Dear Readers,
Welcome to this issue of the NJ Walks and Bikes Newsletter, a bi-weekly service prepared by the New Jersey Bicycle and Pedestrian Resource Center (NJBPRC). If you would like to learn more about NJBPRC, please visit us here.

Nominate a Complete Streets Champion!

We need your help! The New Jersey Bicycle & Pedestrian Resource Center and the New Jersey Department of Transportation are asking readers to nominate New Jersey residents to receive a Complete Streets Champion award.

Awards will be presented by NJDOT and BPRC to two deserving champions at the bi-annual New Jersey Complete Streets Summit on October 26, 2015. Awards will go to those who have demonstrated commitment to advancing Complete Streets and active transportation in their community.

To nominate a champion, please email Charles Brown at charles.brown@ejb.rutgers.edu with a short description of why the recipient deserves the award.

Next BPAC Meeting

Our next meeting is scheduled for September 17, 2015, from 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m, and you’re invited!
The meeting will be held at the Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy at Rutgers University: 33 Livingston Avenue, New Brunswick, NJ, 08901.

Subcommittee meetings will take place from 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m., in rooms 261, 253, and 477. The general meeting will take place from 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., in room 261.

Please visit http://njbikeped.org/nj-bpac/ for additional information

4th Annual "Christmas in July" Bicycle Giveaway and Rodeo

The NJ Bicycle and Pedestrian Resource Center's Ambassadors in Motion (AIM) assisted with the 4th Annual "Christmas in July" Bicycle Giveaway and Rodeo in Plainfield on July 23. Held by the local Salvation Army, AIM assisted Meadowlink, a Transportation Management Association for northern and central New Jersey, to teach elementary school-aged children how to bicycle safely on the street and the rules of the road. Obstacle courses were set up to simulate an actual street, where proper hand signaling and observation skills were emphasized.

Bicycles and helmets were donated thanks to the efforts of the local Dairy Queen and the Salvation Army. Approximately 150 bicycles were given away at the event, totaling to over 1,000 bicycles given to those in need over the course of the initiative's existence. Plainfield Public Schools Community Engagement, the local police department, and other community organizations were also present to assist and support this great event.

Watch a news video here, and check out Plainfield Public Schools' Facebook page for more details.

Building 'Human Infrastructure' and Equity through Ciclovías

A closer look into the influence of Ciclovías on human infrastructure

Ciclovías are becoming a prominent activity that are making significant strides to encourage more active transportation in cities throughout the United States. Although their existence is increasingly
popular, very little is known about whether they have an equitable impact on socio-spatial development aspects in the communities where they are being implemented. To garner a discussion on the topic, this article touches on the role of human infrastructure in Ciclovías and its relationship with the built environment. The goal of Ciclovías is to temporarily close streets to motor vehicles and free them to cyclists, walkers, runners, etc.

Continue reading the full article here.

Central Bergen Bicycle & Pedestrian Plans

Promoting bicycling and linking key destinations in Central Bergen County

Funded by the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority (NJTPA), Bergen County recently completed the Central Bergen Bicycle & Pedestrian Plans, in order to encourage more walking and bicycling to major destinations in eight municipalities in central Bergen County.

The plan’s objectives were:

- Identify linkages among key destinations, community facilities, parks, and transit stops;
- Connect to existing or planned off-road paths;
- Build on municipal plans to promote biking and walking; and
- Address safe crossings of major county roads.

The public played an important role in shaping the bicycle and pedestrian network and proposed improvements. Through a Technical Advisory Committee, municipal participation was critical to the development of the plans and will be essential in its implementation.

The project team developed both a low-stress analysis and a crash-data analysis to highlight existing trouble spots and potential opportunities. The goal was to avoid high-volume, high-speed traffic corridors to identify a priority network for pedestrians and bicycles. The low-stress analysis found that there are few connecting roads comfortable for the average bicyclist today.
Complete Streets in New Jersey
An up-to-date list of Complete Street Policies in New Jersey

There are currently 119 municipalities and 7 counties with Complete Streets policies in NJ, with Bound Brook in Somerset County being the most recent addition. This brings the total NJ population living in municipalities with Complete Streets policies to over 3 million people or 37.46% of the population. Essex and Bergen Counties lead the way with 13 municipalities having adopted policies each, followed by Mercer County with 12. Salem and Passaic Counties remain the only counties without any municipal Complete Streets policies.

To access the most up-to-date list of Complete Streets policies adopted in the state, please click here.
Final link appears likely for Secaucus Greenway
NorthJersey.com- August 3rd

New Jersey beach named among the nation’s most walkable
Matawan-Aberdeen Patch - July 25th

#OpenStreets15 preview: Building equity in New Brunswick
Alliance for Biking and Walking - July 28th

Bicycle stunt rider's show combines skill with safety
New Jersey Herald - August 5th

For more local NJ bike/ped headlines, national news, opinion pieces, and the crash report, click here!

Alan M. Voorhees Transportation Center, 33 Livingston Avenue, New Brunswick, NJ 08901

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