



**BPAC Safety Subcommittee Meeting  
December 03, 2025, 10:15 am to 11:10 am  
Online Zoom Meeting**

**Attendance:**

- Keith Hamas (Chair), NJTPA
- Leigh Ann Von Hagen, Rutgers-VTC
- Analise Draghi, Rutgers-VTC
- Andrew Lappitt, Michael Baker International
- Bettina Zimney, NV5
- Eric Vladimir, Dewberry Engineers
- Evan Mabin, NJDOT
- Jen Farris, DVRPC
- Laura Cerutti, NJ DHTS
- Linda Rapacki, RideWise TMA
- Liza Betz, Union County
- Loretta Kelly, NJDOH
- Michael Russo, McCormick Taylor
- Olivia Allegra, RideWise TMA
- Ramond Joseph, NJDCA
- Reese Lewin, RideWise TMA
- Syd Chan, Newark Traffic Safety Coalition
- Tiffany Robinson, NJBWC
- Trevor Howard, City of Newark
- William Riviere, NJDOT

**Agenda:**

- **Topic Discussions**
  - NJ Target Zero Commission – Actions for Initial Implementation
  - 2026 goals

## Meeting notes:

- **Keith Hamas (NJTPA)** provided updates on the [Target Zero Action Plan](#) and potential priorities for BPAC. The action tables are broken down to address the Safe System Approach elements, in addition to Land Use and Coordinated Implementation.
  - Safer People actions focus on e-bike regulations and enhancing enforcement and education around youth safety and the Safe Passing Law. There are also pedestrian-focused design actions.
  - Safer Roads actions focus on Complete and Green Streets guidance, lighting improvements, and greenway connectivity.
  - Safer Speeds actions focus on traffic calming, including quick-build projects. De-emphasizing the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile approach is another priority of this element.
  - Safer Vehicles actions include safer fleet procurement, sideguards on trucks, automated braking, and mode shift incentives.
  - Post-Crash Care actions focus on EMS training, educational campaigns, and improved data-sharing between crash and medical records.
  - Land Use actions focus on Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) and Residential Site Improvement Standards (RSIS) updates.
  - Coordinated Implementation actions include quick-build delivery models and consistency between local Target Zero plans.
- **Leigh Ann Von Hagen (Rutgers-VTC)** provided more updates:
  - An [NJ.com article](#) on the Action Plan was published on December 2<sup>nd</sup>.
  - The legislative actions are part of the Action Plan, but they require extra work and support. As state employees, Commission members cannot move legislative actions forward on their own. These actions must move forward in a different way from the non-legislative actions.
  - Eight actions are identified as priority actions for initial implementation actions. With the new administration, it is unclear how soon things can get moving.
- **Keith Hamas (NJTPA)** summarized public comments on the Action Plan draft:
  - Themes included bringing in additional partners and expertise to the Commission, including fire departments and emergency personnel.
    - Trauma centers want to be part of the conversation on Post-Crash Care and also have concerns on e-bikes.
    - **Mid-Atlantic Auto Care Alliance** has also been present at many of Target Zero meetings. They support quick-build solutions and bringing back the safety aspects of motor vehicle inspection.
    - **The Lackawanna Coalition** supports making driving inconvenient to better enhance public transportation.
  - Improving funding streams for emergency response was important, especially for rural areas.
  - Equity and victim support was also covered in the public comment, including a crash victim bill of rights.

- Support for infrastructure and quick-build solutions, including road diets, daylighting, and pedestrian refuges, was included in the comments.
- Public comments also called for expanding the HIN to include a second tier of safety segments that could be addressed.
- Public commenters asked for e-bike and micromobility registration clarity.
- **DVRPC** asked how the state HIN overlaps/works with the regional HIN that their organization is developing.
- **An attendee** mentioned a presentation given at a previous Target Zero meeting about the daughter of a crossing guard who was killed, noting that it drew attention to what it means when you mention a fatality on the road. Speeding has increased since the pandemic and there has been an uptick in driving. A priority of the Commission might be addressing this early on, enforcing the speed limit and making the penalties of hitting a pedestrian, especially a crossing guard, severe.
  - **Leigh Ann Von Hagen (Rutgers-VTC)** noted that one of the initial and largest actions in the Action Plan is Traffic Calming.
  - The general population has a narrow notion of roadway safety, often underestimating crashes in their communities. Educating people about the realities of traffic crashes and fatalities is important for Target Zero.
  - The Action Plan includes a unified communication strategy action so that MPOs and agencies have similar talking points to educate people on traffic issues.
- **Keith Hamas (NJTPA)** noted that many people believe that zero traffic fatalities is impractical.
- **Leigh Ann Von Hagen (Rutgers-VTC)** elaborated with a comment from the meeting from the National Motorist Association. They were originally against Vision Zero, but at the December 1<sup>st</sup> Target Zero meeting, they called for a 30% decrease in traffic fatalities by 2030. It's important to notice this shift.
- **NJBWC** said the next step after the Action Plan is adopted is how to communicate this to communities. Equipping agency workers to be ambassadors of their work in their communities when not working is important. The messaging that accompanies the Action Plan is important and should include the message that "we're all responsible for getting to zero."
- **Leigh Ann Von Hagen (Rutgers-VTC)** shared the Initial Implementation Actions in the Action Plan. These are the actions that rated highly in surveys, and actions that had immediate next steps that could be actualized early on. They include:
  - Enhancing DWI Testing and Overnight Capacity
  - Increased Use of Pedestrian-Oriented Safety Countermeasures
  - Seatbelt Use Outreach
  - Unified Education Strategy for Target Zero
  - Bus Stop Design and Safety Improvements
  - Traffic Calming
  - Updates to Residential Site Improvement Standards
  - Target Overburdened Communities

- **Leigh Ann Von Hagen (Rutgers-VTC)** noted that where funding comes from is a common question. Some of the actions fit nicely into existing funding streams; others are less clear or have challenges.
- **Keith Hamas** asked which actions BPAC can support and which actions stand out.
  - BPAC would be ideal for supporting Traffic Calming and Increased Use of Pedestrian-Oriented Safety Countermeasures.
  - **NJBWC** noted opportunities to engage both police and advocates when examining potential factors contributing to crashes and fatalities at specific locations.
    - **Leigh Ann Von Hagen** shared the Target Zero Rapid Response Program action.
  - **An attendee** stated that lot of the actions are dependent on the owners of infrastructure, except for the communication action. There is a lack of awareness of why fatality rates are so bad. Education and outreach could give a huge return on investment without relying on infrastructure owners.
    - **Leigh Ann Von Hagen** mentioned the example of targeted outreach to Uber and Lyft for seatbelt use.
  - **DVRPC** asked how municipalities can share efforts so that they do not duplicate efforts while still being in alignment.
    - **Leigh Ann Von Hagen** said that the answer to this is still in development, but it is included in the Plan.
  - **NJDOH** is interested in joining NJDOT and NJDEP in working on the Target Overburdened Communities action.
- **Leigh Ann Von Hagen** mentioned that the state has decided to make crash data more public. The crash data portal will be publicly available. The State Police and municipal police agencies have also moved to a digital-based system for reporting crashes.
- **NJBWC** announced it will be hosting its 15th Annual NJ Bike & Walk Summit on Saturday March 7 at the Crowne Plaza Princeton - Conference Center. They are now welcoming session proposals for the Summit and are looking to hear from voices around the state around many of the topics discussed in the subcommittee and any that advance safer streets, stronger communities, and a more connected New Jersey. Those interested can submit their proposal by 5 PM on December 30, 2025.