



BPAC Policy Subcommittee Meeting
March 22, 2023 10:10 am to 10:55 am
Online Zoom Meeting

Attendees:

Corey Hannigan, TSTC (Chair)	Emmanuelle Morgen, Hudson County CS
John Boyle, Bike & Walk Coalition Greater Philadelphia	Advocacy Group
Elise Bremer-Nei, NJDOT	Monika Pal, VTC
Sidney Christianson	Mackenzie Piggott, NJDEP State Trails Coordinator
Tricia Dunkak, New Jersey Future	Beth Portocalis, Township of Medford
Tim Evans, New Jersey Future	Joe Rapp, NJDOT
David Guinan, NJ State Police	Samuel Rosenthal, VTC
Adam Iaccheo, EZ Ride	Lindsey Sigmund, New Jersey Future
Kimberley Irby, NJ Future	Lisa Serieyssl, Greater Mercer TMA
Jensi Jimenez, EZ Ride	Andy Swords, NJDOT
Matt Johnson, Burlington County	Leigh Ann Von Hagen, VTC
Debra Kagan, NJ Bike & Walk Coalition	Ranjit Walia, Civic Eye Collaborative
Howard Kradjel	

Meeting notes:

1. Legislative Updates - Bills Related to Active Transportation

- Corey Hannigan presented a document listing legislation related to bicycles and pedestrians ([Legislative Tracker](#)).
- Corey provided an overview of different bills to the new sub-committee members.

2. RSIS next steps

- New Jersey Future has reviewed the Residential Site Improvement Standards report and it is ready to be submitted.

- New Jersey Future, Tri-State Transportation Campaign, and Jersey City will jointly submit the report to NJ Department of Community Affairs Site Improvement Advisory Board.

3. Complete Streets and Persons with IDD and Autism law updates

- NJDOT has initiated a scope of work with NV5 and VTC to help determine what best practices are out there related to the new law.
- NJDOT will look at all the Department documents and policies that will need to be changed to incorporate the new law.
- NJDOT will also inform municipalities that already have an existing Complete Streets policy about the new law and updates being made at NJDOT.
- All of the new information will be added to the Complete & Green Streets Model Policy.
- NJDOT will provide an update on the work regarding this new policy in the next BPAC session.
- Articles shared by members regarding the topic:
 - “N.J. autism cases have jumped 300% in 16 years. Rutgers researchers aren’t sure why.”
<https://www.nj.com/healthfit/2023/02/nj-autism-cases-have-jumped-300-in-16-years-rutgers-researchers-arent-sure-why.html>
 - “Exposure to fine particulate air pollution (PM2.5) has been linked with significantly increased risk of autism spectrum disorder (ASD) in children, particularly if exposure occurs during the third trimester of pregnancy or during early childhood, according to a meta-analysis from Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health.”
<https://www.hsph.harvard.edu/news/hsph-in-the-news/air-pollution-linked-with-increased-risk-of-autism-in-children/>

4. Primer about various policies and legislation in New Jersey that regulate bicycle and pedestrian transportation issues, including RSIS, MLUL, Title 39, Access Code, and the Functional Classification System

- NJ Bike & Walk Coalition (NJBWC) mentioned that they can work on this task but they don’t have the resources to take the lead.
- NJ Future stated that if we want people to drive less, we need to ensure that the alternatives to driving are safe. There are several guidelines and regulations that affect how the streets are designed. Therefore, the first step is to figure out what all those resources are.
- Resources related to the topic as shared by the subcommittee chair:
 - A Citizen’s Guide to Better Streets: How to Engage Your Transportation Agency
<http://880cities.org/images/resource/park-space-arti/citizen-guide-better-streets.pdf>
 - The Master Plan: Smart Growth, the Master Plan & Environmental Protection (ANJEC)
http://anjec.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/SG_MasterPlan.pdf
- SHSP 1.C.2.a. - Develop recommendations for education and outreach on recent updates to laws and regulations related to pedestrians, bicyclists, and scooters
 - NJBWC and NJ Future will work together on this task.

- To work on this task, there needs to be a primer in place first. There needs to be a clear understanding of the landscape that will help provide education and outreach recommendations.

5. Title 39 review and action strategy

- Will Yarzab and Jim Hunt are working on this topic. However, they were not present at the subcommittee meeting. An update will be given at the next BPAC meeting.
- As of January, the definitions of some transportation modes have been updated in the TR-1 form used by police to report crashes. More information is provided on the NJDOT website related to the new TR-1 form:
<https://www.state.nj.us/transportation/refdata/accident/publications.shtm>
- David Guinan, NJ State Police, teaches an NJTR-1 refresher course through Rutgers. For questions regarding the TR-1 form, contact him at david.guinan@njsp.org
 - David mentioned that although the definition of “personal conveyance” was added to the TR-1, crashes involving personal conveyances (such as e-scooters and e-bikes) are still being reported as pedestrians.
- Resources related to the TR-1 form:
 - New NJTR-1 and guidebook
<https://www.state.nj.us/transportation/refdata/accident/publications.shtm>
 - New Jersey Crash Records Portal: <https://njcrashrecords.org/#/>

6. NJ Future VMT Reduction Initiative

- NJ Future is developing a legislative agenda that will ask the state to adopt VMT Reduction goals and instruct state agencies to start evaluating the likely VMT effects of their projects.
- Regarding this initiative, it would be helpful if MVC could collect odometer readings and aggregating that to produce VMT data that provides more information about a driver’s location.

7. Insights on new federal grant programs (SS4A, RCP, ATIIP, earmarks, etc.)

- Greg Woltman from VTC presented updates on SS4A in today’s BPAC general meeting.
- The Active Transportation Infrastructure Investment Program (ATIIP) was originally devised by the Rails to Trails Conservancy. The program will provide opportunities to local governments to build out active transportation infrastructure.
[\(https://www.railstotrails.org/policy/funding/active-transportation-infrastructure-investment-program/\)](https://www.railstotrails.org/policy/funding/active-transportation-infrastructure-investment-program/)

8. League of American Bicyclists National Bike Summit Lobby Day

- The 23rd Annual National Bike Summit will take place Sunday, March 26 to Wednesday, March 29, 2023, in Washington, DC.
- The Summit will feature in-person workshops, mobile discussion groups, opportunities to ride, and networking events.

- The last day (March 29, 2023) is Lobby Day, where people can talk to their local congresspeople and senators to advocate for national legislation around bike users' safety.
- This year they will talk about truck side guards, e-bike rebates, and Highway Safety Improvement Program 100% local match flexibility for Transportation Alternatives Program funding.