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## Middlesex Greenway Named Great Public Space

The Middlesex Greenway was designated a Great Public Space by the New Jersey Chapter of the American Planning Association.

“The Greenway has become an outstanding recreational space for residents of all ages and abilities. Families, couples and individuals have come here to bike, jog, walk, snow shoe, cross-country ski, exercise and more,” said Freeholder Charles E. Tomaro, Chair of the County’s Infrastructure Management Committee and an avid Greenway user. “It connects people to shopping and dining experiences, which boosts traffic to our small businesses. It is a fantastic place for our County Health Services Office and the YMCA of Metuchen, Edison, Woodbridge and South Amboy to host healthy events.”

“As you can see, the possibilities for experiencing this space are endless! That’s what you get when you have a plan that benefits so many people in so many ways,” said Freeholder Director Ronald G. Rios. “Middlesex County’s Board of Chosen Freeholders will always be dedicated to creating the best possible recreational opportunities for its residents, and to preserving all the natural beauty Middlesex County has to offer. In the future, we hope to expand the Greenway even farther.”

The Greenway is a 3.5-mile-long paved trail built over an abandoned rail line that runs through Metuchen, Edison and Woodbridge. There are entry points all along the trail so users may get on where most convenient.

During a ceremony celebrating the Planning Award, Freeholder Tomaro thanked the Middlesex Greenway Coalition for its commitment to the Greenway: “They were the catalyst for this project from the original concept through construction. They continue to be an important asset and ally by promoting use of the Greenway and working alongside the County to manage this special place.”



Tomaro also thanked the entire Board of Chosen Freeholders, County staff and the Borough of Metuchen, the Township of Edison and the Township of Woodbridge, which help maintain the safety of this recreational asset.

U.S. Representative Frank Pallone wrote in a congratulatory letter: “The trail systems, conservation area, recreational activities and special event opportunities the Middlesex County Greenway affords the local communities exemplifies the American Planning Association – New Jersey Chapter’s mission of a great public space. The success of this project serves as a model of how local, county, state and federal agencies and organizations can work together to preserve open space and provide enriched community resources.”



### Officials Celebrate Designation

Charles Latini, Jr., President of the American Planning Association, New Jersey Chapter (third from left), presents the award designating the Middlesex Greenway as A Great Public Space to (from left) Rick Lear, Director of the Middlesex County Office of Parks and Recreation, Freeholder Charles E. Tomaro, Chair of the County’s Infrastructure Management Committee, Walter Stochel, member of the Middlesex Greenway Coalition, and Edison Councilmen Leonard D. Sendelsky and Joseph A. Coyle.