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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 May 25, 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/tJcrf-mgrDoiG9ecacK2LjwcL4jXJjII-tgA

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



Celebrate National Bike Month in May!

Since 1956, the League of American Bicyclists has been promoting May as National Bike Month. The arrival of great weather is a chance to explore the benefits of bicycling and encourage people to use bikes in their everyday lives.

Read our blog article to learn more about how you can celebrate!

Click here to read more!



NJTPA Selects Seven Municipalities for Complete Streets Assistance

Seven municipalities will receive technical assistance for complete streets projects ranging from workshops on walkability to bicycle network plans, conceptual designs and complete streets policies, the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority (NJTPA) announced. The municipalities selected through the competitive application process are:

- Bergen County: **Oakland Borough** Complete and Green Streets for All Policy
- Essex County: Belleville Township Temporary Demonstration Project Guidance
- Middlesex County: **Dunellen Borough** Complete and Green Streets for All Policy
- Ocean County: Seaside Heights Borough Walkable Community Workshop
- Passaic County: **City of Passaic** Complete Streets Conceptual Renderings
- Somerset County: Bound Brook Borough Walkable Community Workshop
- Union County: **City of Plainfield** Bicycle Corridor or Network Plan

Sustainable Jersey and the Alan M. Voorhees Transportation Center at Rutgers University provide the technical assistance, which the NJTPA funds with federal transportation dollars. Since every municipality has different needs, the program provides technical assistance to help advance complete streets by documenting existing conditions, exploring potential improvements and providing recommendations. Each municipality selected the type of preferred assistance when applying to the program. This includes:

- **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 pedestrian safety or bicycle infrastructure temporary safety

measures

- 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 a complete streets policy or the update of an existing policy to align with the 2020 New Jersey Department of Transportation Complete and Green Streets for All Policy

This is the third time the NJTPA is offering technical assistance to municipalities in its region. Eight projects were completed in 2020 and nine projects were completed in 2019.

Click here to read the full article



Murphy Administration Launches "Outside, Together!" Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan

To expand upon the Murphy Administration's historic investments in local parks, open space and natural resource restoration, the Department of Environmental Protection is launching Outside, Together!, a recreational initiative that will bring the public, local leaders, conservation organizations and the ecotourism industry together to produce a Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, Commissioner Shawn M. LaTourette announced on Earth Day at Laurel Hill Park in Secaucus.

To mark the importance of this work, Commissioner LaTourette is issuing an Administrative Order to update the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP), which sets the state's priorities for, and access to, parklands and open space. That update will be the Outside, Together! planning initiative.

DEP is taking a new approach to updating its SCORP, a recurring requirement to remain eligible for National Park Service funding. Outside, Together! will have deep and robust public engagement, and reform funding policies and protocols for prioritizing land acquisitions. Those reforms are expected to ensure fairer and more equitable distribution of recreation and conservation funds.

Read the full press release here



Bloomberg Philanthropies Study Finds Asphalt Art Provides Safety Benefits on City Streets

Bloomberg Philanthropies recently released a study that found that city streets became considerably safer for pedestrians after incorporating art into roadway redesigns. The **Asphalt Art Safety Study**, which was produced with Sam Schwartz Consulting and with input from Street Plans, examined the impact of art in the streetscape by comparing historical crash rates and real-time behavior of motorists and pedestrians at 22 asphalt art sites before and after the projects were installed on city streets.

Major findings included:

- 50% drop in traffic crashes involving pedestrians or cyclists
- 37% drop in crashes leading to injuries
- 27% increase in drivers yielding to pedestrians with the right-of-way
- 25% drop in potentially dangerous conflicts between drivers and pedestrians

Read more here!



Check Out this Short Film! Community Power New Jersey: Our Streets

Community Power New Jersey: Our Streets is the fourth in a series of five films being produced by the Redford Center showcasing unity and community power in a collective call for civic engagement around clean transportation to build a healthier, more just future for all.

Cycling activists Jacque Howard, Shereyl Snider, and Wills Kinsley are on a mission to solve Trenton, New Jersey's car-centric design, and give its streets back to the community. Working alongside historically excluded communities, this Trenton collective has activated bicycle infrastructure development, implemented traffic calming measures, created bike repair shops, and inspired community education and unity.

Read more here!



NJTOD.org: Walking and Biking Are Transportation, Too

Last year was the deadliest year since 1989 for pedestrians and bicyclists on New Jersey's roads. According to **New Jersey State Police crash data**, the statewide road fatality tally included 220 pedestrians and 23 cyclists, along with 373 vehicle drivers and 84 passengers. More than one-third of the deaths were thus among people who were walking, bicycling, or rolling—our most vulnerable road users.

The recent rise in deaths among pedestrians and cyclists highlights the degree to which the entire transportation system, deliberately or not, pays more attention to vehicles than to the people who use them or share street space with them. Local officials, engineers, and transportation planners must start designing streets to convey the message that streets are places where people come first, and vehicles are secondary.

> 1669 DEATHS THIS YEAR ON TEXAS ROADS

Read the full article here

Study Suggests Highway Signs Showing Fatality Numbers Don't Reduce Crashes

In the past decade, at least 28 U.S. states have started to display traffic fatality numbers to scare motorists into safer driving. But a new analysis of Texas car crashes suggests such signs may actually be associated with more crashes, not fewer. The analysis of 844,939 collisions showed that in the 10 kilometers downroad of the signs, **crashes increased by 1.35%** when the numbers were displayed.

Bike/Ped News Feed



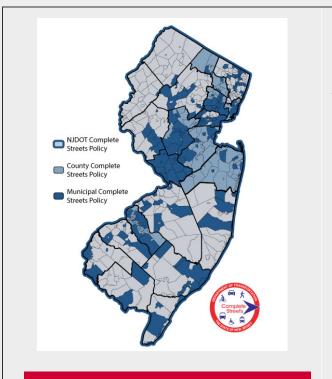
Not-So-Safe Burlington County Drivers, Pedestrians Focus Of New Grant



Jersey City and Hoboken Plan to Unite Bike Lanes



Riding a Bike in America Should Not Be This Dangerous



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 **173** 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-todate list of Complete Streets policies adopted in the state, click the button!

Alan M. Voorhees Transportation Center





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www.saferoutesnj.org



Visit Our Website

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