

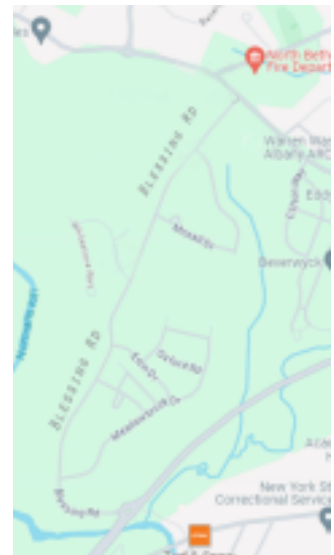
December 15, 2023

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing to express my support for the Town of Bethlehem's TAP/CMAC/CRP grant application for the **Blessing Road - Multiuse Path.**

The existing neighborhoods along Blessing Road are isolated from each other and from other parts of our Town and area. Currently, pedestrian or bike travel along the narrow shoulders of Blessing Road is not safe, which reduces the opportunities residents in North Bethlehem have for traveling to local destinations as well as recreation and exercise. The addition of a multi-use path along Blessing Road would improve our sense of safety and confidence.

- Blessing Road is the only way many hundreds of us that live along Blessing Road, who would like to choose an alternate mode of commuting as pedestrians walking with our families and friends or as bicyclists, must access adjoining services and recreational opportunities.
- There are over 6500 vehicles that travel Blessing Road every day at an average speed of 39 miles an hour. This makes trying to commute to adjoining areas and services as pedestrians or cyclists, very risky for both us as individuals and for the drivers along the road. Therefore, most of us are denied the alternative commuting options that we would very much like to have.
- There is only a 3-inch shoulder along Blessing Road, and one side has steep ravines that make it very dangerous to try to walk along.
- A walking and biking path would greatly add to our ability to experience the benefits of living in a walkable, livable community, which would create a better quality of life.



With this project completed, this area would enjoy a more connected community, improved quality of life, and the possibility of walking or biking to local businesses on New Scotland Road, the North Bethlehem Park, and other recreation or employment destinations. The path would also allow safer access to public transit. There is a CDTA bus stop approximately 0.1 miles south of the Route 85 and Blessing Road roundabout.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

«First_Name» «Last_Name»
«Street_Number» «Street_Name»
«City», «State» «Zip»