



# NEW JERSEY COUNTY PLANNERS ASSOCIATION

President  
**Kamal Saleh**  
Union County

Treasurer  
**Virginia Michelin**  
Morris County

Secretary  
**Ryan Conklin**  
Warren County

President Emeritus  
**Tom Stanuikynas**  
Burlington County

Friday, May 17, 2024 at 11:00 a.m.  
At Thompson Park's Visitor Center, Lincroft, NJ  
*Meeting Fee - \$15.00*

## Minutes

**1. Welcome and Roll Call** – Mr. Saleh called the meeting to order at 11 a.m. Mr. Conklin called the roll call. 11 counties were present. A quorum at the beginning of the meeting.

## **2. Approvals**

**a. April 2024 Meeting Minutes** – Thomas Stanuikynas (Burlington) made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Ryan Conklin (Warren). All voted in favor.

**b. Treasurer's Report April-May 2024** – Mr. Conklin (Warren) made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report, seconded by David Schmetterer (Monmouth). All voted in favor.

## **3. Presentations**

### **a. Jack Molenaar and Akshita Saini – Road Diet Project: Perth Amboy, NJ Convery Blvd. (NJ Route 35)**

The safety audit was completed in one semester without public participation. Mr. Molenaar stated he would be reaching out to people of New Jersey to see if they would be interested in a free safety audit. The research team for the project was comprised of 14 Rutgers students who were split up into various disciplinary groups. The class looked at a 1.4 mile section of Convery Blvd (NJ Route 35) in Perth Amboy, NJ, which is a four lane highway in a Disadvantaged Community.

Ms. Saini reviewed the demographic information, along with language and transportation preferences. Miss Saini also discussed zoning suggestions for the area, including reducing parking requirements. She also discussed issues found with Convery Blvd, such as missing bus shelters, poorly positioned signage for bus stops, problematic



# NEW JERSEY COUNTY PLANNERS ASSOCIATION

President  
**Kamal Saleh**  
Union County

Treasurer  
**Virginia Michelin**  
Morris County

Secretary  
**Ryan Conklin**  
Warren County

President Emeritus  
**Tom Stanuikynas**  
Burlington County

pedestrian walkways, and limited ADA accessibility. Ms. Saini next discussed the crash data for this section of road, noting that between 2016 and 2019, there was an increased number of crashes reported, with numbers tapering during 2020. She also noted that some intersections produced higher crash rates, and proposed a design to eliminate future issues. The proposed design includes adding sidewalks, bike lanes, buffer lanes, and bus shelters where appropriate (near the new school and hospital).

Mr. Molenaar discussed potential improvements to several of the intersections which had higher crash rates including one lane travel per direction, the addition of bike boxes, curb extensions, hardened centerline, in-lane bus stops, and lowering the speed limit to 25 mph. The discussion was then opened to questions.

## **b. Chris Sturm – Policies and Practices to Establish on-and-off Road Trails in New Jersey**

Ms. Sturm began the presentation by discussing the purpose of the research study and their partners in the study, Voorhees Transportation Center and Trust for Public Land. She explained that the first goal of the study is to gather input from County Planners, followed by researching primary funding opportunities, interviewing trail program managers from DE, NY, and PA.

Ms. Sturm discussed trail projects happening at the Circuit Trail in southern New Jersey, the Liberty State Park Revitalization Program, the Hudson Greenway, and the East Coast Greenway. She then discussed the county's role in trail planning, funding, and construction, noting that municipalities are often more limited in expertise, perspective, and resources than the counties. Ms. Sturm then displayed several 'Building Trails Questions' and asked for responses to the questions.

## **c. Ryan Conklin - Warren County Transportation Master Planning and Implementation for Freight and Truck Management**

Mr. Conklin began his presentation stating that Warren County has been impacted by



# NEW JERSEY COUNTY PLANNERS ASSOCIATION

President  
**Kamal Saleh**  
Union County

Treasurer  
**Virginia Michelin**  
Morris County

Secretary  
**Ryan Conklin**  
Warren County

President Emeritus  
**Tom Stanuikynas**  
Burlington County

warehouse development due to a surplus of available land and that roughly 20-30 million square feet of warehousing has been approved over the past 12 years. He then discussed a timeline of efforts that have been made since 2019 toward pinpointing truck traffic related issues.

Mr. Conklin noted an increase in industrial development, changes in industrial zoning and land use, and changes in existing truck restriction as major contributors to an increase in truck traffic. Mr. Conklin next discussed implementation strategies, suggesting that The Truck Routing Map included in Appendix A of the Master Plan can help guide the municipal development of enforceable truck routes and can help prioritize capital improvements. Additionally, truck routing that is dictated by municipal ordinance can be addressed and enforced locally within the developer's agreement.

Mr. Conklin next discussed the Local Safety Action Plan and Complete Streets Study, noting that their goal for the Complete Streets Study was to identify 5 sites or areas that will undergo a full build up concept. In conjunction, these two planning documents will aid in procuring capital improvement funding. Mr. Conklin then open the discussion up to questions.

#### **4. Discussion Item**

##### **a. Land Development Standards and County Development Application**

Mr. Saleh stated that if anyone had items regarding land development that they would like to discuss with the group, they should begin the discussion.

Mr. Conklin stated that Matt from Mercer County completed an analysis of fees, and that he would like to send that out to everyone. He noted that Warren County has been going through a major change in their land development structure, both from an application standpoint and a standards standpoint, noting changes to the fee schedule and upcoming changes to technical standards. He also expressed positivity toward another recent change, which was to designate the Development Review Committee meetings for reviewing land development applications.

Mr. Saleh stated that in Union County, the Planning Board has delegated approval authority to the engineering and planning staff, noting that the full Board approves land development



# NEW JERSEY COUNTY PLANNERS ASSOCIATION

President  
**Kamal Saleh**  
Union County

Treasurer  
**Virginia Michelin**  
Morris County

Secretary  
**Ryan Conklin**  
Warren County

President Emeritus  
**Tom Stanuikynas**  
Burlington County

committee reports which memorializes the staff decisions. An open discussion of this topic ensued.

## 5. Committee Reports

Mr. Saleh reported that for DLT, there is a municipal aid application being accepted for \$150 million in FY25, noting that the application process was from April 29<sup>th</sup> to July 1<sup>st</sup>. He also reported that the plan to transform the Brooklyn Marine Terminal with investments of 122 acre Brooklyn waterfront area with the state and city contributions up to \$95 million dollars. Mr. Saleh also stated that there is the JFK Redevelopment Traffic Investment Study; \$1.5 billion for expansion and renovation for terminal four and \$400 million for terminal eight.

On May 16<sup>th</sup>, NJ Transit upgraded the Camden Bus Garage project which received National Recognition for Engineering Excellence for the electric Vehicle Charging system which has 24 charging stations. On May 13<sup>th</sup>, NJ Transit announced that the Portland North Bridge has reached a 50% completion. The new bridge, which is 2.4 miles long will replace the current 114 year old bridge and it is part of a \$1.56 billion project.

## 6. Agency Updates

### a. Donna Rendeiro – Office for Planning Advocacy

Ms. Rendeiro stated that David from Monmouth County had been working on mapping protocols utilizing Survey123. She is working to send out the map to each County, which will allow them to manipulate planning area boundaries and center boundaries to make recommendations. There will also be a live training held to help guide County Planners in using the map. Ms. Rendeiro stated that she was still receiving comments on the map from State agency partners, noting that garnering cross-acceptance from the State agencies and working on mapping are two important elements of the project. She also stated that she would not be scheduling any public hearings yet.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:17 p.m. by a motion from Mr. Conklin, seconded by Mr. Saleh.



# NEW JERSEY COUNTY PLANNERS ASSOCIATION

President  
**Kamal Saleh**  
Union County

Treasurer  
**Virginia Michelin**  
Morris County

Secretary  
**Ryan Conklin**  
Warren County

President Emeritus  
**Tom Stanuikynas**  
Burlington County

## County Attendees

Tom Stanuikynas  
Elena Gable  
Francesca Giarratana  
Sophia Calcaterra-Hull  
William Millette  
Bob Hornby  
Mirah Becker  
Andrew Lappitt  
Harriet Honigfield  
David Schmetterer  
Virginia Michelin  
Joseph Barilla  
Mike DiGiulio  
Andras Holzmam  
Jason Miranda  
Walt Lane  
Samantha Quan  
Tom Boccino  
Erika Phillips  
Autumn Sylvester  
Kamal Saleh  
Ryan Conklin

## Affiliation

Burlington  
Cumberland  
Hudson  
Hudson  
Hunterdon  
Hunterdon  
Middlesex  
Middlesex  
Monmouth  
Monmouth  
Morris  
Morris  
Morris  
Passaic  
Passaic  
Somerset  
Somerset  
Somerset  
Somerset  
Sussex  
Union  
Warren

## Partners/Presenters

Donna Rendeiro  
Allen Weston  
Chris Sturm  
Zeke Weston  
Akshita Saini  
Jack Molenaar

## Affiliation

SPC/ORA  
NJPO  
NJ Future  
NJ Future  
Rutgers  
Rutgers