

# BPAC General Meeting June 20th, 2018 10:30am to 12:00am Rutgers University 33 Livingston Avenue, New Brunswick, NJ

# Agenda:

- 10:30 AM Welcome
- 10:40 AM New Jersey Department of Transportation Updates
- 10:50 AM Subcommittee Reports
- 11:10 AM Presentation: Measuring the Effects of Crime on Walking by Dr. Deva Deka of VTC
- 11:25 AM Presentation: Evaluating Potential Road Diets: The Benefits of Avoiding Detailed Engineering Analysis by Dr. Robert Noland of VTC
- 11:40 AM New Jersey Bicycle Safety Education and Enforcement Program: Local Stakeholders by Ranjit Walia and Susan Blickstein
- 11:50 AM Somerset Countys Bike Walk and Trails Plan by Peter Kremer of WSP and Andras Holzmann of Somerset County
- 11:55 AM Announcements and Public Comments
- 12:00 PM BPAC General Meeting Adjournment

### Notes:

### NJDOT Updates

- o Safe Routes to School and Transportation Alternative grants and applications are available
- o Being merged with Safety Unit in the Planning side of the department
  - Questions regarding how this merger is going to affect collaborations with other organizations
  - Safety Unit seems excited to work in Bike and Pedestrian work

### • Subcommittee Reports

- o Design and Infrastructure Subcommittee
  - Looking for examples of successful projects to put into a portfolio in order to encourage future projects that may or may not be resisted
- Education and Outreach Subcommittee
  - Working on exploring the possibility or making recommendations to Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety in the Driver's Education program
- Safety Subcommittee
  - NJ Transit, work study, methodologies for positive stakeholder involvement, public engagement

### Measuring the Effects of Crime on Walking

o Deva will be providing the information from the analysis/survey aspect only of this project, other people were involved, James, Susan, Charles



- Low-income communities are more walkable but there are not as many people walking in these communities' due to issues of crime
- o People walk more in high-crime neighborhoods and more for transport but less for exercise
- Newark, Bloomfield, and Verona were the three communities where the intercept surveys were conducted
- o The study found that as crime increased they did see lower walking rates
- o A separate report and publication will be published on behalf of the focus group study that was done

# • Evaluating Potential Road Diets: The Benefits of Avoiding Detailed Engineering Analysis

- Projected started by recommendations of a road diet on Livingston Avenue in New Brunswick,
   NJ
- The consultants on the project had wrong assumptions in regard to crash reduction rates
- And it costed roughly \$200k to conduct the study which is far more expensive than the cost of the striping on Livingston Avenue
- o So, the question was: Is there a cheaper and faster way to get these things done?
- O Quick and Cheap Cost Benefit Analysis
  - What is the break-even point in which the delay costs = safety benefits?
- o Tradeoffs between time and safety
- o Represents benefit for every 1% reduction in crashes
- o Limitations: Quality of life, development potential, emissions, and noise reduction
- o Noland recommends that it is useful as a screening tool to highlight uncertainties in crash reduction
- o Can provide guidance on prioritizing projects

## • NJ BSEE Pilot Program: Local Stakeholders

- o Bicycle Safety Education and Enforcement
- o Found out ways to work with Police, Education, and Organizations in order to promote safer bicycling
- o Found that effective education is difficult
- O State of NJ does not have a safe passing law
- o Going to pilot Bike Safety Education and Enforcement in Morristown using C3FT device
  - Evaluate and report on pilot phase
- Findings: law enforcement carries out limited bike education activities, particularly those designed to reach adults on bicycles
  - There is no strategic and structured approach to bicycle safety education for motorists or bicyclists
  - Officers are unaware of local bike advocacy group and they infrequently seek grants to improve bicycle safety
- o Role of SAC: Review pilot materials
  - Serve as ambassadors to communities that might serve as future potential training/testing sites
- o Role of Local Stakeholders: Review/assist with first cut educational materials
- o Next Step: Training Morristown Police Department, providing updates on the pilot project

# • Somerset County's Bike Walk and Trails Plan

- o Studying the county road network where future bike facilities could be implemented, gaps in the trail network, and where connections can be made
- Outreach, survey, and Wikimap application will be used



- Announcements and Public Comments

  O Complete Streets Programs on Tuesday June 26<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday June 27<sup>th</sup>