

THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS: COORDINATED HUMAN SERVICE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING, THROUGH A COMPLETE STREETS LENS





Karen Alexander Managing Director, NJTIP @ Rutgers Complete Streets Summit October 24, 2017 New Brunswick, New Jersey



WHAT IS THE REGIONAL COORDINATED HUMAN SERVICES TRANSPORTATION PLAN (CHSTP)?

- Identifies the transportation needs of seniors, low-income workers and people, veterans and individuals with disabilities
- Provides strategies for meeting needs
- Prioritizes funding for implementation
- Projects are eligible for federal funding when aligned with this plan









WHY THE CHSTP?

Transportation = <u>Access and Opportunity</u>

- Jobs
- Education
- Support Services
- Recreation and Culture
- Independence
- Social Connectivity





NJTPA REGION

Bergen

Morris

Essex

Newark

Hudson

Ocean

Hunterdon

Passaic

Jersey City

Somerset

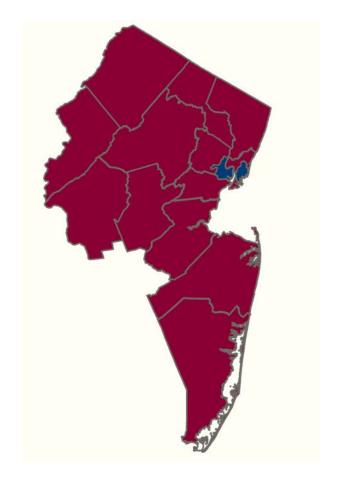
Middlesex

Sussex

Monmouth

Union

Warren







PROJECT COMPONENTS

- Task 1 Stakeholder/Public Outreach and Engagement
- Task 2 Assess Available Services and Current Conditions
- Task 3 Analyze Transportation Needs for Target Populations
- Task 4 -Develop Strategies and Prioritize Implementation
- Task 5 Develop the Final Report





PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT RECAP

- Coordination with 7 TMAs
 - 3 Focus Groups
 - 46 Community Planning Sessions
 - 3,713 Valid Surveys
- Advisory Committee
 - 30 Organizations







COMMUNITY PLANNING SESSIONS: HIGHLIGHTS

- Additional transportation options are needed on evenings and weekends
- Doctors, visiting friends, jobs, places of worship, and shopping destinations are most frequent
- Many feel shame in asking friends/family for rides
- There is frustration with lack of transit to nearby towns
- Better signage and schedules are needed for buses
- Lack of transportation can cause social isolation





FOCUS GROUPS: TRANSPORT EXPERIENCES

- Walking is a significant mode for focus group participants
- Many shared stories of missed activities, including employment, due to transportation issues
- Veteran participants shared transportation issues related to accessing medical services









- 3,713 Valid Survey Respondents
- 4 Target Groups Reached
- Population Profile of needs, desired options, destinations and technology use

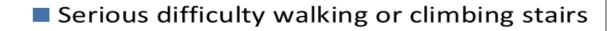






RESPONDENT COMPOSITION: PWD

Responses = 2,722

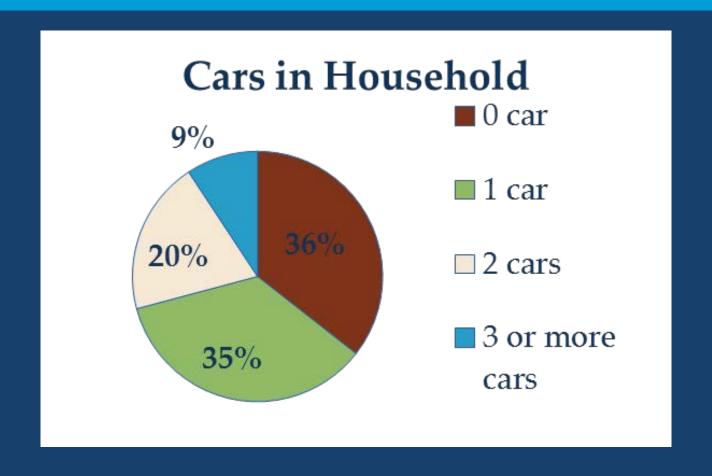


- Difficulty doing errands alone
- Serious difficulty remembering, concentrating or making decisionsDeaf or serious difficulty hearing
 - Other difficulties
- Difficulty bathing or dressing
- Blind or serious difficulty seeing





VEHICLES IN HOUSEHOLD





NEEDS IDENTIFIED THROUGH

- Public Involvement
- Plan Review
- Data Review

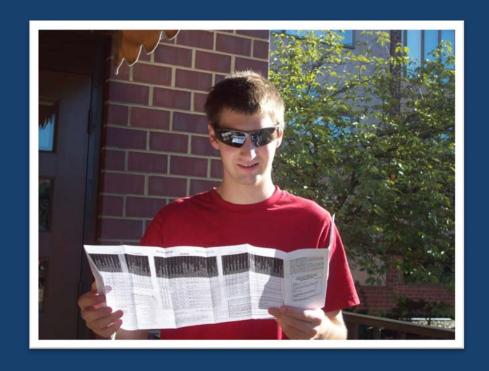






CATEGORIES OF NEEDS

- Spatial (Space)
- Temporal (Time)
- Institutional
- Infrastructure
- Awareness







INFRASTRUCTURE

- Repairs and Updates
- New Technology
- Accessibility
 - Built environment
 - On board
- Customer Experience





STRATEGIC THEMES

- a) Increasing Auto Connections with Assistance
- b) Reducing Financial Barriers
- c) Coordinating Regional Destinations
- d) Improving Customer Experience
- e) Enhancing Communication
- f) Infrastructure Improvements
- g) Enhancing and Expanding Service
- h) Promoting Mobility on Demand
- i) Incentivizing Operational Coordination





ENHANCING COMMUNICATION

- Holistic, multi-dimensional regional More information at NJT bus stops marketing campaign
- Live customer service during peak travel hours
- Pedestrian safety public outreach campaigns
- Address busy signal & excessive wait times for phone reservations

- and key destinations
- Travel training & concierge assistance







INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

- Bus stops, benches, shelters & sidewalk improvements
- Comprehensive bus stops/shelter policy*
- Improve accommodations for wheelchair use
- Prioritize projects and funding to target areas of greatest need







ADDITIONAL RESEARCH/INQUIRY*

- Access to inexpensive vehicles
- Universal payment/pre-paid fare card
- Coordination among 55+ communities within Ocean,
 Middlesex, and Somerset Counties
- Assess transit access to One Stops and emerging employment sites in region
- Data visualization to improve coordination & facilitate customer trip planning

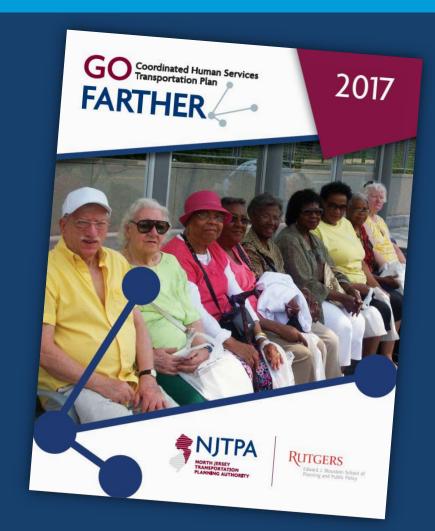


FINAL REPORT

Read the Final Report

Available on the NJTPA Website:

www.njtpa.org





QUESTIONS?

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