

BPAC Design & Infrastructure Subcommittee Meeting January 25, 2023, 10:10 am to 10:55 am Online Zoom Meeting

Attendees:

Thom Stead, DVRPC, Chair Sean Meehan

Samuel Rosenthal Adam Bradford

Andras Holzmann

Cassidy Boulan David Verdia

Keith Hamas Lisa Leone

Marhaba Omer Michael Viscardi Nazhat Aboobaker

Patrick Farley

Polli Schildge

Ramond Joseph

Tom DiBiase

Martin Balcazar

Reba Oduro

Vittorio Anepete

John Wheeler

David Guinan

Topics:

- Presentation from Thom Stead on DVRPC's Mobility Choices Study in North Trenton
 - Thom Stead presented on the Delaware Valley Regional Transportation
 Commission's (DVRPC) work on mobility choices in Black and Latino
 communities in Trenton, including what types of mobility they use and whether
 there are other modes they would prefer to use.
 - The study found that:
 - Most people use a combination of modes to get places.
 - The community in the study doesn't have access to a grocery store.
 - There are issues around infrastructure and design.
 - Study participants would use transport modes other than driving if safety were improved, better lighting was installed, and more sidewalks were built and maintained.
 - The study has helped to start conversations both internally and with partners about community needs.
 - Full report link: https://www.dvrpc.org/Reports/22103.pdf

Additional Discussion on Subcommittee Goals for 2023

- From the North Trenton presentation:
 - Build strategies from successful implementation of projects.
 - Build consensus with communities around bicycle infrastructure and its traffic capacity or parking trade-offs.
- Subcommittee members discussed the importance of street trees in creating urban environments that feel walkable.
- There was a desire to see more presentations on projects being implemented in urban communities in New Jersey.
 - At the next Design Subcommittee meeting on March 22, Jersey City will present on their work to achieve zero deaths on city-owned roadways.
- Subcommittee members asked whether NJDOT has a mechanism for municipalities and counties to coordinate with NJDOT on small projects involving state roads that are connected with local road networks.
 - There was a desire to engage with NJDOT on smaller projects that may not be scoped to include substantial outreach.
 - There is an internal quarterly meeting between the Division of Local Aid and county engineers to communicate about projects.
 - Municipalities can communicate directly with the Division of Local Aid via email at DOT-LocalAID.ResourceCenter@dot.nj.gov.
 - Municipalities and counties can also communicate with the Department through the NJDOT Office of Community and Constituent Relations (609-963-1982).