



# NJ BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN RESOURCE CENTER

Educate. Encourage. Empower.

Issue: 43

March 20, 2015

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## Dear Readers,

Welcome to this special edition of the NJ Walks and Bikes Newsletter, prepared by the New Jersey Bicycle and Pedestrian Resource Center (NJBPRC). If you would like to learn more about NJBPRC, please visit us [here](#).

## THE BPRC TEAM

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## \*\*SPECIAL EDITION NEWSLETTER\*\*

## Potential Solutions to Address Distracted Driving and Walking in New Jersey (2014)

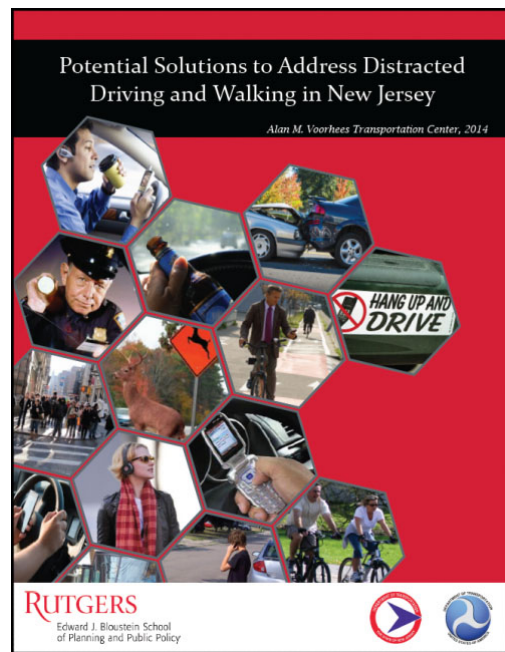
### Release of Report!!

We are happy to announce the release of our report on the "Potential Solutions to Address Distracted Driving and Walking in New Jersey". The objective of the report is to examine the perception of distracted driving and walking problems in New Jersey and to understand the extent of support for possible solutions. Distracted driving and walking have become more serious over the past decade, in some cases leading to crashes involving fatalities and injuries.

In light of these emerging issues, the Alan M. Voorhees Transportation Center undertook a study that examined perceptions of distracted driving and walking and their solutions amongst three different groups of people: pedestrians (surveyed as they walked outside), police officers, and urban planning professionals.



A total of 788 pedestrians, 156 police officers, and 209 planning professionals completed surveys. The responses show that all three groups believe distracted driving is on the rise in New Jersey. Over 90% consider it to be a very serious or serious problem. Distracted walking is also thought to be more prevalent in recent years, but all three groups consider it to be a less serious problem than distracted driving. Among the different types of distractions while walking, texting while crossing streets is considered to be particularly unsafe.



Further, all three groups are in agreement on the following points:

- A need for mandatory education for new drivers on consequences of distracted driving
- Support for stricter enforcement of existing laws
- Support for more severe legal penalties for drivers using a cell phone at the time of a crash
- Low support for ticketing distracted pedestrians

To see the full report, [click here](#).



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