## NYS&W Bicycle and Pedestrian Path

The NYS&W Bicycle and Pedestrian Path will be a 4.8 mile shared-use non-motorized path starting at River Drive in Pequannock and ending at the Mountain View Train Station in Wayne. The northern section of the path will be constructed on top of the existing railroad bed of the New York, Susquehanna, and Western (NYS&W) Railway's Pompton Industrial Branch using porous macadam. This section of the NYS&W railroad has been abandoned and is inactive. The southern section of the path (south of Ryerson Road to Mountain View) will be constructed as an elevated concrete path. The path will be separated from automobile traffic; although, there will be path crossings on streets along the corridor. The path will serve as a transportation and recreational facility that will connect residents, commuters, and visitors with parks, schools, libraries, businesses, and transit.

Morris County received federal funding from the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority (NJTPA) to conduct a feasibility study for the path. The completed study demonstrated a need for the facility, recommended a preferred alignment, and identified associated impacts, which needed to be considered as the project advanced. After the scoping study was completed, federal funding was secured for right-of-way (ROW) acquisition, design, and construction of the project. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) issued approvals to advance the path to the Final Design. This phase, started in December 2009, included field surveys, data collection, environmental testing, and design. The title search and appraisal of the rail corridor was completed in 2016 in order to proceed with purchase of the rail road property.

Currently, all environmental permitting for the path has been completed, all easements (North Jersey District Water Supply Commission, Wayne Township, and Hoffman Grove Association) have been secured for ROW authorization, and in August 2020 the line was officially purchased from NYS&W. The application for construction authorization was submitted to NJDOT for funding authorization in the fall of 2020.

Construction of the path is anticipated for the Spring of 2021.



