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](https://ui.constantcontact.com/visualeditor/visual_editor_preview.jsp?agent.uid=1120273804739&format=html&print=true).

Summary of 2015 New Jersey Bike and Walk Summit

Making NJ a Better Place for Biking and Walking

The 2015 New Jersey Bike and Walk Summit was held Saturday, February 21, attracting hundreds of attendees from around New Jersey who are interested in making the state a better place to bike and walk. Held at the Bloustein building in New Brunswick for the fifth consecutive year, the summit was organized by the New Jersey Bike and Walk Coalition in collaboration with the Voorhees Transportation Center (VTC) at Rutgers. From 8am until 5pm, advocates, elected officials, planners and the general public were invited to attend over two dozen presentations on a range of topics concerning bicycling and walking in New Jersey.

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New Jersey Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Council (BPAC) Meeting

Please mark your calendars! The next BPAC meeting will take place in Room 369, Wednesday, March 18, 2015 at the Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public. Policy Subcommittee meetings will take place from 9:30am -10:30am and the General Meeting from 10:30am - 12:00pm.

Low Stress Bicycle Network Connectivity
How to Increase the Number of those Biking

It's no secret that pedestrian and bicycling infrastructure are gaining significant traction as a vital way to develop cities and their transportation network connectivity in the United States. Just one look at new initiatives championed by United States Department of Transportation and their secretary, Anthony Foxx, insinuates that the federal government is emphasizing bicycling and walking as viable forms of transportation.

One of the most impactful tactics to encourage safer bicycling and walking design is the DOT’s promotion of the NACTO Urban Bikeway Design Guide, which compiles best practices from world renowned...
cycling cities and looks at their application to American cities. Not only are the new initiatives aimed at improving physical infrastructure, but improving perceived safety and lowering stress for walkers and bikers as well.

To read the full article, click here.

Planning Participation in Capital Improvements

Complete Streets infrastructure requires committed investment into bicycle lanes, sidewalks, and vehicle lanes, as well as aesthetic improvements such as lights, benches, and trees. Funding these improvements may be difficult, so departments and organizations must work together in order to implement a unified vision that optimizes funds. One way to build this relationship is to create an alliance between planning commissions and those in control of capital improvements through Capital Improvement Plans (CIPs). Capital improvements are "major non-recurring physical expenditures such as land, buildings, public infrastructures and equipment."

Every city, town, or county has a capital improvements budget that can be utilized in implementing Complete Streets improvements.

To read the full article, click here.

COMPLETE STREETS IN NEW JERSEY

An up-to-date list of Complete Street policies in New Jersey

There are currently 112 municipalities and 7 counties with Complete Streets policies in NJ, with Hamilton Township in Mercer 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 36.62% of the population. Essex County leads the way with 14 municipalities having adopted policies, followed by Bergen County (13) and Mercer County (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.
BIKE/ PED NEWS FEED

February 14, 2015 - February 27, 2015

Traffic study underway in Millburn
NorthJersey.com - February 26th

Linden to receive $200,000 in Safe Routes to School funding from NJDOT
Union News Daily - February 24th

Small grants for local health initiatives have big impact on NJ communities
NJSpotlight.com - February 20th

Study: contingency of pedestrians walking distracted
News 4 Reno - February 25th

Why it’s so hard to punish drivers who kill pedestrians
Salon.com - February 22nd
For more local NJ bike/ped headlines, national news, opinion pieces, and the crash report, click here!

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