



NJ BPAC Design & Infrastructure Subcommittee Meeting
December 6, 2023 10:10 am to 11:00 am
Online Zoom Meeting

Attendees:

- Thom Stead (chair), DVRPC
- Sean Meehan, Rutgers-VTC
- James Sinclair, Rutgers-VTC
- Shilpy Mehta, Rutgers-VTC
- Keith Hamas, NJTPA
- Adam Bradford, Passaic County
- Andrew Lappitt, Middlesex County
- Byron Nicholas, Hudson County Planning Division
- David Verdia, McCormick Taylor, Inc.
- Denise Nickle, Middlesex County
- Jonathan Eagle, Somerset County
- Mohammad A. Islam, NJDOT
- Surya Jacob, NJ Transit

Meeting Notes:

Discussion on the projects accomplished in 2023

- **Parking-protected bicycle facility:** The project location is Walnut Street in West Philadelphia. DVRPC was involved in the project for a year and finished it last month.
- **The Regional Active Transportation Plan, NJTPA:** It involved a lot of participation by experts, stakeholders and the general public. The most important takeaway from the project is the conceptual plan of the regional active transportation network. This can help the local authorities to work on projects in alignment with the regional network.
- NJTPA concluded a **Local Safety Webinar Series**. NJTPA consultants are now beginning work on local safety action plans. They will be developing the plans for eight participating counties.
- **Burlington-Camden Trail in Pennsauken:** This project was executed and finished in 2023 by McCormick Taylor, Inc.
- **Morristown Camden Avenue Redesign:** A streetscape was done, and bike lanes, a planted median island, and a pedestrian refuge were installed.
- **Reverse angle parking in downtown Leonia Borough:** The project purpose is to enhance the safety of bicyclists using the bike lanes.
- **The Middlesex County Greenway Plan:** The project is currently in progress and includes existing and proposed greenways, as well as those that need improvement.

- **Expansion of the Safe Routes to School Program to high schools:** The goal of the project is to inspire high school students to actively participate in the development of high school travel plans.

Potential topics for discussion in 2024

- Criteria for installing pedestrian bridges to replace at-grade street crossings.
- Investigating the use of permeable pavements for sidewalks.
- Understanding independent bicycle signals (auto-detection of bicycle) and improvements needed in this technology.
- The updated Public Right-of-Way Accessibility Guidelines (PROWAG) and their impact on ADA standards.
- The 85th Percentile Rule, Level of Service (LOS) and alternative metrics for roadway designs.

Subcommittee Goals for 2023:

Subcommittee members briefly discussed goals and topics for 2023 meetings by reviewing and editing the goals from 2022:

1. Work with Jersey Water Works on Green Streets training.
 - a. **Next steps: Contact someone from Jersey Water Works to give a quick presentation.**
2. Provide feedback on Complete and Green Streets design guidance.
 - a. **Next steps: Remove.**
3. Identify the potential for using HSIP funding for bike and pedestrian safety projects.
 - a. **Next steps: Remove.**
4. Identify potential guidance for bicycle facilities at interchanges.
 - a. **Next steps: It is in process; contribute as needed.**
5. Investigate ITS/smart solutions for bicycle and pedestrian safety.
 - a. **Next steps: Ask NJDOT to present on the Route 129 /Lalor Street project.**
 - b. **Next steps: Ask Clint Andrews (Rutgers) to give a presentation on his ongoing NSF grant-funded project related to micromobility.**
6. Clarify Complete Streets goals as they relate to Zero Death initiatives.
 - a. **Next steps: BPRC is working on comparison of Zero Deaths initiatives; review as needed.**
7. Investigate ways to improve equity in bicycle and pedestrian safety projects.
 - a. **Next steps: This should remain a priority.**
8. Identify ways to expand trails-related work, including promoting trail towns, improving safety at trail crossings, and exploring ADA compliance for multiuse trails.
 - a. **Next steps: Check on the status of NJDOT's trail crossing research.**
 - b. **ADA compliance issues are a priority.**

- c. **We need to do more work at the regional level to connect and implement county trail plans.**
 - d. **NJDEP is interested in doing another trails summit.**
9. Promote first and last-mile bicycle and micromobility facilities to transit.
 - a. **Next steps: Continue.**
10. Investigate ways to conduct signal timing studies to reduce pedestrian exposure time and explore possible infrastructure solutions.
 - a. **Next steps: Continue.**
11. Work to address concerns related to quick-build and pop-up projects.
 - a. **Next steps: Continue.**

Strategic Highway Safety Plan Pedestrian and Bicycle Emphasis Area Goals - should we be providing feedback and input?

- Research best practices for retrofitting arterial roadways to better accommodate pedestrians and bicyclists - led by Nazhat Aboobaker, NJDOT. **This is a priority action for this year. The subcommittee can help with ideas and review.**