



**BPAC General Meeting**  
**December 1, 2021 9:30 am to 12 pm**  
**Zoom Online Meeting**

**Executive Council:**

Elise Bremer- Nei | Leigh Ann Von Hagen | Cassidy Boulan | John Boyle | Jen Buison | Brandee Chapman | Debra Kagan | Eric Heitmann | Keith Hamas | Alan Huff | Karen Alexander | Yvonne Mikalopas | Jessica O'Connor | Linda Rapacki | Sonia Szczesna/ Janna Chernetz | Mike Viscardi

**Subcommittee Chairs:**

Jennifer Buison, Chair, Safety Subcommittee, [JBuison@njtransit.com](mailto:JBuison@njtransit.com)  
Betsy Mastaglio, Chair, Design & Infrastructure Subcommittee, [bmastaglio@dvrpc.org](mailto:bmastaglio@dvrpc.org)  
Sonia Szczesna, Chair, Legislation and Policy Subcommittee, [sonia@tstc.org](mailto:sonia@tstc.org)

**Meeting Notes:**

Meeting began at 9:30am with **Leigh Ann Von Hagen** by welcoming everyone and summarizing the agenda.

**Elise Bremer-Nei** provided NJDOT Updates

- Executive Council Meeting: Update and adoption of new BPAC bylaws & Safe Passing Law Coordination
  - On November 15, the BPAC Executive Council met to adopt the new BPAC bylaws, which can be found on the BPRC website at [njbikeped.org/nj-bpac](http://njbikeped.org/nj-bpac)
  - The new bylaws allow for more DOT representatives on the Executive Council and also allow for up to six general meetings per year.
  - The Executive Council also met with the Team for Safe Passing Law to help coordinate on education and outreach when the new law goes into effect in March.
- Federal Grant Updates
  - NJ Safe Routes to School Grants
    - NJDOT received over 80 grant applications for Safe Routes to School grants by the October 14th deadline. Application reviews and field checks of locations of potential projects are underway by NJDOT and MPO staff.
  - Transportation Alternatives
    - The newly passed federal bipartisan Infrastructure Bill, The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, includes:
      - More than 60% increase in Transportation Alternatives funding
      - Limits on when and how much a state can transfer



nearly complete. Lastly, we conducted interviews with local and county engineering and planning staff in tandem with Action 1.B.1.a. This information is being summarized and will be completed by the end of the month.

- Anticipated work for the next quarter includes:
  - Finalizing the official task force list with roles and responsibilities,
  - Presenting the best practices highlights to the Task Force,
  - Finalizing the Best Practices Tech Memos.
- ACTION NUMBER 1.A.3.a. - Automated Speed Enforcement & Vulnerable Road Users
  - Leaders: Joseph Rapp, NJDOT BSBPP and Sonia Szczesna, Tri-State Transportation Campaign
  - Big news for Automated Speed enforcement, Speed Safety Cameras was recently added to FHWA's Proven Safety Countermeasures as a core principle of the Safe System Approach to enforcing safe speeds. Agencies are encouraged to develop a program plan for using automated speed camera's including a legal and policy review. <https://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/provencountermeasures/speed-safety-cameras.cfm> (link in chat)
  - On that note: DVRPC's next Regional Safety Task Force Meeting will focus on speed management, including automate speed enforcement. That meeting is Thursday Dec. 9 from 2-4 pm and will feature several speakers and a break-out discussion. To register email, Marco Gorini mgorini@dvrpc.org, <https://www.dvrpc.org/Committees/RSTF/> (link in chat)
  - The team is finalizing interview questions and the list of states to be interviewed about their implementation of Automated Speed Enforcement and Vulnerable Road User.
  - Anticipated work for the next quarter includes:
    - Interviews of stakeholders from New Jersey and other states,
    - A draft memo with research and best practices to inform implementation in New Jersey.
- ACTION NUMBER 1.B.1.a. Bike Ped Design Guidance
  - Leader: Patrick Farley, Cross County Connection TMA
  - The team met with NJDOT staff to gain understanding of the Capital Program Management Project Delivery Process and Phases. Discussion was focused how the NJDOT Roadway Design Manual and the NJ Complete Streets Design Guide are used in the delivery of projects.
  - A series of interview and discussion groups were held to understand how current NJDOT Complete Street Guides are used, how projects are developed, and identify needs for additional training, assistance, and guidance for Complete Streets planning and design.
  - If the elements of the NJ Complete Streets Design Guide and national guides such as NACTO, are not endorsed or referenced as design guidance in the Roadway Design Manual, they will likely just be passed over by engineers who need to use design guidance rather than planning documents to implement projects. Guidance will be needed on how the task team can best recommend possible changes to design guides in NJ. This task is complicated by the fact that

Complete Streets design guidance and training for NJ is currently being updated.

- Anticipated work for the next quarter includes:
  - Resuming monthly meetings,
  - Identifying which best practices in national guidance should be provided to NJDOT and local agencies for possible inclusion in their design guides,
  - And identifying best practices in education and training on Complete Streets design.
- ACTION NUMBER 1.C.4.a Street Smart Action
  - Leader: Keith Hamas, NJTPA
  - The action team has conducted a coordinated review of their scope, and has incorporated feedback from the first Action Team Meeting into task descriptions and draft strategy recommendations. The team has also gathered data for the development of a Street Smart priority communities list.
  - Anticipated work for the next quarter includes:
    - Incorporating data - driven screening lists into GIS format;
    - Overlaying data for analysis and generating a priority communities list;
    - Holding a second Action Team Meeting;
    - And further developing and reviewing draft strategies to inform the final tech memo.
- ACTION NUMBER 1.F.1.c. and 1.F.2.c. Transit Inventory & Equity Prioritization
  - Leaders: Aimee Jefferson, NJTPA
  - The team met on August 2 and 26, met with the NJDOT consultant (SSC and MBI) to discuss the work accomplished so far, including the identification of top 200 locations and the development of screening methodology and bus stop audit form.
  - On October 28 the team presented to the full EA team to recommend the audit locations and audit methodology. Final comments were requested by November 15 and audits are anticipated to begin in December
  - Anticipated work for the next quarter includes:
    - Virtual and in-person audits
    - Completion of audit forms
    - Report back to NJTPA, NJDOT and then to EA team 1st quarter 2022
- Complete Streets Training in 2022
  - Update to training materials are underway
  - A first test of the new materials is anticipated first quarter 2022
- NJ Trails & Greenways Summit & NJ Complete Streets Summit
  - This fall, NJDOT hosted two very successful virtual Summits. New Jersey's first ever Trails and Greenways Summit, which was held on September 22 and 23 and co-hosted with NJDEP and the 6th biennial Complete Streets Summit hosted by NJDOT and held October 22nd. Feedback gathered from our post-event questionnaires was highly positive for both Summits, and we'll be using this information to plan for future Summits and webinars.

- In case you missed these events, summaries of both Summits, along with session recordings, are available to watch online. For the Trails & Greenways Summit, visit: [saferoutesnj.org/2021-new-jersey-trails-greenways-summit-in-review](http://saferoutesnj.org/2021-new-jersey-trails-greenways-summit-in-review) (post link in chat), and for the Complete Streets Summit, visit: [njbikeped.org/2021-new-jersey-complete-streets-summit](http://njbikeped.org/2021-new-jersey-complete-streets-summit) (link in chat).
- I want to celebrate their successes by briefly go over some of the Summit highlights:
  - First, the New Jersey Complete Streets Summit celebrated over 10 years of Complete Streets efforts in New Jersey. <http://njbikeped.org/wp-content/uploads/NJ-CS-Timeline-r.pdf>. Over 340 people attended this year's Summit, with an average of 194 attendees per session.
    - This year's summit provided information on adopting Complete and Green Streets policies, lessons learned from implementation, and the future of the Complete Streets movement over the coming years. The summit opened with remarks from our NJDOT Commissioner, Diane Gutierrez-Scaccetti and Assistant Commissioner Mike Russo.
    - The Summit closed with a talk from Barbara McCann from FHWA. Barbara has a long history with Complete Streets from its inception as the Exec Director of the National Complete Streets Coalition to her current position as a Senior Advisor to the Associate Administrator for Safety at FHWA. Barbara reflected on the past 10 years of Complete Streets and discussed how FHWA is focusing on Complete Streets in the future. If you missed it, go back and watch for some insights to what is in store, especially as it relates to the new federal infrastructure bill.
    - One of the new things we tried this Summit was to start each session with a short video highlighting New Jersey's Complete Streets successes over the past decade. Many of you commented how much you enjoyed those videos. Those videos are also available on NJ Bike Ped YouTube channel.
    - In presenting Complete Streets Champion and Safe Routes to School Champion Awards, the Summit recognized people and groups working on exemplary active transportation projects throughout the State. This year we recognized,
      - 2021 Complete Streets Champion Award:
        - Highland Park Councilwoman Susan Welkovits, who sadly passed away in 2020, for many years of working in the municipality to address safer conditions for people walking and bicycling.
        - Team4NJ Safe Passing Law, NJ Bike & Walk Coalition, a task force of the NJ Bike and Walk Coalition who after 10 years of attempts was able to get one of the strongest safe passing laws in the country and was passed by a margin of 102-1 in a bipartisan vote.
      - 2021 Safe Routes to School Champion Award:

- West Orange Township Pedestrian Safety Advisory Board, for their work on addressing walking and bicycling safety in West Orange including their recent 1.2-mile Pop-Up Bike Lane Demonstration Project along Woodland Avenue to Redwood Elementary School.
- The NJ Trails & Greenways Summit highlighted trail and greenway projects from around the State and explored opportunities for further expanding New Jersey's trail networks. More than 530 people attended the Summit, which featured six panel sessions and two keynotes over the two days. Attendance was strong with an average of 155 attendees per session.
  - The Summit opened with remarks by both NJDOT & NJDEP Commissioners, Diane Gutierrez-Scaccetti, New Jersey Department of Transportation & Shawn LaTourette, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection.
  - At the end of the Summit's second day, NJDEP Deputy Commissioner Olivia Glenn and NJDOT Assistant Commissioner Mike Russo provided closing remarks, recapping the Summit and laying out a vision for the future of trails and equitable, active transportation in New Jersey.
  - Amy Camp of Cycle Forward concluded the Summit with a keynote address describing some of the many benefits of Trail Towns and offering an inspiring picture of what the future of New Jersey's trail and greenway networks could be.
  - Brandee Chapman from NJDEP is working on a statewide trails map and database. If you're interested in being a part of the conversation around trails in NJ, sharing knowledge and best practices, or are curious to learn more, join the New Jersey Trails Action Network at [njtrailsaction.org](http://njtrailsaction.org)!

**James Sinclair** and **Anne Heasley** provided information about NJTPA Complete Streets Technical Assistance

- The goal of the NJTPA CS Technical Assistance is to assist municipalities in moving forward with complete streets projects. The free technical assistance will be provided by Sustainable Jersey and Voorhees Transportation Center staff in partnership with the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority.
  - Up to 8 municipalities will receive direct technical assistance to complete a specific project related to advancing a complete streets initiative in their communities. Please note that the value of the technical assistance will generally not exceed \$10,000. No direct funding to municipalities is provided.
  - The technical assistance projects will be scheduled within the April of 2022 to March 2023. Each project will take approximately three to six months to complete.
  - There will be 5 different types of projects available to municipalities, A municipality can only submit 1 application so applicants must choose from one of the 5 project types
    - Bicycle Corridor or Network Plan: To help identifying specific routes and road treatments to improve bicycling infrastructure.

- Complete Streets Conceptual Rendering: To prepare graphic renderings to help visualize potential improvements to streetscapes or public spaces.
  - Temporary Demonstration Project Guidance: To provide guidance on the design and installation of one pedestrian safety or bicycle infrastructure temporary safety measure.
  - Walkable Community Workshop: A workshop and audit of up to a half-mile of street to identify potential pedestrian and bicycle improvements.
  - Complete and Green Streets for All Guidance: Assistance in the development of, or update of an existing Complete Streets Policy to align with the 2020 NJDOT Complete and Green Streets for All Policy.
- Upcoming NJTPA Complete Streets Technical Assistance Webinars
  - December 9<sup>th</sup> – discusses different types of technical assistance, and the scope of projects they can get
    - Provide a review of the specific types of technical assistance available
    - Share projects previously completed to provide examples of the scale and scope of problems that can be address through this program
    - Identify additional resources to assist in developing a program application
    - Explain tools municipalities can use to identify projects that address equity and high crash areas as well as tools to identify who is the responsible entity for a road segment.
  - December 15<sup>th</sup> – discusses the Complete Streets Application Process Webinar
    - Provide an overview of the program
    - Review the specific types of technical assistance services available
    - Demonstrate how to use the online application portal
    - Provide an opportunity to ask questions

Attendees shifted into virtual breakout rooms for each subcommittee.

After returning, subcommittee chairs reported on outcomes of their discussions and members shared comments on the Education committee:

- Legislative
  - Top priorities:
    - Work with Safety on outreach for Safe Passing Bill
    - Policy/Legislation Tracker
    - Federal legislation and its impact on future policy
- Safety
  - Tasks:
    - Safe Passing Law education & outreach support
    - Looking for action items to support SHSP items (Transit inventory & Equity, Ped & Bikes)
    - Creation of a unified state, county & local road safety/maintenance reporting system
    - Looking for support to coordinate with NJT on bike/ped integration, bus stop safety

- NJT has been working on scope with reference to SHSP. Trying to identify best management practices for bus stop locations, lighting, etc.
    - Pedestrian vision zero, how to address
  - Design
    - Goals:
      - Green Streets Training
      - Assist with NJDOT focused goals, including:
        - Review of Complete & Green Streets design guidance
        - Delivery of HSIP funded B/P safety projects
        - Development of NJDOT approved guidance for bike facilities at interchanges (request from DVRPC)
        - Investigation of ITS/Smart solutions for bike-ped safety (detection systems)
        - Clarification of CS goals vs Vision Zero
      - Equity in bike/ped safety projects
      - Trails
        - North Jersey trail network
        - Promote trail towns
        - Safety at trail crossings
        - ADA compliance for multiuse trails
      - Last-mile bike facilities to transit
      - Signal timing studies to reduce pedestrian exposure time, infrastructure solutions

The floor was then opened to public comments and announcements

- Discussion of how to better organize subcommittee tasks to avoid overlap
- Meeting minutes will be streamlined for better readability
- Discussion of restarting Education subcommittee (or just task force for Safe Passing Law)
- Discussion of pedestrian level of service, and perceived inconsistency of pedestrian signals
- Recent survey of senior population and transportation behavior transitions as they age. Consider Safe Routes for Seniors?

Meeting adjourned by **Leigh Ann Von Hagen**.

**Attendees:**

Karen Alexander

Elizabeth Betz



Susan Blickstein  
John Boyle  
Adam Bradford  
Elise Bremer-Nei  
Jennifer Buison  
Catherine Bull  
Doug Caum  
Laura Cerutti  
Syd Chan  
Denise Chaplick  
Janna Chernetz  
Mike Dannemiller  
Lisa Diaz  
Tom DiBiase  
Samantha Donovan  
Jon Dugan  
Patrick Farley  
Hailey Graf  
Corey Hannigan  
Anne Heasly  
Eric Heitmann  
Kayt Hester  
Andras Holzmann  
Alan Huff  
Jim Hunt  
Daniel Hutton  
Mohammad Islam  
Debra Kagan  
George Klevorn  
Andrew Lappitt  
Lisa Lee  
Dan LiSanti  
Michael Manzella  
Sean Meehan  
Yvonne Mikalopas  
Kate O'Connor  
Reba Oduro  
Vasanti Paolini  
Michael Popovech  
Linda Rapacki  
Joe Rapp  
William Riviere  
Charlie Romanow  
Samuel Rosenthal  
Trish Sanchez  
Yatharth Saxena  
Khalid Shaikh  
James Sinclair

Jeevanjot Singh  
Andy Swords  
Sonia Szczesna  
Andrew Tabas  
Laura Torchio  
Robert Vettese  
Michael Viscardi  
Leigh Ann Von Hagen  
Kenneth Wedeen  
Steven Wong  
Siannah Yang  
William Yarzab  
Bettina Zimny