The Intersectionality of Complete Streets and Equity



Olivia Glenn Complete Streets Summit October 24, 2017



Preserving land and natural resources throughout New Jersey for the benefit of all.

130,000 acres preserved since 1960

Who We Are: NJ Conservation Foundation



- Accredited Land Trust
- 130,000 acres



- Founded in 1960
- One of New Jersey's oldest and largest land trusts

Mission Statement

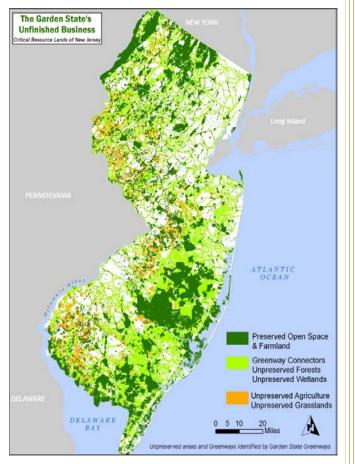
The mission of NJ Conservation Foundation is to preserve land and natural resources throughout New Jersey for the benefit of <u>all</u>.





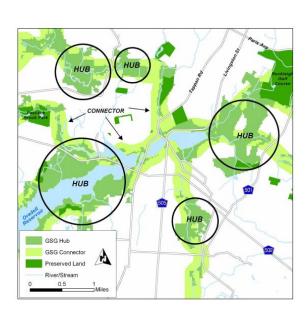
Essential Question: What are the corridors of access to preserved open space and farmland?

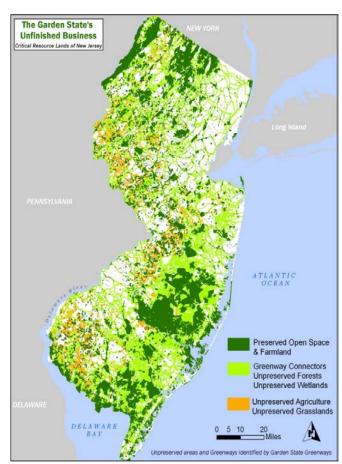
- Highways
 - Cars
 - Public Transit
- Local trails
- Regional trails
- On-road Bike lanes
- Greenways
- Complete Streets
- …and more!



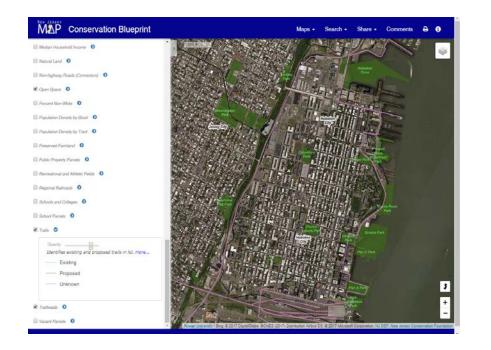
Green Connectivity: Garden State Greenways

<u>Statewide vision</u> for a system of interconnected open space & greenways



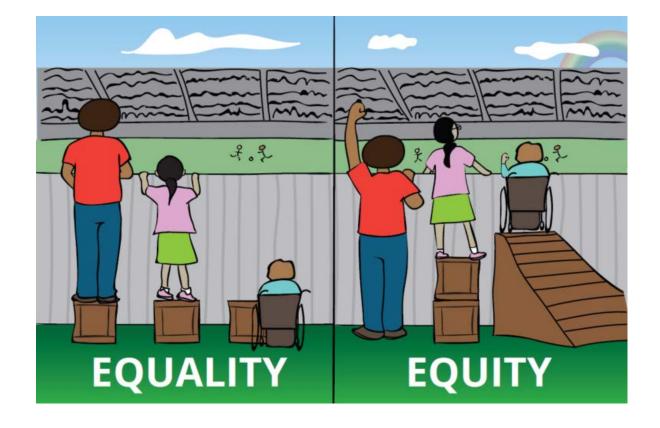


Conservation Blueprint



- Identifying land priorities for farms, habitat, water, and people
- Finer mapping of corridors and barriers





What Communities Benefit from Complete Streets?

- Low-income
- Minority
- Limited English proficient
- Carless households
- Disabled
- Youth
- Elderly
- ...everyone!

The Intersectionality of Complete Streets and Equity

- Multi-Modal Access
- Universal Access
- Connectivity
- Public Participation
- Utilization of USDOT Monies for Projects that Improve Air Quality and Quality of Life



- Poorer communities have nearly
 <u>double</u> the fatality rates of pedestrian
 incidents of wealthier communities.
- Lower-income communities are <u>less</u>
 <u>likely</u> to encounter vital elements of transportation infrastructure
- ...and more

Some Legal and Regulatory Frameworks for Equity



EQUITY

REGULATORY:

Federal, State, and Local policies, executive orders, administrative orders, etc.

What is Environmental Justice?



"...the *fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people* regardless of race, color, national origin, or income, with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.

Environmental Justice will be achieved when everyone enjoys:

- the same degree of protection from environmental and health hazards, and
- equal access to the decisionmaking process to have a healthy environment in which to live, learn, and work.



Some Key Milestones in Environmental Justice

- 1960s Civil Rights leaders note public health dangers in environmental inequities
- 1990 EPA convenes Environmental Equity Workgroup
- 1991 1st National People of Color Env'l Ldrship Summit
- 1994 President Clinton issues EO 12898
- 1997,1998 USDOT and FHWA issue original EJ orders
- 2002 2nd National People of Color Env'l Ldrship Summit
- 2004 Governor McGreevey issues EO 96
- 2009 Governor Corzine issues EO 131
- 2012 USDOT and FHWA issue EJ Orders
- 2016 NJDEP Commissioner Martin re-establishes NJ EJ Advisory Council via Administrative Order
- 2017 U.S. Senator Cory Booker Introduces EJ Bill

Some Transportation and EJ/Equity Priorities Remedied by Complete Streets

- Provision of transportation access to jobs
- Development of quality of transportation systems near minority and low-income communities;
- Allocation of USDOT dollars to projects that benefit communities

Some Elements of an Ideal Complete Street Policy

- Promote *the community's vision*
- Involve *all users*
- Encourage *street connectivity*
- Complement *community context*



Complete Streets *are* **Equitable Streets!**







Thank You!



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