



NJ BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN RESOURCE CENTER

Educate. Encourage. Empower.

March 2, 2022 | Issue: 135

Dear Readers,

Welcome to this issue of the NJ Walks and Bikes Newsletter, prepared by the New Jersey Bicycle and Pedestrian Resource Center (NJ BPRC) with support from the NJ Department of Transportation. If you would like to learn more about the NJ BPRC, please visit us [here](#).

Register now for the BPAC Meeting on March 30, 2022 (Virtual)

General Meeting, 9:30am – 11:30am

The New Jersey Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Council is coordinated by the Voorhees Transportation Center, in conjunction with the New Jersey Department of Transportation.

BPAC is open to everyone. To participate, please register using the following link:

<https://rutgers.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0udOysqzIsGtyTwOW8Boby8uikLgsG9hGc>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

To learn more about BPAC, please visit the [webpage here](#).
You can also contact James Sinclair at james.sinclair@ejb.rutgers.edu.

[Click Here to Register](#)

We're Hiring!

The Alan M. Voorhees Transportation Center (VTC) at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, seeks candidates to fill **two Research Project Coordinator positions**. The center's research portfolio includes projects that address a broad range of planning and policy topics, including regional planning, transit-oriented development, bicycle and pedestrian transportation, transit planning, emerging mobility options, human services transportation,

and others. The project coordinators will provide project management and research support to the center's project managers and principal investigators on designated projects.

Responsibilities include:

- Conduct research and assist with the analysis of data
- Assist with the preparation of project reports, GIS mapping and analysis, topical newsletters, technical memoranda, and other work products
- Plan and implement public and stakeholder outreach and engagement including focus groups, workshops, committee meetings and conferences
- Assist in the oversight of student research assistants and project consultants

For more information about these positions, please visit the [VTC website](#) and read the [position announcement](#).

[Click here to apply!](#)



NJ Safe Passing Law Goes Into Effect

New Jersey's new Safe Passing Law, which was signed by Governor Murphy last August, went into effect on March 1, 2022. The law provides clear rules of the road for all motorists when interacting with vulnerable road users (people on foot, bicycle, scooter, in a wheelchair, or otherwise not in a car, bus or truck). It requires drivers to use "due caution" whenever they encounter vulnerable people on the road, meaning:

- Drivers must follow all current no-passing and no speeding laws, and must move over a lane if there's one to move into.
- On a single-lane road, drivers must provide a distance of at least 4 feet to safely pass a cyclist or pedestrian.
- If 4 feet is not possible, drivers must slow to 25mph and be prepared to stop until they can pass safely without endangering those sharing the road.

The Safe Passing Law aims to prevent the near misses, injuries, and deaths that can occur when motorists pass cyclists, pedestrians, or other vulnerable road users. It comes at a critical time, as 2021 was the deadliest year on New Jersey's roads in 14 years for drivers, and the deadliest in 30 years for the most vulnerable road users. While driver and passenger fatalities are up 18%, pedestrian fatalities are up 24%, and cyclist fatalities are up 28%.

The Safe Passing Law will contribute to a cultural shift toward safer travel habits by establishing a right to the road for people on foot, bicycle, scooter or in wheelchairs. The law also creates a responsibility for faster, heavier road users to be cautious around vulnerable road users who could be their friends, family, or neighbors.

[Read the full press release here.](#)

**Governor Murphy and Department of Transportation
Commissioner Diane Gutierrez-Scaccetti Announce \$3.8 Million in**

Transit Village Grants

Governor Phil Murphy and Department of Transportation Commissioner Diane Gutierrez-Scaccetti announced \$3.8 million in Fiscal Year 2022 **Transit Village grants** to help municipalities advance transit-oriented development projects that reduce reliance on vehicles and encourage usage of mass transportation. This year's grants represent the largest amount of funds provided in a single year for the Transit Village Program. Grants were awarded to **14 municipalities in nine counties**.

The Transit Village program is a multi-agency smart growth initiative, in which municipalities that have transit facilities within their borders can seek to be designated as a Transit Village by developing plans for dense, mixed-use redevelopment that includes housing near their transit facility. The facility can service commuter rail, bus, ferry, or light rail. The initiative creates incentives to revitalize areas around transit stations to create attractive, vibrant, pedestrian-friendly neighborhoods where people can live, shop, work and play without relying on automobiles.

[Read the full press release here.](#)

Murphy Administration Announces \$8.6 Million in Safe Streets to Transit Program Grants to Improve Pedestrian Safety

The Murphy Administration announced \$8.6 million in Fiscal Year 2022 **Safe Streets to Transit Program (SSTT)** grants for **19 municipal projects in nine counties**. This year's grants represent the largest amount of funds provided in a single year for the Safe Streets to Transit Program.

The Safe Streets to Transit program is one of several pedestrian safety initiatives funded through the State Transportation Trust Fund (TTF). The SSTT program provides funding to counties and municipalities to improve the overall safety and accessibility for mass transit riders walking to transit facilities. The program encourages transit users to walk to transit stations, and facilitates the implementation of projects and activities that will improve pedestrian conditions within a 1-mile radius of a transit facility or station.

[Read the full press release here.](#)

Murphy Administration Announces \$5.9 Million in Bikeway Grants to Fund Projects that Improve Quality of Life

The Murphy Administration announced **eleven Bikeway Grants** totaling \$5.9 million to help advance local Bikeway projects in nine counties.

Traditionally, the **Bikeway Grant Program** provides \$1 million in grants annually to counties and municipalities in order to promote bikeways as an alternate mode of transportation that support the State's efforts to add new miles of dedicated bikeways in New Jersey. This year, an additional \$13.5 million was appropriated for Grants-in-Aid programs, specifically for the Transit Village Program, the Safe Streets to Transit Program, and for Bicycle & Pedestrian Facilities/Accommodations. Of the \$13.5 million, \$4.9 million was provided for the Bikeway Grant Program.

[Read the full press release here.](#)



Somerville Main Street Safety Improvements NJDOT Virtual Public Information Center Open Until March 9th

NJDOT is hosting a **virtual public presentation** on the Route 28, Bridge Street to Grove Street Concept Development Study until March 9th. The project consists of a Concept Development Study to identify safety, security, mobility, accessibility, and reliability improvements to the Route 28 (Main Street) corridor between Bridge and Grove Streets, where pedestrian-involved crashes have exceeded statewide crash rates. The intersection of Main and Grove Streets was also the site of a fatality on July 31, 2018.

Some of the Route 28 improvements aimed specifically at improving safety for vulnerable road users include:

- Upgraded curb ramps that meet ADA requirements
- "Sharrow" pavement markings on the Route 28 roadway that indicate a shared lane environment for bicycles and automobiles
- Enhanced roadway and intersection lighting
- Traffic signal timings for Route 28 crossings that include an exclusive left turn phase and a leading pedestrian interval (LPI) phase
- Curb extensions
- Crosswalk relocation from the west side of Warren Street to the east side

The Route 28 project aligns with **NJDOT's Strategic Highway Safety Plan** released in 2020, which aims to reduce fatalities among vulnerable road users. The project also supports **NJDOT's Complete Streets policy**, which states the Department's intention to design and implement streets that safely accommodate all road users.

To that end, the Route 28 project incorporates several of **FHWA's Proven Safety Countermeasures**, which are roadway design elements and strategies with evidence-backed safety benefits. Proven Safety Countermeasures included as part of this project are dedicated left-turn lanes, leading pedestrian intervals, and enhanced lighting at intersections.

Preliminary engineering is expected to begin later this spring, with the final design phase scheduled for summer 2023 and the start of construction slated for spring 2025.

NJDOT is hosting a **Virtual Public Information Center** to provide local residents and businesses with information on the Route 28 project. You are encouraged to actively participate by providing comments via email to rte28cdstudy@gmail.com or using the website's comment form.

[Read more about the project here!](#)



Title 39: New Perspectives One-Day Class for Law Enforcement Officers

These Guys is offering a one-day class designed to show patrol officers traffic law from the perspective of bicyclists and pedestrians. The course is facilitated by League of American Bicyclists League Cycling Instructors (LCIs) and includes both in-classroom and on-bike modules. Topics covered include Title 39 for bicyclists and pedestrians, roadway design, education solutions, and bicycle crash investigation.

The course will be offered five times at the following locations:

- April 28th - Burlington County
- May 3rd - Bergen County
- May 4th - Morris County
- May 17th - Atlantic County
- May 24th - Ocean County

All classes run from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm.

[Click here to learn more and register!](#)

Evesham Largest Recipient for NJDOT Safe Streets to Transit Grant

NJDOT is providing more than \$4.2 million for pedestrian-safety improvements in 11 towns in South Jersey, with the largest amount going to Evesham. Funding of \$1 million, provided through NJDOT's Safe Streets to Transit program, will support sidewalk improvements along North Maple Avenue in Evesham, including the construction of 1.5 miles of new sidewalk connections. Residents use the road to reach NJ Transit bus service to jobs and schools in South Jersey and Philadelphia.

"This project will create safer conditions for Evesham's residents," said Mayor Jaclyn Veasy. The improvements support the township's Downtown Vision Plan that "seeks to create a more pedestrian-friendly streetscape when traveling to and from the downtown area on Main Street."

In addition, NJDOT will provide \$3.1 million for bikeway improvements in five South Jersey towns. The largest grant, \$1.2 million, will fund a long-pursued bike path to connect two parks in Delran.

[Click here to read more!](#)



Listen to the First Episode of the Arrested Mobility Podcast

Hosted by Charles T. Brown, the founder and CEO of Equitable Cities LLC, the Arrested Mobility podcast explores why Black Americans and other people of color are disproportionately victims of overly aggressive police enforcement while walking, running, riding bicycles, taking public transit, or while driving. Episode 1 examines jaywalking.

[Listen here!](#)

Open Grant Applications:



Apply for an Inclusive Healthy Communities Grant!

The NJ Department of Health, Division of Disability Services (DDS) issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) to implement initiatives for Inclusive Healthy Communities (IHC) starting in July 2022 through June 2023. The total funding available is approximately \$1.54 million.

Funding initiatives must be made through one of two grant options: Capacity Building or Implementation, to address the following three mutually reinforcing, specific objectives with a broad focus on all people with disabilities, regardless of age, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, immigration status, and/or income:

1. Adopt processes that are inclusive of people with disabilities as part of efforts to plan and create healthy communities;
2. Plan and implement sustainable strategies that deliver the benefits of healthy communities to people with disabilities;



Apply Now for an AARP Community Challenge Grant!

AARP has launched the 6th year of the Community Challenge grant program and is now accepting applications. This is a great opportunity for organizations to apply for "quick-action" projects that make communities more livable and jump-start long-term change.

The deadline for eligible applications is **March 22, 5:00 p.m. ET**. All applications must be submitted through www.AARP.org/CommunityChallenge and projects must be completed by **November 30, 2022**. The program is open to 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), 501(c)(6) nonprofits and government entities. Other types of organizations will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Since 2017, AARP has awarded over 800 grants through the Community Challenge to organizations in all 50 states, D.C, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

AARP will prioritize projects that support

3. Advance sustainable practice, systems, and environmental change that address the pre-existing physical, environmental, social, and economic challenges that prevent people with disabilities from having full access to the opportunities that support health and well-being.

Two identical **mandatory** virtual workshops for prospective applicants were held on February 18th and 24th, and at least one team member named in a bidder's proposal must have attended at least one of the workshops.

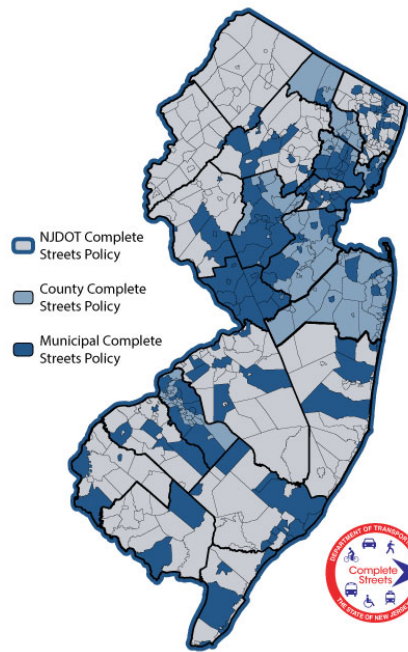
Letters of Intent must be submitted by **March 7, 2022**, to ihc@ejb.rutgers.edu in order to apply. Grant applications are due on **March 23, 2022**.

DDS has engaged Rutgers Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy to provide technical assistance for the IHC program. [Click here for more information](#) or email: ihc@ejb.rutgers.edu

residents age 50 and over, are inclusive, address disparities, directly engage volunteers and aim to achieve one or more of the following:

- Creating vibrant public places;
- Delivering a range of transportation and mobility options;
- Supporting a range of housing options;
- Ensuring a focus on diversity, equity and inclusion;
- Increasing civic engagement;
- Supporting communities' efforts to build engagement and supplement funding available under new federal programs; and
- Other community improvements.

Please visit www.AARP.org/CommunityChallenge for more information and to see some of the winners in action – helping to revitalize alleyways, create vibrant public spaces, design safer crosswalks and much more.



[Click Here for the Complete List of Policies](#)

Complete Streets in New Jersey

An up-to-date list of Complete Streets policies in New Jersey

There are currently **172** municipalities and **8** counties with Complete Streets policies in New Jersey.

This brings the total New Jersey population living in municipalities with Complete Streets policies to over 4 million people, or 46% of the population.

To access the most up-to-date list of Complete Streets policies adopted in the state, click the button!

**Alan M. Voorhees
Transportation Center**



[Visit Our Website](#)

