



**BPAC Design & Infrastructure Subcommittee Meeting
September 27, 2023 10:10 am to 11:00 am
Online Zoom Meeting**

Attendees:

- Thom Stead (chair), DVRPC
- Sean Meehan, Rutgers-VTC
- James Sinclair, Rutgers-VTC
- Simone Gore, NJ Transit
- Anthony Durante, Michael Baker International
- Stefanie Potapa, NJDOT
- Matt Ludwig, NV5
- Pateeksha Sehgal, Michael Baker International
- Jenna Monaghan, SJTPO
- Ruchi Shrivastava, HDR
- Danielle Baer, Urban Engineers
- Reba Oduro, NJDOT
- Marhaba Omer, NJDOT
- Pascal Medina, Perth Amboy PD
- Omeed Rahin, Avenues in Motion
- Ramond Joseph, NJ Department of Community Affairs
- Shilpy Mehta, Rutgers-VTC
- Denise Nickel, Middlesex County
- Michael Viscardi, NJ Transit
- Joanna Hecht, DVRPC
- Nazhat Aboobaker, NJDOT

Meeting Notes:

Presentation by Joanna Hecht, DVPRC, on Bus-Bike conflicts in Trenton. The slides are available here. (pending upload)

- The presentation centered around DVPRC's collaborative project with NJ Transit, aimed at enhancing the safety of bus operators, bus users, bicyclists, and pedestrians by minimizing interactions between buses and bicycles.
- Key insights from the project's interview process were highlighted, underscoring the importance of mode separation for the benefit of all road users. Additionally, the presentation emphasized the value of maintaining regular communication with road owners to streamline the design process and minimize revisions.

- The presentation introduced a toolkit developed as an outcome of the project that can be used to aid road design to reduce bike-bus interactions.
- The findings and recommendations were also presented for two intersections in Trenton, NJ that were developed after analyzing data from literature reviews, interviews, and workshops. These recommendations encompass both mandatory and suggested interventions in accordance with MUTCD guidelines.
- The draft design of these intersections was comprehensively explained, providing detailed insights into the specific design elements utilized.

General group updates

- NJ Transit is scheduled to meet with NJDEP for a comprehensive review of the permits required for the Henry-Hudson Trail. This project has received state funding to proceed. Consequently, NJ Transit will meticulously adhere to state guidelines during the construction of the Henry Hudson Trail bridge.
- The DVPRC's Regional Safety Taskforce (RSTF) is organizing a webinar in collaboration with NJTPA titled “Try it before you buy it – Planning for Quick Built projects.”
- DVPRC currently has job openings available, and interested people are encouraged to explore these opportunities and submit applications.

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 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 documents. There may be an opportunity to develop a document about this with some case studies.**