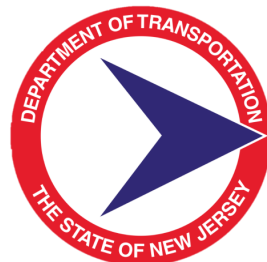




# NJDOT Complete Streets Summit Post Summit Report

July 2026



**RUTGERS-NEW BRUNSWICK**  
Edward J. Bloustein School  
of Planning and Public Policy

# Acknowledgments

This report is supported by the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) with funding from the Federal Highway Administration. New Jersey and the United States Government assume no liability for its contents or its use thereof.

The Summit was funded by the New Jersey Department of Transportation and organized by staff at the NJDOT Bicycle and Pedestrian Resource Center (BPRC) at the Alan M. Voorhees Transportation Center (VTC), which is housed at the Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy as part of Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey. The BPRC assists public officials, transportation and health professionals, and the public in creating safer and more accessible places to walk, bicycle, or travel by other low-speed wheeled devices through primary research, education, and dissemination of information about best practices in policy and design. The BPRC is supported by NJDOT through funds provided by the Federal Highway Administration. Summit hosting also included support from Civic Eye Collaborative (CEC) for technical support in developing videos.

Thank you to our sponsor, the NJ Department of Transportation, for supporting this effort. Without their contribution and continued support, this summit would not have been possible.

## Report Author

Gabbie Cain

## Report Contributor

Sam Rosenthal



# Overview

The New Jersey Complete Streets Summit is a free, biennial event sponsored by the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) that features a diverse lineup of speakers and sessions focused on Complete Streets policies, planning, implementation, and funding. The Summit brings together planners, engineers, public officials, advocates, and other stakeholders from across the state who are working to make communities safer, more accessible, and more vibrant for all road users.

Complete and Green Streets are designed to provide safe, comfortable, and equitable access for everyone, including pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, and transit riders of all ages and abilities. By considering the needs of all users, these approaches support healthier, more connected, and resilient communities throughout New Jersey.

The 2026 Summit was held on Tuesday, April 21, 2026, at the College Avenue Student Center at Rutgers University in New Brunswick. Centered on the theme “Every Journey Safer,” the event reinforced a shared commitment to prioritizing safety in transportation planning and decision-making across New Jersey.



Attendees enjoy breakfast as they listen to opening remarks from NJDOT Assistant Commissioner Eric Powers and Commissioner Priya Jain.

*Photo Source: NJDOT BPRC*

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# Goals and Target Audience

## Summit Goals

The Complete Streets Summit brought together planners, engineers, students, advocates, and members of the public to achieve the following goals:

- Educate attendees about Complete Streets and their wide-ranging benefits.
- Present best practices for implementing safe, healthy, green, and equitable Complete Streets policies and projects.
- Support continued Complete Streets efforts across the state.
- Increase attendees' familiarity with the resources available on Complete Streets policy adoption and implementation.
- Empower community members to improve the safety and sustainability of the built environment within their communities.
- Connect peers from across the state and increase awareness of local projects and funding opportunities.
- Inspire action through exemplary speakers and panel presentations on innovative ideas and New Jersey case studies.

## Target Audience

Summit organizers targeted a diverse audience, including:

- State, county, and municipal planners, engineers and advocates
- Planning and engineering students
- Senior and youth groups
- Public health, environmental, and economic development professionals
- Policy-makers and elected officials
- Local active transportation and Safe Routes to School champions
- Mobility, accessibility, and equity advocates



Attendees at the Complete Streets Summit engage with the keynote presentation.

# Advisory Committee Members

Amanda Gendek, NJDOT

Anne Heasly, Sustainable Jersey

Anya Saretzky, Cross County Connection TMA

Arlene Holt, Keep Middlesex Moving TMA

Bill Riviere, NJDOT

Brian Tobin, Keep Middlesex Moving TMA

Candace Faust, Borough of Eatontown

Cassidy Boulan, DVRPC

Cheryl Kastrenakes, Greater Mercer TMA

Dan Callas, Avenues in Motion TMA

Deb Kagan, NJ Bike & Walk Coalition

Elise Bremer-Nei, NJDOT

Greg Woltman, Voorhees Transportation Center

James Sinclair, Voorhees Transportation Center

Jennifer Marandino, SJTPO

John Boyle, Bicycle Coalition of Greater Philadelphia

Krista Weaver, Hopewell Borough

Leigh Ann Von Hagen, Voorhees Transportation Center

Linda Rapacki, NJTIP, Rutgers University

Lyndsey Scofield, City of Jersey City

Mackenzie Piggott, NJDEP

Michael Dannemiller, NJ TRANSIT

Michael Manzella, NJDOT

Nancy Facey-Blackwood, Borough of Red Bank

Patrick Farley, Cross County Connection TMA

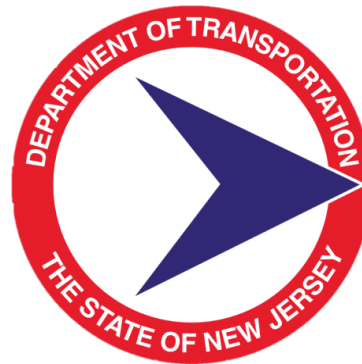
Peter Bilton, NJTPA

Ranjit Walia, Civic Eye Collaborative

Sam Rosenthal, Voorhees Transportation Center

# Sponsor

The New Jersey Department of Transportation has been the driving force behind the NJ Complete Streets Summit since its inception, securing funds from the Federal Highway Administration to hold it every other year since October 2010. The Summit, an important component of NJDOT's Strategic Highway Safety Plan, prioritizes bicycle and pedestrian safety. NJDOT's unwavering support has been instrumental in sustaining and advancing Complete Streets initiatives, aligning with their established policy for state roads since 2009. In 2020, NJDOT further demonstrated its commitment by publishing a Complete & Green Streets Model Policy & Guide to make policy development easier for local communities, solidifying its dedication to implementing a comprehensive Complete Streets approach statewide. In 2024, NJDOT updated its internal Complete Streets Policy to ensure that all capital projects are reviewed for compliance and include safe accommodations for all users. This policy applies across all project phases, from planning and design to construction, maintenance, and operation, ensuring safe and equitable access in all in all transportation projects funded or administered by the Department.



# Summit Agenda

The day kicked off with welcoming remarks from NJDOT Commissioner Priya Jain, who was introduced by Assistant Commissioner Eric Powers. Six breakout sessions followed, with speaker presentations and Q&A. Veronica O. Davis, Vice President of Planning, Engagement & Urban Design at AtkinsRéalis and author of *Inclusive Transportation: A Manifesto for Repairing Divided Communities*, presented a keynote address during the lunch hour. After the awards, the Summit wrapped up with a panel discussion focused on assessing Complete Streets from a regional and statewide perspective.

| Time     | Event                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Location                                   |
|----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| 8:30 AM  | Breakfast & Registration                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Multi-Purpose Room                         |
| 9:00 AM  | Welcome & Opening Remarks                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Multi-Purpose Room                         |
| 9:30 AM  | Session 1: Breakout Panels <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Institutionalizing Complete Streets in Your Community</li><li>• Applying Modern Complete Streets Guidance</li><li>• Envisioning Connected Greenways</li></ul>                  | Room 411<br>Multi-Purpose Room<br>Room 109 |
| 10:30 AM | Break                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                            |
| 11:00 AM | Session 2: Breakout Panels <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• New Jersey's Statewide and County Safety Action Plans: Where Are We Now</li><li>• Accessibility and Inclusive Mobility</li><li>• Advancing Transit-Ready Communities</li></ul> | Room 411<br>Multi-Purpose Room<br>Room 109 |
| 12:00 PM | Lunch & Keynote: Veronica Davis                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Multi-Purpose Room                         |
| 1:00 PM  | Awards Ceremony                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Multi-Purpose Room                         |
| 1:45 PM  | Break                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                            |
| 2:00 PM  | Afternoon Panel Discussion: Bringing It All Together                                                                                                                                                                                              | Multi-Purpose Room                         |
| 3:30 PM  | Closing Remarks & Adjournment                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Multi-Purpose Room                         |

# Coordinating Speakers and Sessions

The success of the 2026 Complete Streets Summit stems in large part from the strength of the breakout sessions and guest speakers. Topics, panelists, and speakers were selected from recommendations by the Summit Advisory Committee.

## Coordination with NJDOT Speakers

BPRC staff coordinated with NJDOT's Division of Statewide Planning to invite both the Commissioner and Assistant Commissioner to provide opening remarks at the Summit. BPRC also invited NJDOT staff to serve as moderators for most sessions.

## Keynote Speaker Selection and Coordination

A list of prospective keynote speakers was assembled for NJDOT approval, based on the Advisory Committee's recommendations. Top candidates were contacted to determine interest, availability, and speaker fees. Veronica O. Davis was selected after NJDOT approval, and BPRC and NJDOT staff met with Ms. Davis to discuss keynote topics and event logistics.

## Breakout Session Topic Selection

Based on discussions with the Advisory Committee, the BPRC distilled an extensive list of proposed sessions. A draft set of topic areas was sent to NJDOT for revisions and approval.

## Speaker Selection

Once topics were finalized, the Advisory Committee provided recommendations for session panelists. BPRC staff prioritized prospective speakers based on their relevance to each topic and on the ability of the full speaker list to provide diverse perspectives on a given session's topic. NJDOT reviewed a prioritized list of first-choice candidates and alternate speakers for each session. Following NJDOT approval, the BPRC reached out to prospective speakers regarding their interest and availability to participate.

## Coordination Meetings

After a full panel was confirmed for each topic, BPRC staff organized a meeting for each session, which included the moderators and all speakers. Tom DiBiase (Michael Baker International) and Michael Dannemiller (NJ TRANSIT) took the lead on coordinating one session each. At each meeting, BPRC provided a draft session outline to help panelists identify speaking topics. Together, panelists discussed their topics, established a presentation order, and resolved potential overlaps to reduce redundancy and free up time for audience questions. Speakers and moderators were informed of the Summit's general agenda, asked for a brief biography and headshot, and given housekeeping information. They were asked to submit their final slides the week before the Summit.

## Material Submissions

Once all presentation materials were submitted, BPRC staff merged slide decks and added pre-formatted cover slides and a Q&A slide to the end. Copies of the final presentations were transferred to multiple flash drives so that each breakout room had its own copies, as well as spares in case any drive was lost, damaged, or corrupted.

# Opening Remarks and Keynote Address

## Opening Remarks

Voorhees Transportation Center Executive Director Leigh Ann Von Hagen opened the 2026 Complete Streets Summit by welcoming attendees and thanking the New Jersey Department of Transportation for its continued support. She also recognized the Department for its commitment to advancing Complete Streets across New Jersey.

NJDOT Assistant Commissioner Eric Powers then kicked off the Summit, sharing how his interest in urban planning began with *Sim City* and contrasting the game with the complexity of the real world. He emphasized the importance of collaboration and thoughtful planning, noting that well-designed streets help communities thrive. He was followed by newly appointed Commissioner Priya Jain, who spoke about how transportation shapes daily life and emphasized the role of Complete Streets in creating safe, connected communities. She also highlighted New Jersey's Vision Zero commitment to eliminating traffic fatalities and serious injuries by 2040. BPRC staff then shared housekeeping announcements and directed participants to their first breakout sessions.



Commissioner Priya Jain gives her opening remarks.

Photo source: NJDOT



Veronica O. Davis's keynote address on rethinking transportation infrastructure.

Photo source: NJDOT BPRC

## Keynote Address

Veronica O. Davis, Vice President of Planning, Engagement & Urban Design at AtkinsRéalis, delivered a lunchtime keynote address. Drawing on themes from her book, *Inclusive Transportation: A Manifesto for Repairing Divided Communities*, Davis challenged attendees to rethink how transportation decisions are made and highlighted how ill-defined processes and limited public engagement can lead to key voices being ignored. She pointed out that those most affected but least heard become the silent suffering, and she emphasized the need for more inclusive, community-centered approaches to plans and projects.

Blending humor with insight, Ms. Davis encouraged the audience to move beyond framing transportation as a battle between modes and to instead focus on designing systems that work for everyone. She closed with a call to action, urging practitioners to lead with empathy, act boldly, and better serve the diverse needs and perspectives of all road users.

# Sessions and Speakers

## Breakout Session:

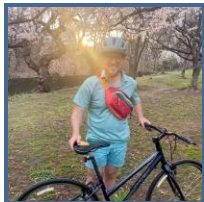
### *Institutionalizing Complete Streets in Your Community*



Hailey Anilonis, AICP (Moderator)  
Senior Planner, Division of Statewide Planning  
New Jersey Department of Transportation



Anthony Talerico, Jr.  
Mayor  
Borough of Eatontown



Jacob Nieman  
Complete Streets Director  
Montclair Township



Ryan Conklin, AICP, PP, GISP  
Director of Planning  
City of Warren

## Session Description

Complete Streets policies offer an opportunity to make New Jersey communities more vibrant and inclusive spaces for all road users. The goal of this session was to discuss how to create a comprehensive policy that aids local governments in making Complete Streets the standard planning practice in their communities. Topics included developing and using a Complete Streets checklist, the role of a Complete Streets Advisory Board, establishing benchmarks, and tracking progress through data collection. The session also included information on technical assistance opportunities available to communities and how to incorporate community engagement best practices into Complete Streets planning and implementation processes.



Panelists from the *Institutionalizing Complete Streets in Your Community* session

Ryan Conklin presents the Complete Streets Toolbox from Warren County's Comprehensive Complete Streets Policy & Implementation Plan.

Photo Source: NJDOT BPRC

# Sessions and Speakers

## Breakout Session:

### *Applying Modern Complete Streets Guidance*



Nazhat Aboobaker, PE, MBA, PMP, PhD (Moderator)

Section Chief, Planning, Complete Streets  
Implementation, Bureau of Safety Improvement  
Programs

New Jersey Department of Transportation



Brian M. Stankus, PE, PTOE

Senior Traffic Engineer

NV5



Tom DiBiase, PE, RSP2i

Project Manager, Transportation Planning &  
Engineering

Michael Baker International



Sean Meehan

Managing Director, Active Transportation &  
Safety

Alan M. Voorhees Transportation Center,  
Rutgers University

## Session Description

There is no one-size-fits-all model when designing Complete Streets, and municipalities across the state must address their own set of needs and priorities. Fortunately, there is an abundance of guidance available to assist with planning, designing, and implementing Complete Streets. In this session, speakers explored how to apply Complete Streets design principles to real-world projects. Panelists also discussed guides and resources that can help Complete Streets become a reality.



Panelists from the *Applying Modern Complete Streets Guidance* session



Sean Meehan presents before-and-after photos of Complete Streets projects in action near schools.

*Photo Source: NJDOT BPRC*

# Sessions and Speakers

## Breakout Session: *Envisioning Connected Greenways*



Jelena Lasko (Moderator)  
Transit Village Coordinator  
New Jersey Department of Transportation



Mackenzie Piggott  
State Trails Coordinator, Green Acres Program  
New Jersey Department of Transportation



Tiffany Robinson  
Trails and Active Mobility Director  
NJ Bike & Walk Coalition



Matthew J. Johnson, AICP, PP  
Deputy Director, Resource Conservation  
Department  
Burlington County

### Session Description

NJDOT and NJDEP share a goal to create more vibrant and accessible communities through the expansion of active transportation networks both on- and off-road. Complete Streets principles can also support the development of the State's network of trails and greenways. This session focused on efforts statewide to expand access to trails for people walking and bicycling, including an introduction to Circuit Trail planning and how to effectively create an interconnected network of multi-use trails.



Panelists from the *Envisioning Connected Greenways* session



*Envisioning Protected Greenways* Panelists answer questions from breakout attendees.

*Photo Source: NJDOT BPRC*

# Sessions and Speakers

## Breakout Session:

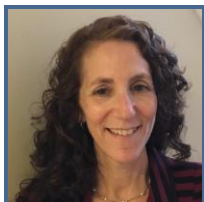
### *New Jersey's Statewide and County Safety Action Plans: Where Are We Now?*



Jennifer Marandino, PE (Moderator)  
Executive Director  
South Jersey Transportation Planning  
Organization



Tanner Thul, AICP  
Senior Transportation Planner  
Hudson County Department of Roads and Public  
Property, Division of Engineering



Cheryl Kastrenakes  
Executive Director  
Greater Mercer TMA



Vijayant (VJ) Rajvanshi, AICP  
Planning Director, Department of Transportation  
Middlesex County

## Session Description

All 21 New Jersey counties are taking a fresh, coordinated look at how to make county and municipal roads safer for everyone through the development of comprehensive safety action plans. With support from the State's three metropolitan planning organizations, these county-level efforts reinforce NJDOT's 2025 Strategic Highway Safety Plan and help shape a statewide vision for safer streets. This session examined the safety action planning process at the state and county levels, taking stock of what has been accomplished so far, and exploring how Complete Streets fits into strategic transportation safety planning.



Panelists from the *New Jersey's Statewide and County Safety Action Plans: Where Are We Now* session

Tanner Thul presenting a year of progress on Hudson County's Vision Zero plan, highlighting engagement and projects.

Photo Source: NJDOT BPRC

# Sessions and Speakers

## Breakout Session:

### *Accessibility and Inclusive Mobility*



Elise Bremer-Nei, AICP, PP (Moderator)  
Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator  
New Jersey Department of Transportation



Sam Rosenthal, AICP  
Research Project Coordinator  
Alan M. Voorhees Transportation Center,  
Rutgers University



Jim Elliot, AICP  
Principal Planner  
Toole Designer



Linda Rapacki  
Research Project Coordinator & Senior Travel  
Instructor  
NJ Travel Independence Programs at Rutgers



Chrystal Section, MBA  
ADA Coordinator  
New Jersey Department of Transportation

## Session Description

Well-designed, complete streets support accessibility and mobility for all New Jerseyans, including those living with diverse mobility needs. This session focused on how to promote accessibility and inclusivity in Complete Streets design and implementation. Topics included planning for the needs of neurodivergent individuals, Public Right-of-Way Accessibility Guidelines (PROWAG), the role travel training programs play in ensuring New Jerseyans with disabilities can enjoy the benefits of Complete Streets, and how NJDOT's ADA Transition Plan and updated Universal Design Guidance can help create complete streets that meet the needs of people of all abilities.



Panelists from the *Accessibility and Inclusive Mobility* session

*Accessibility and Inclusive Mobility* session attendee asking the panelists a question

Photo Source: NJDOT BPRC

# Sessions and Speakers

## Breakout Session:

### *Advancing Transit-Ready Communities*



Michael Dannemiller, PE (Moderator)  
Assistant Director, Programmatic Planning  
NJ TRANSIT



David Schmetterer, AICP, PP  
Assistant Director of Planning  
Monmouth County Division of Planning



Francesca Giarratana, AICP, PP  
Deputy Director, Department of Planning &  
Business Opportunity  
Hudson County



Christopher Gonda  
Program Manager  
Keep Middlesex Moving



James Clavelli, AICP, PP  
Principal Planner  
NV5

## Session Description

Improving transit starts before you reach the platform. This session highlighted strategies to enhance station access and first- and last-mile connectivity. Panelists explored how diverse New Jersey communities—from urban hubs like Hoboken, Jersey City, and Metropark to local centers in Metuchen, Dunellen, Aberdeen/Matawan, Mahwah, and Atlantic City—are working to better leverage transit facilities to support Complete Streets. Participants learned about approaches to reducing physical barriers, better aligning transit operations with pedestrian safety, and moving toward more seamless, multimodal networks that strengthen connections to rail.



Panelists from the *Advancing Transit Ready Communities* session



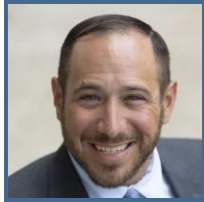
*Advancing Transit Ready Communities* session attendees having a discussion with the panelists

Photo Source: NJDOT BPRC

# Sessions and Speakers

## Afternoon Panel:

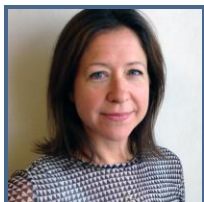
### *Bringing It All Together: Aligning Regional and Statewide Safety Planning to Advance Complete Streets*



Michael Manzella, AICP (Moderator)  
Director of Statewide Planning  
New Jersey Department of Transportation



Jeffrey Perlman, AICP, PP  
Senior Director of Planning  
North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority



Betsy Mastaglio, PLA  
Associate Director, Multimodal Planning  
Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission



Jenna Monaghan  
Assistant Planner  
South Jersey Transportation Planning  
Organization

## Session Description

As a wrap-up to the day's activities, this panel took a broader look at Complete Streets from regional and statewide perspectives. Speakers from New Jersey's three MPOs highlighted technical assistance programs and efforts to develop county safety action plans and regional active transportation plans. They also talked about how these plans can be incorporated into ongoing State efforts to update the NJ Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan. Key to the discussion was the role Zero Deaths initiatives play in advancing Complete Streets that safely accommodate the needs of all road users.



Panelists from the *Bringing It All Together* panel with Jennifer Marandino (SJTPA), Leigh Ann von Hagen (Rutgers-VTC), and Elise Bremer-Nei (NJDOT)

Michael Manzella reviews live results from an interactive attendee poll on priorities for Complete Streets over the next 5–10 years.

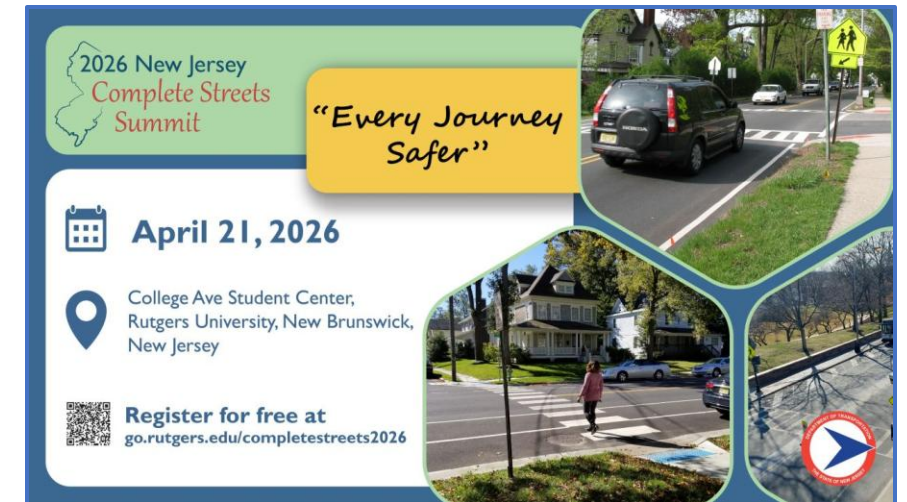
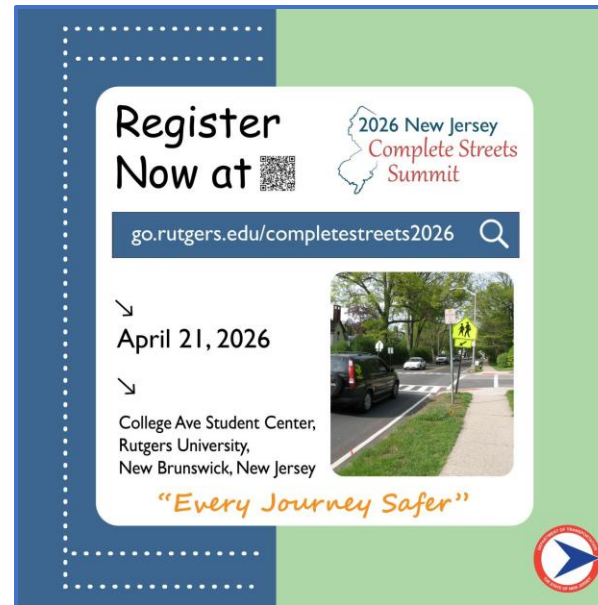
Photo Source: NJDOT BPRC

# Social Media

To support outreach for the 2026 NJDOT Complete Streets Summit, the NJDOT BPRC developed a comprehensive social media toolkit for partner organizations, including ready-to-use posts, graphics, and newsletter content.

The toolkit promoted key announcements such as the save-the-date, registration launch, and event reminders across platforms like LinkedIn, Facebook, and Twitter/X, while also encouraging interactive engagement through polls and discussion prompts. These materials were also shared on BPRC's own social media accounts.

Summit attendees were asked to use #CompleteStreets on social media.



# Social Media Posts: Facebook

## Award Nomination Announcement

**New Jersey Bicycle and Pedestrian Resource Center**  
December 15, 2025 · 🌐

Nominations are open for 2026 Complete Streets Champion and Complete Streets Excellence Awards!

Help @njdot identify who should be recognized at the 2026 Complete Streets Summit!

[https://rutgers.ca1.qualtrics.com/.../SV\\_cwroKfKXEJdQyFg](https://rutgers.ca1.qualtrics.com/.../SV_cwroKfKXEJdQyFg)

### Champion Nominations are Open

---

**Submit by:**  
**Wednesday,  
December 17, 2025**



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## Registration Announcement

**New Jersey Bicycle and Pedestrian Resource Center**  
February 10 · 🌐

Registration is now open for the 2026 New Jersey Complete Streets Summit! Sponsored by @NewJerseyDOT, this event on April 21 is FREE. Visit [go.rutgers.edu/completestreets2026](https://go.rutgers.edu/completestreets2026) to register and learn more about designing safer streets for all road users! [#CompleteStreets](https://twitter.com/CompleteStreets)



*"Every Journey Safer"*

 **April 21, 2026**

 College Ave Student Center,  
Rutgers University, New Brunswick,  
New Jersey

 **Register for free at**  
[go.rutgers.edu/completestreets2026](https://go.rutgers.edu/completestreets2026)



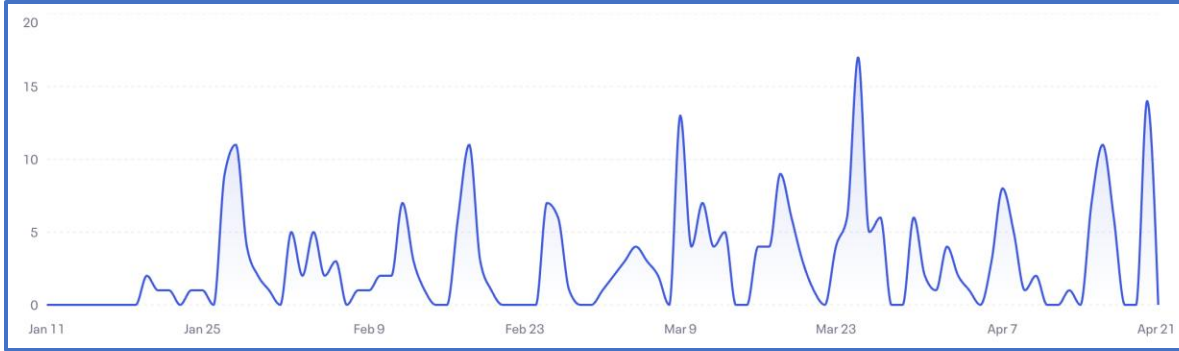
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# Registration and Attendance

Registration opened in January 2026 and was managed through Eventbrite, with the link promoted via the Complete Streets Summit Social Media Toolkit. Registrations peaked in March, and demand exceeded capacity by early April, prompting the creation of a waitlist. In the weeks leading up to the event, confirmed registrants were encouraged via email to cancel if unable to attend, allowing additional spaces to be offered to those on the waitlist.

Total number of registrations: 300

Registrations per Day, January–April 2026





EVENT ENDED

### 2026 New Jersey Complete Streets Summit



by The Alan M. Voorhees Transportation Center

34 followers • 3 events • 2y hosting • 680 total attendees

Follow

The College Avenue Campus Student Center at Rutgers University in New Brunswick • New Brunswick, NJ

Tuesday, April 21 • 8:30 AM - 4 PM

Overview

Complete Streets are streets designed for all road users based on the specific context and needs of your community.

The 2026 New Jersey Complete Streets Summit, sponsored by the New Jersey Department of Transportation, will be held on Tuesday, April 21, 2026. The full-day event will be held in person at the College Avenue Campus Student Center at Rutgers University in New Brunswick and is free to attend....

Read more

Sales ended  
Tue, Apr 21 • 8:30 AM

Explore similar events

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# Award Selection Process

A key role of the Complete Streets Summit Advisory Committee is to advise the New Jersey Department of Transportation on the selection of Complete Streets award recipients. In 2026, there were three types of awards with a total of eight (8) awards to individuals, groups, and governments. There were five (5) Complete Streets Excellence awards, two (2) Complete Streets Champions awards, and one (1) Safe Routes to School Champion award.

## Nomination

Following the first meeting of the Advisory Committee, BPRC staff produced a Qualtrics nomination questionnaire to solicit nominations for all Excellence and Champion Awards. The questionnaire was distributed by Committee members to their networks, as well as to the Complete Streets partners network and through the NJDOT BPRC and Safe Routes newsletters, websites, and social media accounts. The form asked for the nominee's name, organization or town, and a reason for why they should be awarded. The submitter was also required to provide their name.

## Eligibility

Per NJDOT rules, individuals or organizations who were paid by NJDOT to help implement Complete Streets are not eligible to receive a Complete Streets Award. All ineligible nominees were excluded from Committee review.

## Committee Review and Ranking

After the second Advisory Committee meeting, BPRC staff organized eligible nominees for all awards into a Qualtrics form and asked Committee members to vote for their preferred recipients. BPRC staff provided the results of this ranking exercise, along with a memorandum summarizing the merits of each nominee, to NJDOT to assist with the final selection of award winners.

## NJDOT Selection

NJDOT reviewed the memorandum and deliberated internally on a final list of awardees, including establishing a final number of awardees in each award type. During this process, BPRC staff answered follow up questions to assist NJDOT in their final determination.

## Notification

Following a final determination by NJDOT, awardees were notified via email and invited to attend the Summit to be recognized.

# Champion Award Winners

## Complete Streets Champion Awards

Complete Streets Champion Awards are given to individuals, groups, or teams that have demonstrated a commitment to advancing Complete Streets in their communities. The 2026 recipients were:

**Union County Connects** was recognized for its advocacy for improving trail connections and safer streets across Union County. Their work advancing multi-use trails, Rails-to-Trails initiatives, and Complete Streets policies helps link Union County communities through more accessible transportation networks.

**Hudson County Complete Streets** was recognized for its work in improving transportation connectivity and equity across Hudson County. Through collaboration with partners such as Bike JC, the New Jersey Bike and Walk coalition, and the New Jersey Vision Zero Alliance, Hudson County Complete Streets has helped advance transit improvements and create a safer, more accessible Hudson County.

## Safe Routes to School Champion Award

**The Nikhil Badlani Foundation and their Youth Advisory Board initiative** were recognized for empowering students across New Jersey to take an active role in improving traffic safety in their communities. Through hands-on engagement, collaboration with officials, and leading efforts like the first Youth Advisory Board Summit, the program is fostering the next generation of leaders committed to safer roadways.



# Excellence Award Winners

Complete Streets Excellence Awards are given to municipalities, organizations, or projects that have demonstrated excellence in Complete Streets implementation. The 2026 recipients were:

**The Borough of Dunellen** has successfully implemented Complete and Green Streets projects aimed at improving walking and biking throughout the Borough. The development of its 2023 Active Transportation Study enabled Dunellen to create a vision for a safer, more connected community. The study, combined with ongoing improvements to pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure, helps foster a more accessible transportation network for all residents.

**The City of Passaic** has advanced Complete Streets policies through a range of planning and infrastructure initiatives. Through efforts such as its 2025 Pedestrian Master Plan and 2023 Aging-Friendly Land Use Plan, the city has made major improvements to bike infrastructure, intersection safety, ADA accessibility, and prioritizing senior-friendly design features. Recent projects, including school safety upgrades, a free bikeshare program, redesigning Main Avenue with enhanced bus facilities and a promenade, and a partnership with NJTRANSIT to build a new transit hub, demonstrate a strong commitment to safer, more connected mobility for all residents.

**The City of Hoboken** continues to be a leader in promoting Complete Streets policies. Their latest efforts include the Grand Street pilot program and the CLEAR enforcement initiative, which have improved safety, reduced illegal parking, and enhanced conditions for pedestrians, cyclists, and transit users. In partnership with NJ TRANSIT, Hoboken's broader investments included the Hoboken Connect Project, aimed to revitalize the city's transit facilities. These efforts highlight Hoboken's commitment to advancing accessible, transit-oriented, and people-centered streetscapes.



# Excellence Award Winners (cont.)

**The Township of Pennsville** has advanced Complete Streets and active transportation planning through recent safety and infrastructure initiatives. In November 2025, the Township partnered with Cross County Connection TMA to install temporary crosswalks and curb extensions as part of a demonstration project supported by the South Jersey Transportation Planning Organization Complete Streets Technical Assistance Program. The Township has also initiated traffic calming and pedestrian improvements around Pennsville Middle School, including new sidewalks, ADA-compliant ramps, and safety upgrades along William Penn Avenue.

**The City of Trenton** continues to be a leader in advancing Complete Streets initiatives. The City adopted the Complete Streets ordinance in 2022, which requires the use of design checklists from the Trenton Complete Streets Design Handbook in all transportation projects. Trenton has also strengthened its safety efforts through the establishment of a Safe Streets for All Committee and the development of the 2025 Vision Zero Plan focused on reducing traffic fatalities and serious injuries. Additional initiatives, including an interconnected Trails Plan and safety improvements along Perry Street, support a more connected and safer transportation network.



Photo Source: NJDOT BPRC

# Complete Streets Excellence Video

BPRC worked with Civic Eye Collaborative (CEC) to develop a video showcasing the progress New Jersey has made toward advancing Complete Streets policies and projects. Footage from the five Excellence Award-winning municipalities highlighted efforts underway in those communities. The video was shown prior to the presentation of Complete Streets Excellence awards. The video is currently available to watch on the [NJDOT BPRC YouTube channel](#).



Still frame from the 2026 NJDOT Complete Streets Summit video.

# Complete Streets Policy Recognition

During the event, NJDOT recognized several communities for adopting new or updated Complete Streets policies since the 2023 Summit. Many of these policies incorporate language from NJDOT's *Complete & Green Streets for All: Model Policy & Guide* (2020). Nineteen municipalities and one county received a framed certificate signed by Commissioner Jain.

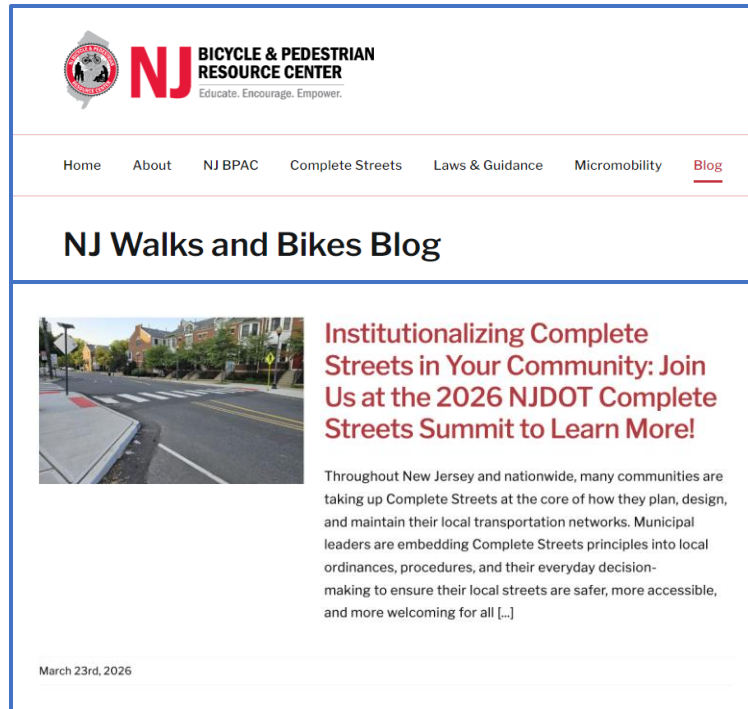
- City of Asbury Park
- Borough of Bernardsville
- Township of East Windsor
- Borough of Fort Lee
- Township of Haddon
- Borough of High Bridge
- Borough of Highland Park
- Borough of Little Silver
- Mercer County
- Township of Montclair
- Township of Morris
- Borough of Oakland
- City of Passaic
- Township of Readington
- Borough of Red Bank
- Township of Rochelle Park
- Township of Teaneck
- Borough of Watchung
- Township of West Orange
- Township of West Windsor



Representatives from the Borough of Red Bank accepting their certificate

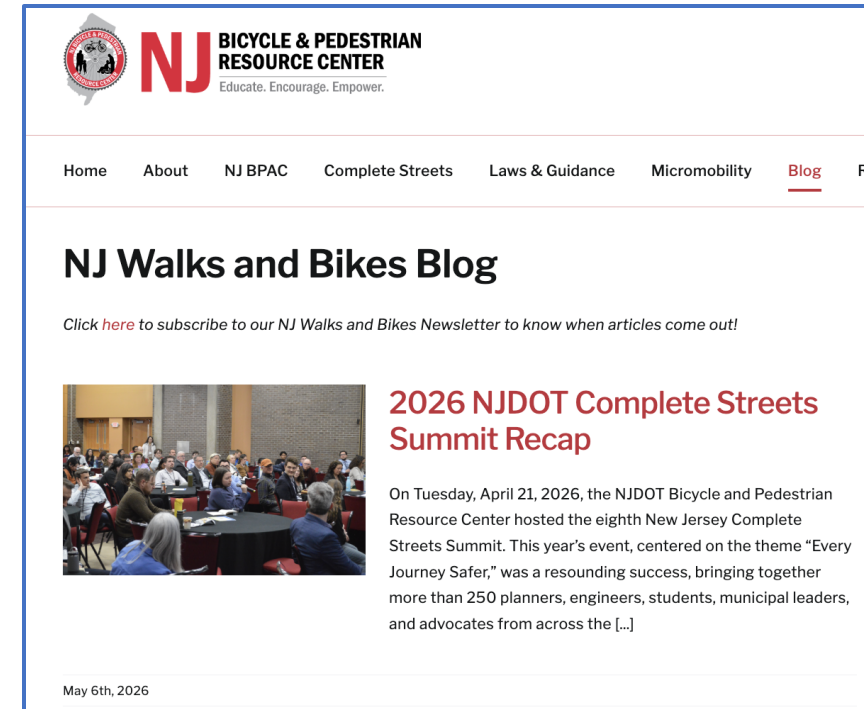
Photo Source: NJDOT BPRC

# NJDOT BPRC Complete Streets Summit Blogs



NJDOT BPRC published a blog article ahead of the 2026 NJDOT Complete Streets Summit. Featured in the NJ Walks and Bikes Newsletter, the article highlighted how communities are institutionalizing Complete Streets through local policies, planning tools, and data-driven practices. The blog also previewed breakout session topics and encouraged registration for the event.

Institutionalizing Complete Streets in Your Community: Join Us at the 2026 NJDOT Complete Streets Summit to Learn More!  
Published March 23, 2026  
<https://njbikeped.org/institutionalizing-complete-streets-in-your-community/>



Following the Summit, BPRC published a blog article reflecting on the event's discussions and summarizing its key highlights. The article recapped the opening remarks and keynote speaker, highlighted breakout session themes and awards, and concluded with insights from the closing panel and call to action, emphasizing continued collaboration to advance Complete Streets across New Jersey.

2026 NJDOT Complete Streets Summit Recap  
Published May 6, 2026  
<https://njbikeped.org/2026-njdot-complete-streets-summit-recap/>

# Attendee Feedback Questionnaire Results

Summit attendees were asked to rate six aspects of the summit on a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 represented poor and 5 represented excellent.

All average ratings surpassed 4.4. The aspects with the highest average ratings were summit management and organization, quality of information presented, and attendees' overall experience.

The table provides a detailed list of summit aspects along with their corresponding average scores.

**Please rate each aspect of the 2026 New Jersey Complete Streets Summit on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent)**

|                                           |     |
|-------------------------------------------|-----|
| Ability to network with other attendees   | 4.4 |
| Applicability to your needs and interests | 4.6 |
| Quality of information presented          | 4.7 |
| Range of topics covered                   | 4.4 |
| Summit management and organization        | 4.8 |
| Your overall experience                   | 4.7 |

Number of respondents (n) = 71

# Attendee Feedback Questionnaire Results

**Please rate each session you attended  
on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent)**

Participants were asked to rate each summit session on a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 indicating poor and 5 indicating excellent.

The average ratings for all sessions exceeded 4.5. The sessions that received the highest average ratings were:

- Advancing Transit Ready Communities (4.8)
- Envisioning Connected Greenways (4.8)
- Veronica O. Davis's keynote address (4.8)

The table provides a comprehensive list of summit sessions along with their respective average scores.

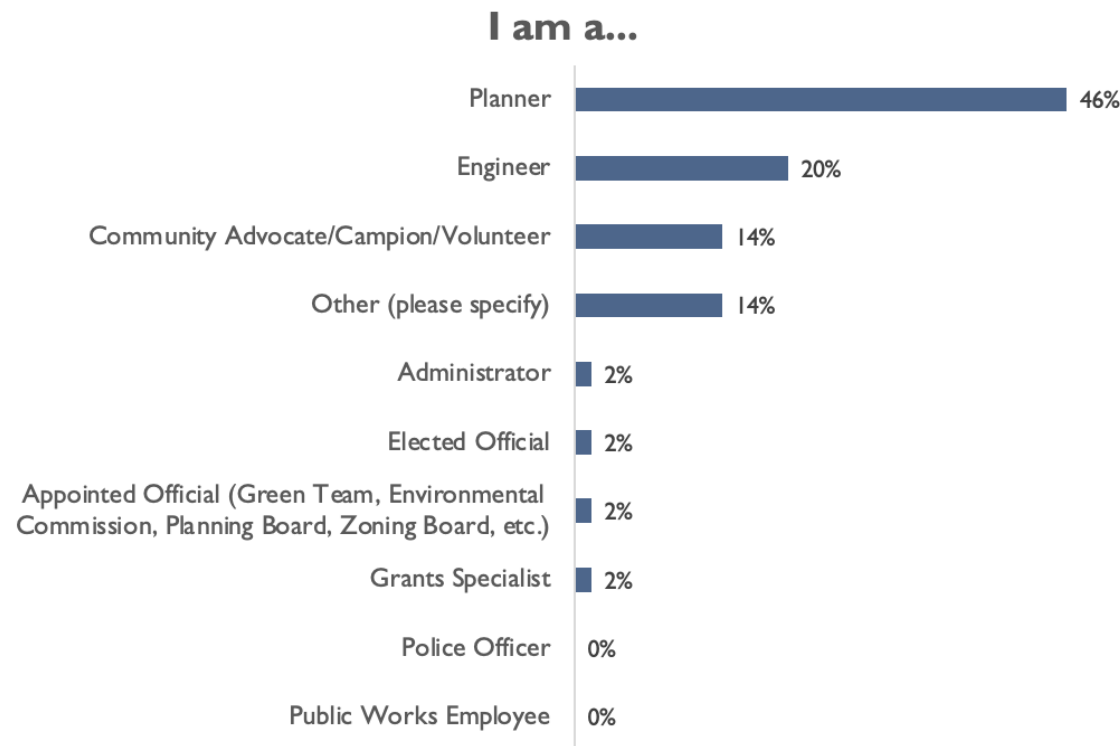
|                                                                                                       |     |        |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|--------|
| Accessibility and Inclusive Mobility                                                                  | 4.5 | n = 22 |
| Advancing Transit Ready Communities                                                                   | 4.8 | n = 22 |
| Applying Modern Complete Streets Guidance                                                             | 4.6 | n = 25 |
| Bringing It All Together: Aligning Regional and Statewide Safety Planning to Advance Complete Streets | 4.6 | n = 55 |
| Envisioning Connected Greenways                                                                       | 4.8 | n = 19 |
| Institutionalizing Complete Streets in Your Community                                                 | 4.7 | n = 30 |
| Keynote: Veronica O. Davis                                                                            | 4.8 | n = 64 |
| New Jersey's Statewide and County Safety Action Plans: Where Are We Now?                              | 4.7 | n = 26 |

Number of respondents = n

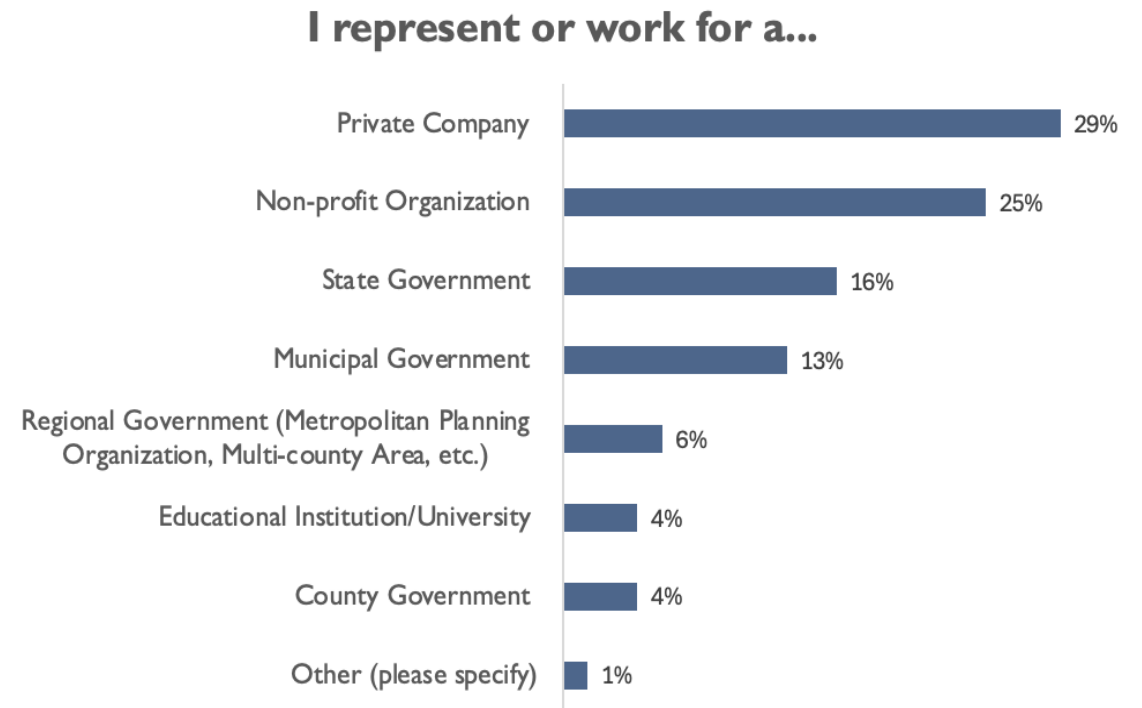
# Attendee Feedback Questionnaire Results

Representatives from a range of professions and groups attended the Summit, with planners (46%), engineers (20%), and community advocates (14%) comprising the largest shares. Some respondents indicated that they identified with more than one category.

In response to inquiries about their affiliations or employers, the top three representations among participants were from private companies (29%), non-profit organizations (25%), and state government (16%).



Number of respondents (n) = 65



Number of respondents (n) = 68

# Attendee Feedback Questionnaire Results

**Which topics/speakers would you like to see at future New Jersey Complete Streets Summits or in a webinar series?**

## **Implementation & Best Practices**

- Real-world case studies, including NJ and national examples
- Demonstration projects, quick-builds, and low-cost safety improvements
- Project delivery insights, including permitting, cost efficiency, and maintenance perspectives

## **Policy, Funding & Institutional Coordination**

- Guidance on CS policies, ordinances, and SS4A implementation
- Strategies for building political support and identifying local champions
- Coordination across municipalities, counties, MPOs, and state agencies, including funding approaches and overcoming CS obstacles

## **Safety & Vision Zero / Target Zero**

- Statewide safety planning and Target Zero implementation strategies
- Improving safety for vulnerable road users through data-driven approaches
- Safe System tools, such as road safety audits and low-cost interventions

## **Multimodal Connectivity & Micromobility**

- Integration across modes, including transit and regional connectivity
- Micromobility and active transportation policies (e-bikes, scooters, etc.)

## **Community Engagement & Education**

- Effective outreach, awareness campaigns, and community-focused engagement
- Strategies for working with key stakeholders
- Technical assistance and support programs for municipalities

## **Equity, Accessibility & Inclusive Design**

- Designing for all users, including those with disabilities beyond ASD
- Advancing inclusive, equitable mobility and infrastructure
- Connecting CS to public health outcomes

## **Land Use, Environment & Public Health**

- Linking land use and transportation through zoning and mixed-use development
- Green Streets, stormwater management, and environmental compliance
- Climate, air quality, and VMT reduction as public health strategies

## **Innovation & Emerging Technology**

- Use of data, analytics, and new technologies in planning and safety
- Impacts of AI, connected, and automated vehicles
- Emerging trends shaping future transportation systems

## **Speakers & Format Preferences**

- Interest in specific speakers: Janette Sadik-Khan, Wes Marshall, Jeff Speck, and Chuck Marohn
- Preference for authors/researchers with practical experience
- Desire for NJ-based practitioners and agency staff (including NJDOT and MPOs)

# Attendee Feedback Questionnaire Results

## How do you plan to use the information that was presented at the Summit?

- Apply information across all phases of current projects, including policy, planning, design guidance, and outreach
- Advance personal and organizational CS goals and advocacy efforts
- Use the information presented to support and encourage local CS implementation
- Share information with clients, planners, elected officials, students, and other organizations
- Embed CS principles into zoning ordinances, land use policy, and development practices
- Use resources and case studies to inform future planning and project development
- Form or participate in a group of like-minded individuals to advance CS through ordinances and community initiatives/events
- Facilitate networking and professional collaboration
- Pursue or support grant opportunities to advance CS work

## What resources would help you to plan and build Complete Streets in your community?

- Step-by-step guidance and tools for CS planning and implementation
- Training and technical assistance for municipal staff, advocates, and community members (in-person and online)
- Increased data collection and sharing
- Expand funding information, including grant opportunities and implementation support
- Highlight demonstration projects, success stories, and practical implementation strategies
- Model policies and ordinance language to support the adoption of CS
- Improve coordination and support across state, county, MPO, and local agencies
- Develop resources that support public outreach, education, and nonpartisan messaging

# Attendee Feedback Questionnaire Results

**Do you have any other suggestions or feedback you would like to share about the Summit overall?**

## Management & Venue

- Improve signage to enhance ease of navigation throughout the venue.
- Consider room layouts that better support networking and open conversation.
- Consider hosting future Summits in a larger venue to accommodate increased attendance.
- Attendees appreciated clear communication, including parking and on-site directions.
- Attendees valued high-quality food and beverage options, including vegetarian and dairy-free choices.
- Attendees strongly appreciated the support and guidance provided by student workers and staff throughout the event.



Breakout room for the *Institutionalizing Complete Streets in Your Community* session

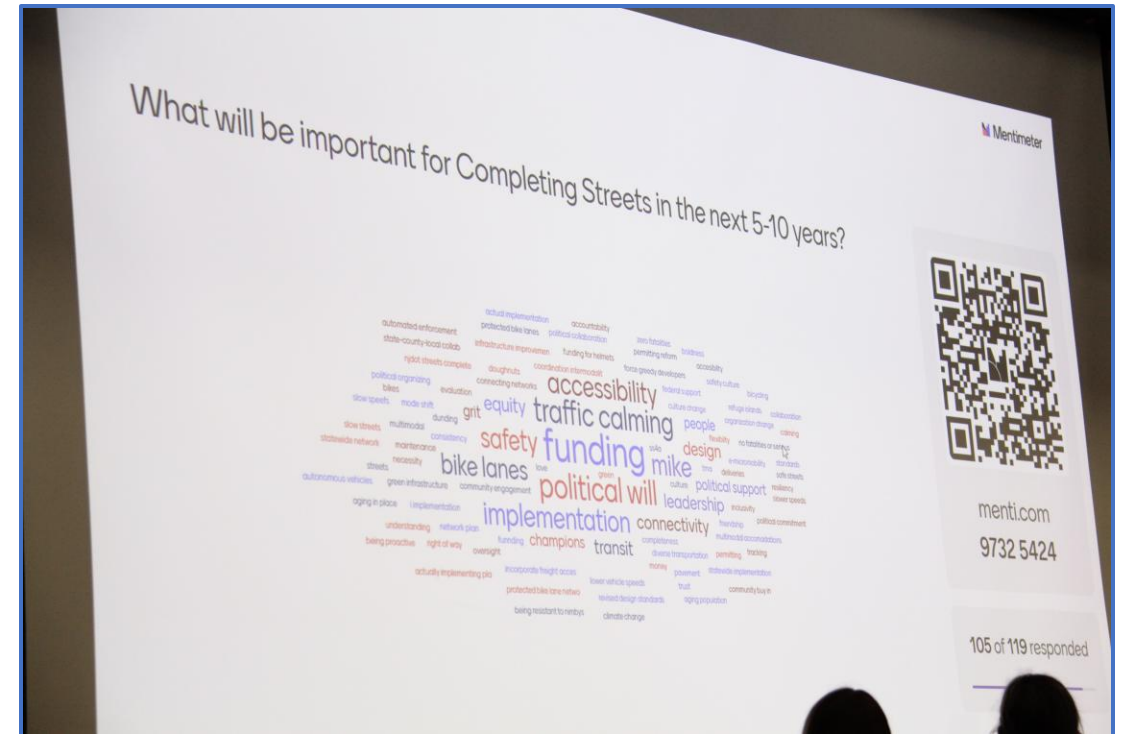
Photo Source: NJDOT BPRC

# Attendee Feedback Questionnaire Results

**Do you have any other suggestions or feedback you would like to share about the Summit overall?**

## Speakers & Presentations

- Include more case study data and before/after examples demonstrating the impacts of CS.
- Provide presentation materials to attendees after the Summit for continued access.
- Attendees praised the presentations as engaging, and well organized.
- Attendees appreciated the overall quality and variety of speakers.
- Breakout sessions were highlighted as effective, well-paced, and a valuable part of the program.
- Overall programming and speaker lineup were viewed positively and contributed to a strong Summit experience.



Results of the interactive activity from the *Bringing It All Together* afternoon panel, which used a web-based platform to gather input from attendees

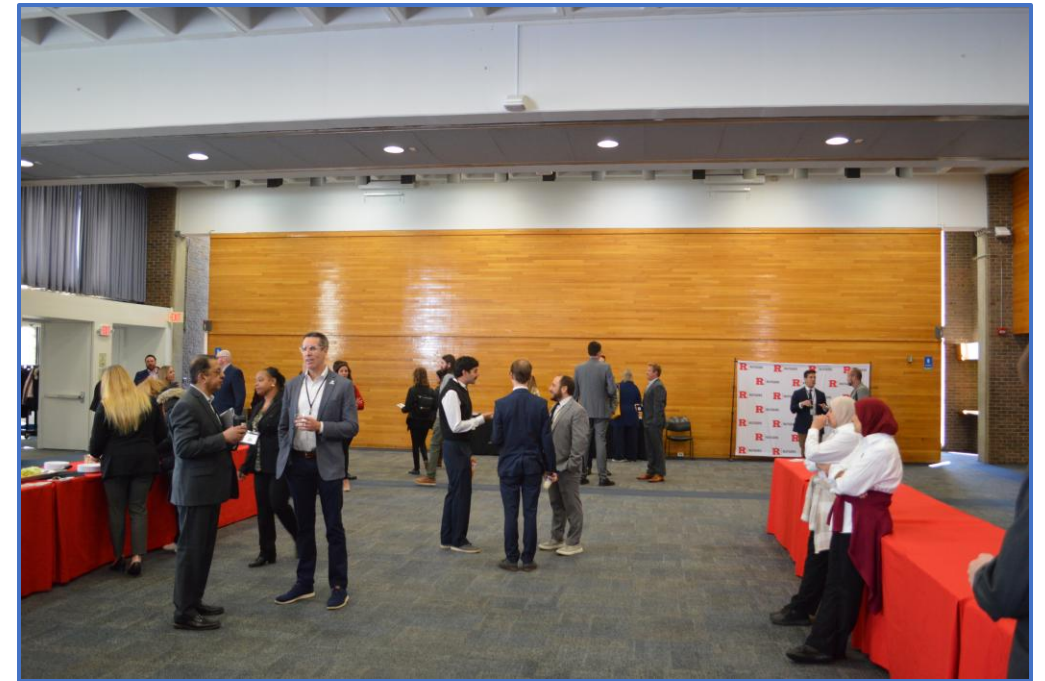
Photo Source: NJDOT BPRC

# Attendee Feedback Questionnaire Results

**Do you have any other suggestions or feedback you would like to share about the Summit overall?**

## Summit Planning

- Consider adding additional breakout sessions.
- Extend or adjust timing between keynote, awards, and breakout sessions to allow more transition and networking time.
- Explore offering more frequent or year-round networking or learning opportunities.
- Increase interactive components, including student work, poster sessions, participatory breakouts, and peer-to-peer exchange formats.
- The Summit was described as well-organized, well-paced, and professionally delivered.
- Attendees expressed appreciation for the Summit's continued quality and improvement over time.
- Attendees thanked NJDOT for their support in promoting CS and making the Summit free for attendees.



Summit Attendees networking during a break.

*Photo Source: NJDOT BPRC*

# Post-Summit Resources

2026 NJDOT Complete Streets Summit Webpage:  
<https://njbikeped.org/2026-nj-complete-streets-summit/>

NJDOT BPRC YouTube Channel: [www.youtube.com/@njbikeped](http://www.youtube.com/@njbikeped)

2026 Summit Agenda, Presenters, and Presentations:  
<https://njbikeped.org/2026-njdot-complete-streets-summit-agenda/>

2026 Award Winners:  
<https://njbikeped.org/2026-nj-complete-streets-summit-award-winners/>

2026 Summit Photos:

- Event Photos: <https://flic.kr/s/aHBqjCTKAq>
- Awards Photos: <https://flic.kr/s/aHBqjCTvwX>

## Continuing Maintenance Credits

- AICP credits are available for this event. [Click here for more information.](#)
- Professional development hours (PDHs) for licensed professional engineers are being offered for this event.

## 2026 NJDOT Complete Streets Summit

The 2026 NJDOT Complete Streets Summit, sponsored by the New Jersey Department of Transportation, was held on **Tuesday, April 21, 2026** at the College Avenue Campus Student Center at Rutgers University in New Brunswick.

Complete Streets are streets designed for all road users based on the specific context and needs of your community. The Complete Streets Summit brings together planners, engineers, public officials, health professionals, advocates, and others involved with shaping communities throughout New Jersey. Summit session topics included institutionalizing Complete and Green Streets policies, lessons learned from implementation, and what is in store for the Complete Streets movement.

[Click here to view the 2026 Summit agenda.](#)

### Quick Links:

Take Our Post-Summit Questionnaire

View the Summit Agenda

2026 Complete Streets Summit Award Winners

Log AICP CM Credits



Screenshot of the resources available at the [2026 NJDOT Complete Streets Summit Webpage](https://njbikeped.org/2026-njdot-complete-streets-summit/)

*Every Journey Safer*



**RUTGERS-NEW BRUNSWICK**

**Edward J. Bloustein School  
of Planning and Public Policy**