Ben Franklin Bridge into a high-quality transportation connector between Philadelphia and Camden for all of its users:

- Accelerate the design of a new ramp in 2011 to replace the three-story stair tower on the Camden side of the Bridge
- Make the entrances to the Bridge on both sides of the River more welcoming and inviting
- Develop a snow removal policy that opens the walkway as soon as possible during weather related events

Download the [full report \(7mb\)](#), [executive summary](#), and see [photos](#) from the Walkway and report. Read the press release [here](#).



The iconic Benjamin Franklin Bridge links Central Philadelphia to Camden, New Jersey. Opened in 1926, the Ben Franklin Bridge once featured right of ways for trolleys, subways, pedestrians and cars. Today, the Bridge carries motor vehicles, the PATCO High Speed Line and is one of only two Delaware River Crossings in Philadelphia that has a pedestrian walkway. The walkway is the only pedestrian and bicycle connection between Philadelphia and Camden without a fare or toll and offers one of the best views of the Philadelphia's skyline and the bustling Delaware River.

According to the Bicycle Coalition's counts during summer 2009, 500 bicyclists and pedestrians use the Bridge's walkway daily, yet accessing it can be a challenge. No signs point to the walkway entrances and warning signs and fences make the entrances uninviting, while access ramps and narrow passageways are barriers to accessibility. Access hours to the bridge are limited and the Delaware River Port Authority (DRPA) has no snow removal policy, interrupting winter access. The greatest barrier, however, is a three story stairwell on the Camden side of the river that makes the south walkway inaccessible for the disabled and an obstacle for bicyclists.



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## Camden County Bike Share program aims to get residents outdoors

May 19, 2012

By Allyson Budassi, for NewsWorks



Organizers say more than 20 volunteers are working regularly to make sure the bikes are ready to go this spring. (Photo courtesy of Camden County)

Residents of Camden County who may lack a source of transportation will get to enjoy some fresh air on two wheels this spring.

More than 200 used bicycles have already been collected, just in time for the start of Camden County's new bike share program later this month.

The program's goal is to refurbish each and every bike that is donated so that residents can get outside and enjoy being out in the open. In two weeks, the program will be launched and all are welcome to help out. Currently, there are close to 20 volunteers donating their time to make sure everything is ready.

Not only are volunteers working hard, but the municipalities are involved as well. According to Jeffrey Nash, a Freeholder and liaison to the Parks Department in Camden County, the Camden County municipalities have been helping to create the distribution points for the bikes.

"We have great people who work in Camden County," Nash said. "They are always thinking about great things they can do for residents."

There are plenty of bikes that have been donated thus far, but the Bike Share program is still looking for more.

Organizers say they will accept any and all bikes, no matter the condition. Nash says so far a lot of residents seem to want to get involved.

"The response has been overwhelming."

Aside from asking residents for their used bikes, the Bike Share program is looking for more volunteers to help with getting the bikes in working order and to help distribute them at the different locations.

The program welcomes residents of all ages who would like to volunteer their time. Bike Share organizers say they are willing to train anyone who may need it.

"We accept anyone with good intentions and preferably with bike experience," said Nash.

Camden County Freeholders say they created the program to help improve safety of the environment and the overall health of residents.

"I'm an avid runner and bike rider. The Freeholders are worried about the unhealthiness of this generation and it's a way to combat that," Dan Keashen, a spokesman for the Freeholders said. "And every car we can get off the road will make the county a better place from a clean air perspective."

There are plenty of bike trails in the South Jersey area and whether it's for recreational purposes or a means of transportation for some, the program will get people outside and out of their vehicles. Once the bikes are in working order and ready to be distributed, residents who may need the ride are welcome to have a bike for a nominal fee.

Although the program has yet to officially get up and running, the future seems bright. Residents have been volunteering their time and many bicycles have already been donated. Down the road, the Bike Share program could be welcomed in other counties as well Nash says.

"Good ideas have a way of transcending their borders."

Bike repairs will take place on Wednesday's and Saturday's at the Camden County Health and Executive Campus. Residents are encouraged to get involved in the cause, whether by donating their time or their bike.

You can find out more about the program and how to get involved on the Camden County website.

*If you are interested in volunteering your time to the Camden County Bike Share program, or have a bicycle to donate, contact the Camden County Division of Environmental Affairs at (856) 858-5241 or email [cchikeshare@camdencounty.com](mailto:cchikeshare@camdencounty.com).*

*Below, we've included a map with the participating Bike Share areas in Camden County thus far*


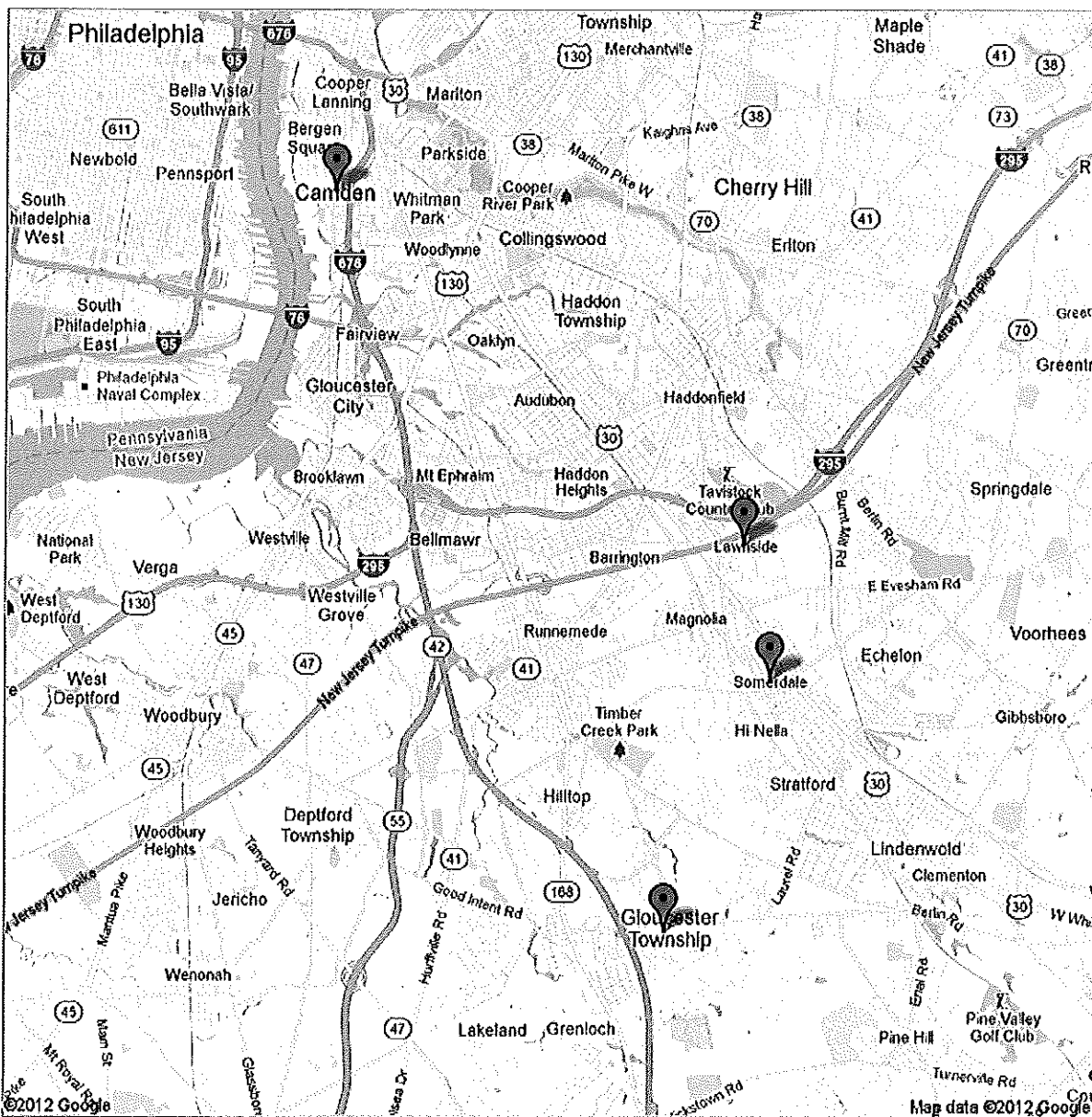
[View Camden County bike share network in a larger map](#)

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### Camden County bike share network

Areas in Camden County thus far involved in the bike share program

Public · 301 views

Created on May 17 · By Don · Updated May 17

-  Lawnside  
Involved in Camden County's bike share program.
-  Somerdale  
Involved in Camden County bike share program.
-  Gloucester Township  
Involved in Camden County bike share program.
-  Camden  
Involved in Camden County bike share program.

# Bike Lane on Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard

