



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

NJCPA Regular Meeting
Friday, September 20, 2024 at 11:00 a.m.
Brookdale Community College
765 Newman Springs Road, Lincroft, NJ
Meeting Fee - \$15.00

Minutes

1. Welcome/Introductions & Welcome County Engineers (NJSACE) - Kamal Saleh called the meeting to order at 11:00.

2. Approvals: Treasurer's Report – June – August, 2024
Meeting Minutes – May 17 & June 14, 2024

3. On-and Off Trail Study – Update by Leigh Ann Von Hagen, Managing Director, Alan M. Voorhees Transportation Center, and Rebecca Levitsky, Bloustein Student.

Mrs. Levitsky provided an overview of the analysis that the VTC was conducting on trails funding in the State of New Jersey at the County level. She showed that while some counties and significant open state trusts much of that is not being utilized for trail improvements or enhancements. Some Counties like Morris, have a trail construction grant program that they offer to municipalities on a yearly basis which was allowed via referendum. They compared funding for trail improvements in other states like Delaware. This is the initial phase of the project. It is anticipated that it will progress into best management practices suggestions or guidelines for trail grant programming in the State at the County and State level.

4. MUTCD Sign Regs & Location Action Safety Plan – Presented by Debra Kagan, Executive Director, NJ Bike & Walk Coalition

Ms. Kagan displayed her presentation which discusses Safe Passing Law, Complete and Green Streets Policies, and Share Use Paths/Trails. The first slide discusses Pedestrian and Bicyclist Fatalities as a Percentage of Total Traffic Fatalities in New Jersey, noting that in 2021,



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pedestrians comprised 17.6% and bicyclists 2.2% of all traffic fatalities.

Ms. Kagan's presentation next explains the 4-Foot Safe Passage Law, which went into effect in 2022. The following slide discusses New MUTCD Guidance on State Laws and demonstrates that with the introduction of the NJ Safe Passage Law, the minimum clearance went from three feet to four feet. It also demonstrates that the introduction caused the removal of "Share the Road" signs which were replaced by "Allowed Use of Full Lane" (Bicycles). Ms. Kagan's presentation explains that these signs are recommended by the MUTCD to be placed where limited bicycle infrastructure exists. Mr. Kagan then provided information for anyone who is interested in learning more about the Safe Passing Law.

Ms. Kagan's presentation then moves on to iterate the goal of their FHWA Safe System Approach combined with their method of Complete Streets, which is a Zero Death Initiative. Next, there is discussion of the funding for these projects, along with a review of participating Complete Streets Policies throughout the State.

Ms. Kagan referenced a 2019 Complete & Green Streets for All Model Complete Streets Policy & Guide. Next, she compared Safety Action Plans with Complete Streets, demonstrating that they have the same goals and can be useful in aiding one another. Lastly, Ms. Kagan's presentation asks two questions: 'Are Share Use Paths included in your transportation planning process?' and 'What are the barriers you face in developing more trails in your county?'

5. Transportation Planning Panel Discussion – Guest Speakers:

- Eric Powers, Assistant Commissioner of Statewide Planning – NJ Dept. of Transportation
- Louis Millan & Matthew Safer, Sr. Dir., Ridership Forecasting & Analysis NJ Transit
- Gregory R. Krykewycz, Director of Transportation Planning, Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission
- David Behrend, Executive Director, NJ Transportation Planning Authority
- Jennifer Marandino, Executive Director, South Jersey Transportation Planning Organization
- Zoe Baldwin, NJ Director, Regional Plan Association



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The following questions were posed and discussed by the panel:

- What are the major projects your agency is currently working on and expect to be working on in the near future that would impact associated regions and County/local governments areas?
- What do you envision to be critical near-term projects and future projects and how will they impact the state and associated County/regions? Do you see sufficient funding for these projects?
- What trends or issues do you see developing in relation to the changes in transportation demands, economy, and employment changes? How will your agency address these trends/issues related to transportation?
- Do you believe changes in policies or regulations in land use will be needed to help shape improvement to transportation, either roadways or transit ways?
- How do you see the coordination of transportation projects/multi-modal projects associated to County and Local Governments? How would they impact your agency?
- As recreation demands have increased by the public do you see an increase in funding for trail planning and how they fit into your agencies planning efforts?
- How will agencies deal with or incorporate State Planning efforts into your agency's transportation planning?

Mr. Saleh moderated the discussion which each panelist provided responses the series of transportation planning related questions ranging from long term goals, funding, roadblocks, policy issues and needs. There was discussion on regional NJ Transit, NJDOT, and Port Authority public transportation infrastructure projects. Regional planning initiatives by the SJTPO, DVRPC, and NJTPA were discussed and analyzed. There was conversation on trends in the regions as well on use of public transportations. Land use considerations as they relate to transportation infrastructure needs and accessibility an issue that the panelist also deliberated. Lastly the panelist agreed on the importance of coordination and cooperation with the State Plan as a mechanism of organization for future transportation statewide.



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6. Agency Updates:

NJOPA- Donna Rendeiro – provided an update on the release for the draft state plan and stated that she is still hopeful that it will be released in November.

7. Committees & Old/New Business-Committee reports were tabled until the October meeting in the essence of time.

8. Adjournment

Meeting Adjourned at 2:30 on a motion by E. Gable seconded by R. Conklin. All voted in favor.

County Attendees

Affiliation

Bob Lindaw	Atlantic
Ben Woodward	Atlantic
Tom Stanuikynas	Burlington
Elena Gable	Cumberland
Francesca Giarrantana	Hudson
Samuel Schroeder	Hudson
Sophia Calcaterra-Hull	Hudson
Katherine Fullerton	Hunterdon
Bob Hornby	Hunterdon
Maria Connolly	Mercer
Andrew Lloyd	Mercer
Mathew Zochowski	Mercer
Denise Nickel	Middlesex
Michael Dannemiller	Middlesex
David Schmetterer	Monmouth
Virginia Michelin	Morris
Joe Barilla	Morris
Walt Lane	Somerset
Samantha Quan	Somerset
Tom Boccino	Somerset



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Victoria Schultz	Somerset
Kamal Saleh	Union
Ryan Conklin	Warren

Partners/Presenters

Affiliation

Nicholas Angerone	NJDEP
Meghan Levy	NJDEP
Simnran Riar	NJ DCA
Donna Rendeiro	SPC/OPA
Alan Weston	NJAC
Rebecca Levitsky	VTC
Sean Meehan	VTC
Eric Powers,	NJ Dept. of Transportation
Louis Millan NJ Transit	NJ Transit
Matthew Safer,	NJ Transit
Gregory R. Krykewycz	DVRPC
David Behrend	NJTPA
Jennifer Marandino	SJTPO
Zoe Baldwin	RPA
Debra Kagan	NJB&WC