



**BPAC Legislative and Policy Subcommittee Meeting
March 16, 2017
Rutgers University
33 Livingston Avenue, New Brunswick, NJ**

Attendees: Janna Chernetz (Chair), Dana Dobson, Cyndi Steiner, Leigh Ann von Hagen, Olivia Glenn

Meeting: 12:15 – 1:30

Legislative Update:

- (1) Senator Gill has been assigned to the transportation committee
 - (a) Worked on draft of bike safety bill...maybe able to work to revive that bill now with her on the committee
 - (b) She was appointed to committee that has been a roadblock in the past
 - (c) Gill wants to know our agenda
- (2) Bill Package (a list will be emailed around as well, the ones below are simply the ones discussed in the meeting)
 - (a) A868
 - (b) A1362
 - (i) Vulnerable user
 - (c) A1461
 - (i) Council bill
 - (d) A1851
 - (i) Slower speeds on residential access streets
 1. Not more than 15-20 mph
 2. Lowest order of streets (not main through streets)
 3. Creation of a new type of street? Uses existing definitions
 - (e) A1892
 - (i) Change “accidents” to crashes (nomenclature)
 - (ii) Requires notification of causes of driver inattention in accident
 - (iii) Must say what the cause is, whether it is radio, video players, food, fatigue, etc.
 - (iv) Clarifying that the info should be made available to the public
 - (v) Agreed that anything in support of data is good
 - (f) A2277
 - (i) Red light camera bill
 - (ii) Dissemination of information of how to install and implement traffic cameras
 - (iii) “blank slate” potential to add to it
 - (g) A3155



- (i) Increases fines in traffic death from the result of failing to yield
- (ii) Issues with a plea-able offense
- (h) A3298
 - (i) Bill increases the fine for violating pedestrian related tile 39 violations
- (i) A3503
 - (i) Distracted walking, bill is dead
- (j) A4165
 - (i) Passed in assembly, sitting in senate transportation committee
 1. Concerns about requirement of MVC to increase number of questions on exam (several \$100k of programing)
 - a. Belief that the bill won't pass
 - b. Will reach out to chief of staff, have informed senate committee that the amendment has to be removed from bill
 2. Can require them to be on exam, just can't expand number of exam questions
 3. Disconnect between education and test provided by MVC, teachers have an issue with the test
 4. Will we have a curriculum for drivers education? Everyone gets a different education, the manual should not be used as a textbook (need uniformity)
 5. Propose curriculum? Who is responsible for what? Establish ownership
- (k) A4361
 - (i) Reduced speed limits near schools on certain highways
- (l) S428
 - (i) Establishes a percentage of motor vehicle fines to be used to support safe routes to school initiatives
 - (ii) To be used for infrastructure and other projects
 1. Does it need to be more clearly defined?
 2. Push concept and then modify it later on?
- (m) S2215
 - (i) Bundle with move over?
 1. Vulnerable road users
- (n) S2219
 - (i) Requires motorists operating vehicles to maintain reasonable safe distance when passing (4ft.)
 - (ii) Introduced and stuck in Senate transportation
- (o) S2798
 - (i) Prohibits bicycles from riding on sidewalks
 1. Except users under 12
 - a. Issues with other towns saying 14
 2. Why do we need it?



- a. Municipalities should be able to do something about it, the whole state doesn't necessarily need to create something statewide that some munis don't necessarily need
- b. Issue with parent riding to school with kid
- c. Can't force people off sidewalk unless you make the streets safer
- d. Some towns do ban biking to school
 - i. Principals often decide this

(p) S2894

- (i) Requires driver education course to include cyclist and pedestrian safety information

(q) Come to next meeting with triage list of which ones are important to pass, reject, neutral, etc.

(r) A4663

- (i) Electric bike bill

Other Considerations:

(3) should look for all bills if money is being redirected, look where it is coming from, what it is taking from

(4) Supportive of bike lanes because of wheel chair users?

(a) No issue with wheel chair use in them, because there are few limited laws for bike lane use

(b) Is it problematic? It could signal that ped facilities are lacking, or if there are certain infrastructure problems

(c) Protected bike lanes – issue because they don't really accommodate wheelchairs

(i) There's a bill against protected, bollard bike lanes

(ii) Think of them as protected multi-use paths? Or improve pedestrian facilities?

(5) Put in an anti-jaywalking legislation

(a) How do municipalities like Newark and Bayonne enforce jaywalking? (pro-driver)

ii) List of bill will be emailed around, look at list, and pick out 4 of the ones that are a priority

(1) Look at it from a master plan standpoint

b) Cost of changing "accident" to "crash" in legislation

i) Change it from here on out with future legislation

ii) Prosecutors are in support of this change

iii) Starts with the state traffic organizations