

A pedestrian/biking bridge: “The possible is a big deal”

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 Latest in a series of posts on Walkability and Bikeability 

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A Note on the Pedestrian/Biking Bridge

Like [Festival Unbound](#), the pedestrian/biking bridge project is focused on a unified vision of the future city. At its core is the concept of a wholly contemporary “walking city” serving the needs of a pedestrian and biking population. In a series of public meetings on the bridge, a seemingly unending flow of connections associated with the bridge were advanced by Bethlehem citizens. Among them are:

Reconnection of the city to its river for *environmental and recreational* purposes

The creation of a *pedestrian cultural hub* between Sand Island and the Banana Factory

Joining Historic Bethlehem and the Industrial History Museum — an advanced walking tour of *Bethlehem History*

Expansion of running and walking *marathons*, charitable events and city promotions

Social and communal links between Lehigh University and Moravian College

Connecting *downtown businesses* to South Side attractions

Creating a new, more physical dimension to *Bethlehem tourism*

Opening new *real estate markets* for people dedicated to inner city life

Creating a safe, *environmental corridor* from Illick's Mill to the Greenway for walkers and bikers

Providing a superior walking experience in support of *senior living* in Bethlehem

Linking downtown *festivals* to both sides of the river

Creating an exciting new *platform for night life* in Bethlehem

Promoting the integration of Bethlehem's *diverse cultures*

Producing a vital link in the *rail trail network* of Eastern Pennsylvania

Opening of the river banks to cultural and commercial activity

And more.....

Would a pedestrian/biking bridge make all these good things magically happen? No.....

A pedestrian/biking bridge would make them *possible*. The possible is a big deal.

Doug