

DIVISION AVENUE BICYCLE PATH DEMONSTRATION

Starting October 24, 2024

Belleville wants your input on making Division Avenue safer!

Belleville Township is working on making it safer to walk and bicycle to Belleville High School. The Township will be showcasing a temporary bicycle path from October 24 to November 1 and wants to know what **YOU** think!

What is a Temporary Demonstration Project?

A Temporary Demonstration Project is a low-cost way to test out new street designs and get community input before investing in permanent changes. It allows residents and students to see and use the temporary infrastructure instead of relying only on concept images or descriptions.

What will Belleville be testing?

Belleville will be testing a two-way protected bicycle path between Nolton Street and Belleville High School along Division Avenue.

Protected bicycle paths provide a dedicated space for bicyclists to ride, away from motor vehicles and off sidewalks. Separating bicyclists and motor vehicles reduces conflicts that can arise due to the differences in their travel speeds. Bicycle paths have also been found to reduce motor vehicle speeds, increasing safety for all users. Pedestrians may also feel more comfortable with motor vehicle traffic placed further away from the sidewalk.

I live on Division Avenue. Will access to my home change?

Access in and out of your driveway will be maintained. A temporary no parking restriction will be in place during the demonstration period between Nolton Street and Belleville High School. Residents will be permitted to park overnight in the high school parking lot by the tennis courts.

How will the Township make the changes?

As part of this demonstration, temporary paint and signs will be added to delineate the two-way protected bike lane. In addition, plastic posts will be placed to help drivers understand the new traffic pattern.

How long will the demonstration be in place?

The changes will be in place from Thursday, October 24 to Friday, November 1.

How will success be measured?

The team's evaluation will include speed studies, direct observations, and feedback from residents. An online survey will be conducted once the changes are in place.

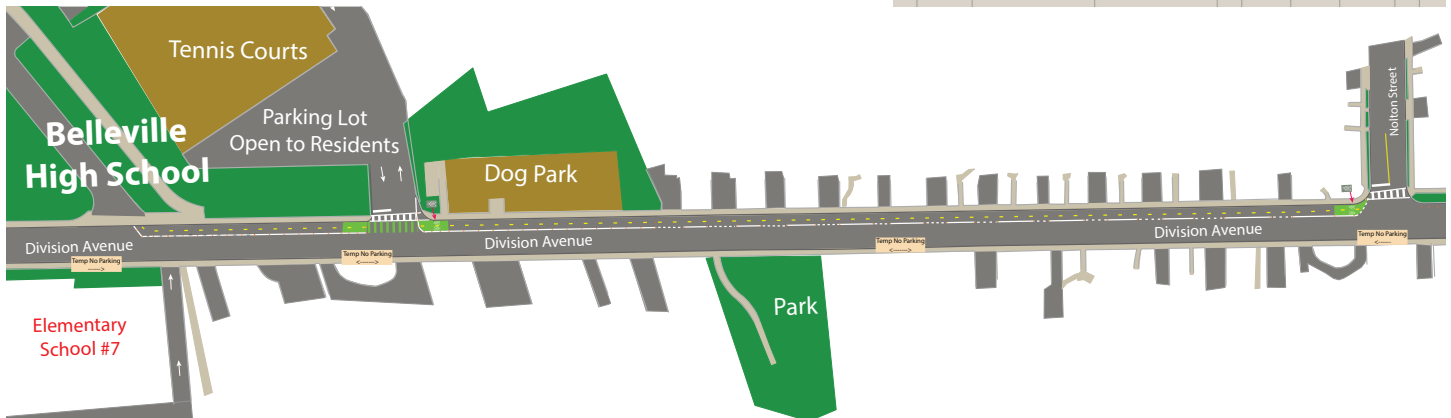
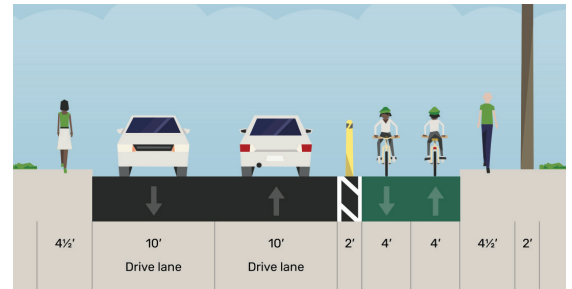
Why is this demonstration happening?

Belleville applied to the Complete Streets Technical Assistance program, a partnership of Rutgers-Voorhees Transportation Center, Sustainable Jersey, and the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority (NJTPA), to develop a Bicycle Network Plan for the high school neighborhood. The Plan will identify ideas to improve roadway safety around the school and to encourage students and residents to walk and bicycle to the school campus, instead of driving. Shifting school trips away from motor vehicles can help reduce neighborhood congestion and increase quality of life for residents. The demonstration will help Belleville and the project team learn more about transportation needs in the school neighborhood.



Temporary Bicycle Path

A two-way bicycle path, marked with temporary paint and movable plastic posts will be installed on the east side of Division Avenue, between Nolton Street and Belleville High School. Parking is currently permitted only on the west side of Division Avenue. During the demonstration, parking will be temporarily prohibited between Nolton Street and the high school. Residents are invited to use the high school parking lot by the tennis courts for overnight parking.



Related Events

During the demonstration, EZ Ride Transportation Management Association, Belleville High School, and the Township of Belleville will be hosting a Bike to School Day event on October 30. In addition, a Safety Training class will be held at the high school on November 1 for students.

Project Toolkit

Project materials are being provided by the NJTPA Complete Streets Demonstration Library. The NJTPA created the library to help communities interested in trying out bicycle lanes, corner “bump-outs,” and other safety, placemaking, and traffic calming features. To learn more, visit njtpa.org/demolibrary.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

October 24 - Demonstration Starts

October 25 - Online Survey Opens

October 26 - Halloween Spectacular on the Front Lawn of Belleville High School

October 30 - Bike to School Day led by the Belleville Police, Borderline Bikes, and EZ Ride

November 1 - Bike, E-Bike, and E-Scooter Safety Training for High School Students by EZ Ride

November 1 (evening) - Demonstration Ends

Public Input

Once the demonstration is in place, a questionnaire will be made available at <https://go.rutgers.edu/belleville-survey> or by using this QR code.



Questions?

For questions about this project, contact Brian Banda, Township Manager, at 973-450-3407 and bbanda@bellevillenj.org or Matthew Paladino, Belleville School District, at 973-450-3500 and matthew.paladino@bellevilleschools.org.



Township of Belleville
New Jersey



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