



NJ BPAC General Meeting
February 18, 2026, 9:30 am to 11:30 am
Zoom Online Meeting

Executive Committee:

Elise Bremer- Nei (NJDOT) | Leigh Ann Von Hagen (Rutgers-VTC) | Andrea Lubin (NJTIP) | Cassidy Boulan (DVRPC) | John Boyle (BCGP) | Michael Dannemiller (NJT) | Peter Bilton (NJTPA) | Anne Heasley (Sustainable Jersey) | Debra Kagan (NJBWC) | Loretta Kelly (NJDOH) | Jacqueline Moskowitz (NJDDS) | Byron Nicholas (Hudson County) | Jessica O'Connor (NJMVC) | Mackenzie Piggott (NJDEP) | Linda Rapacki (RideWise TMA) | Michael Rizol (DHTS) | Open Position (Environmental Justice/Equity)

Subcommittee Chairs:

Peter Bilton, Chair, Safety Subcommittee

Michael Dannemiller, Chair, Design & Infrastructure Subcommittee

Lyndsey Scofield, Chair, Policy Subcommittee

General Meeting Notes:

The meeting began at 9:32 am with **Leigh Ann Von Hagen (VTC)** welcoming everyone and introducing **new NJDOT Planning Director Mike Manzella** to share updates from the New Jersey Department of Transportation on the following topics:

- 1. State Development and Redevelopment Plan:** The State Planning Commission approved the Draft Final New Jersey State Development and Redevelopment Plan in December 2025. Since then, the State Planning Commission adopted a final version, as well as the Infrastructure Needs Assessment for the State Plan. The updated State Plan and Infrastructure Needs Assessment reflect contemporary planning priorities and best practices that have emerged since the adoption of the previous Plan in 2001. The State Plan and Infrastructure Needs Assessment evaluate current conditions, projected needs, and costs for all levels of government and a broad range of sectors in New Jersey. Both documents can be found here: <https://www.nj.gov/state/bac/planning/state-plan/development/>.
- 2. Strategic Highway Safety Plan:** The 2025 Strategic Highway Safety Plan is entering its implementation phase. The Plan was structured around the Safe System Approach and addresses the needs of vulnerable road users. The first Plan implementation meeting was on November 7th, 2025. More information on the Strategic Highway Safety Plan and how to get involved can be found here: <https://www.saferoadsforallnj.com/>

3. **NJ Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan:** NJDOT and NV5 have completed a final Phase 1 Draft Scoping Report providing recommendations for the update of the 2016 NJ Bicycle Master Plan. This Report will aid in establishing the approach for an updated plan for active transportation statewide. The final draft deliverables are under review at NJDOT.
4. **School Zone Design Guide Update:** NJDOT, NV5, and Toole Design Group are working on the update and 2nd Edition of the New Jersey School Zone Design Guide, which will incorporate national guidance based on the December 2023 release of the 11th edition of the MUTCD and the latest update to the AASHTO Bike Guide. This update will reflect current laws, regulations, and best practices, and is slated for completion in Spring 2026.
5. **NJ Bicycling Manual Update:** NJDOT, NV5, and Toole Design Group are working on the update to the New Jersey Bicycling Manual Guide, which was originally developed in 2010. The update will reflect current laws like the Safe Passing Law, additional bicycle types like e-bikes, and new bicycle facilities. The layout and content will also be more accessible to the public and law enforcement. The update will be the focus of the Safety and Design subcommittees today.
6. **NJTPA Complete Streets Technical Assistance:** NJTPA recently announced that four municipalities have been selected through a competitive application process to participate in their Complete Streets Technical Assistance Program. Fort Lee, Leonia, and Pompton Lakes will assess corridors to recommend safety improvements, and Ship Bottom will create a bicycle plan. The Complete Streets Technical Assistance Program supports municipalities by providing them with the knowledge, skills and resources to develop Complete Streets-related solutions. More information can be found here: <https://njtpa.org/complete-streets-technical-assistance/>.
7. **Local Complete Streets Policies:** There are not any updated municipal or county Complete Streets Policies. A comprehensive list of all Complete Streets policies can be found here: <https://njbikeped.org/nj-complete-streets-policy-compilation/>.
8. **BPAC Executive Council Updates:** Keith Hamas has accepted a new position with Jacobs Engineering Group and, with his departure from NJTPA, has also stepped down from his role as BPAC Safety Subcommittee chair. Peter Bilton will be taking over Keith's role as Safety subcommittee chair. We are also in the process of filling vacant positions on the BPAC Executive Council. So far, Christopher Gonda from Keep Middlesex Moving TMA, and Jacqui Moskowitz, Interim Executive Director at the Division of Disability Services have accepted. In addition, Jennifer Marandino, Executive Director of the South Jersey Transportation Planning Organization, will be serving on the Executive Council until SJTPO hires a new Program Manager of Safety Initiatives & Complete Streets.

Mike Manzella (NJDOT) introduced **Sam Rosenthal (VTC)** who provided updates on the 2026 New Jersey Complete Streets Summit:

1. Registration is now open for the Summit, which will take place on Tuesday, April 21st, 2026 at the College Avenue Student Center, Rutgers University in New Brunswick. It is sponsored by NJDOT and has been held every other year since 2010.
2. This is an all-day, in-person event. Participation is capped at 300 people.
3. Registration and the Social Media Toolkit (a set of graphics to promote the event) can be found at <https://njbikeped.org/2026-nj-complete-streets-summit/>. Contact njcomleteststreets@ejb.rutgers.edu for questions.

Sean Meehan (VTC) provided updates on the NJ Safe Routes Academy at the NJ Bike & Walk Summit:

1. There will be two NJ Safe Routes Academy sessions this year: "Start with the School Zone" and "Empowering Youth in Active Transportation." Start with the School Zone will be an interactive

session focused on creating safer, more effective school zones. Empowering Youth in Active Transportation will focus on the importance of engaging young people in transportation planning.

2. The event will take place on Saturday, March 7th, 2025 at the Crowne Plaza Princeton Conference Center.
3. Register here: <https://njbwc.org/nj-summits/>

Leigh Ann Von Hagen (VTC) introduced **James Clavelli (NV5)** and **Brian Stankus (NV5)**, to discuss NJDOT's Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning Assistance (BPPA) Program.

- **James Clavelli** introduced **Bill Riviere (NJDOT)**, who presented the history of the program.
 - BPPA, also known as Local Planning Assistance, has existed for over 25 years and has facilitated over 100 studies. The goal of this program is to help communities identify, develop, and implement solutions to bicycle and pedestrian safety and mobility issues and ensure that plans do not sit on the shelf.
 - The program offers a range of projects from very local to regional, including bicycle and pedestrian plans and master plan circulation elements, addressing topics like micromobility, Safe Routes to School, trail connections, and more.
 - Program guidelines are publicly available at nj.gov/transportation/commuter/bike/ped/BPPA Application
 - The program does not fund construction of projects, but many of the projects recommended in the studies have been eligible for TAP and SRTS funding.
- **James Clavelli** provided an overview of the kinds of assistance BPPA offers. Examples include:
 - **West Orange Vision Zero Action Plan**, adopted in 2024. NV5 helped prepare this plan, which was eligible for federal implementation funding.
 - **The City of Hoboken Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan**, which was completed in 2010.
 - **Maplewood Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning Assistance**, which focused on four corridors with the objectives of addressing traffic speed, reducing crashes, and evaluating lighting levels.
 - **The Delaware River Heritage Trail**, which will include a 26-mile segment on both sides of the Delaware River. The first 2.8-mile segment, completed in 2013, includes on-road paths, sidewalks with directional and interpretive signage, and a trailhead kiosk.
 - Pieces of the **DVRPC Circuit Trails**, which include hundreds of miles of local trails. These offers opportunities for recreating and commuting. The goal is to connect 750 miles of trails in one of the most densely populated regions in the nation.
 - Portions of the **East Coast Greenway**, the nation's longest connected walking and bicycle route.
- **James Clavelli** shared some of the most recent BPPA projects:
 - **Hudson Senior Mobility Presentation**, which addresses recent senior pedestrian injuries and fatalities in North Bergen and West New York. The program focuses on training for senior citizens.
 - **Clayton Planning Study**, which focuses on increasing safety and connectivity for bicyclists and pedestrians along and across a commercial corridor.
 - **Hackensack Comprehensive Bicycle Plan**, which aims to foster a safer, more inclusive cycling environment that encourages active transportation and enhances the quality of life in Hackensack. Key components include data collection, need assessment, community engagement, and development of a High Injury Network (HIN).

- **Update to the New Jersey School Zone Design Guide** to address new planning and design guidance at the national level.
- **Update to the 2010 NJ Bicycle Manual** to reflect new laws, bicycle types, and national guidance.
- **New Jersey Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan Scoping Project** to include key findings from research and stakeholder engagement and changes in active transportation planning since the 2016 BPMP.
- **Brian Stankus** presented the **Collingswood School Travel Plan**.
 - A School Travel Plan is a Safe Routes to School planning tool, which answers questions like, “Where do students currently walk and bike?”, “Where would students walk and bike if they could?”, and “What barriers do students face when they travel to and from school?” School Travel Plans are commonly led by SRTS coordinators at the local Transportation Management Association (TMA). In this case, NJDOT funded the plan through NV5’s on-call Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning contract.
 - NV5 worked with several partners, including the Borough of Collingswood, Collingswood Public Schools, NJDOT, and Cross County Connection TMA.
 - Brian provided an overview of Collingswood, a walkable community with a population of 14,186 and proximity to bus and rail transit. Traffic congestion is an issue around the Borough’s seven schools during arrival and dismissal.
 - Collingswood identified several goals for this plan, including creating a safer and more comfortable environment for walking and biking to school, encouraging more students and parents to walk and bike to school, and implementing measures to reduce the “chaos” at drop-off and pick-up times.
 - The project team deployed “Miovision” cameras for qualitative review of arrival and dismissal procedures and conducted crash analyses. They also implemented “walkshops”, where the team had the opportunity to gather public feedback.
 - **NV5** made several recommendations:
 - **Engineering:** update outdated signage, daylight intersections, etc.
 - **Education:** share recommended arrival and dismissal procedures in parent and student handbooks.
 - **Encouragement:** establish a bike bus, earlier dismissal for walking and biking students, maintenance agreements for pedestrian and bicycle facilities, and press releases for walking and biking information.
 - **Enforcement:** conduct spot enforcement for common violations, install radar speed feedback signs.
 - **Evaluation:** conduct pre- and post-Plan reviews of how students travel to school and conduct periodic walking and biking assessments.
 - The final step is the draft final report. **NV5** will summarize the data collection, analyses, and recommendations, and review funding opportunities. Collingswood will be able to use the School Travel Plan as supporting documentation for grant applications.
- **James Clavelli** provided an overview of active transportation milestones in NJ since 1991.
- All published NJ School Travel Plans can be found here: <https://www.saferoutesnj.org/existing-school-travel-plans/>

Following this presentation, questions were taken.

- **City of Newark** asked when the project started and what the cost of this program was.

- **Bill Riviere (NJDOT)** answered that the Collingswood STP began about a year ago and that these projects generally take about a year. He reminded the group that the study was a result of planning assistance through an on-call consultant contract and not a grant program so no funding was awarded.
- **NJTPA** asked when the Hackensack plan would be finalized and published and how quick-build designs are incorporated.
 - **James Clavelli** answered the draft should be adopted after the council presentation in early March. He stated that quick-build was implemented through pilot bike lanes.
- **NJBWC** asked if there's a way to create a "lite" version of these plans.
 - **Bill Riviere (NJDOT)** answered that plans are often a combination of easy, medium, and long-term strategies. The team is always looking for quick, low-cost solutions in the beginning.
- **Leigh Ann Von Hagen (VTC)** emphasized that municipalities often need a "champion" to get a plan implemented. She highlighted the Complete Streets Champion awards at the Complete Streets Summit. She also emphasized that BPPA accepts applications as they come in.

James Sinclair (VTC) provided an overview of BPAC for new participants. At this meeting, the Design and Safety subcommittees are combined to hear the updates to the NJ Bicycle Manual. The Policy subcommittee will discuss recent policy changes.

Leigh Ann Von Hagen (VTC) opened the subcommittees at 10:28 am.

(See subcommittee notes for additional information).

Subcommittee participants returned to the general meeting at 11:17 am.

Michael Dannemiller (NJTRANSIT) provided an update on the Design and Safety Subcommittees' discussion of the NJ Bicycle Manual update. He appreciated that all kinds of perspectives were brought to the table. He emphasized that how we name things matters, citing discussion that the name of the Bike Manual may change.

Lyndsay Scofield (Jersey City) provided an update on the Policy Subcommittee. She noted the surprise speed hump legislation that increased the threshold for implementing speed humps without NJDOT approval. One of the next steps is to conduct a study that might support recommendations to increase the threshold. The group expressed frustration and confusion with changes at the federal level for countermeasures for roadway safety. The Subcommittee also discussed 2026 proposed legislation.

James Sinclair (VTC) introduced public announcements:

- **Jennifer Marandino (SJTPO)** shared that SJTPO is closing the first round of their Complete Streets Technical Assistance and will start the second round in July. SJTPO has a robust demonstration library that is open to municipalities in South Jersey. There are also two TransAction conference workshops that will be announced later this week.
- **NJBWC** is holding the 15th annual Bike and Walk Summit at the Crowne Plaza in Princeton on March 7, 2026. Topics will include New Jersey's new e-Bike law, the Target Zero Action Plan, and local vision zero actions. **NJBWC** shared resources regarding e-bike training on their website.
- Sustainable Jersey's Sustainability Summit will be held on May 15th, 2026 at Bell Works in Holmdel. The all-day event will include a session on temporary demonstration projects - "From Temporary to Transformational". Find more details in the days and weeks ahead at <https://www.sustainablejersey.com/events/2026-sustainability-summit/>.

- Registration for the June BPAC meeting is live: <https://njbikeped.org/about-nj-bpac/join-the-next-meeting/>.

James Sinclair (VTC) adjourned the meeting at 11:45 am.

Attendees:

- Leigh Ann Von Hagen, Rutgers-VTC
- Elise Bremer-Nei, NJDOT
- Sean Meehan, Rutgers-VTC
- James Sinclair, Rutgers-VTC
- Samuel Rosenthal, Rutgers-VTC
- Gregory Woltman, Rutgers-VTC
- Spencer Morrison, Rutgers-VTC
- Analise Draghi, Rutgers-VTC
- Lyndsey Scofield, Jersey City
- Anne Heasly, Sustainable Jersey
- Michael Dannemiller, NJ TRANSIT
- Peter Bilton, NJTPA
- Andrea Lubin, NJTIP
- John Boyle, BCGP
- Michael Rizol, NJDHTS
- Jennifer Marandino, SJTPO
- Mike Manzella, NJDOT
- Keith Hamas, Jacobs Engineering Group
- Hailey Anilonis, NJDOT
- Trevor Howard, City of Newark
- James Clavelli, NV5
- Brian Stankus, NV5
- William Riviere, NJDOT
- Jack Molenaar, NJTPA
- Danielle Baer, Urban Engineers
- Paul Mickiewicz, NJBWC
- Chris Townley, Middlesex County
- Rachana Sheth, NV5
- Katrina Budischak, McCormick Taylor
- Olivia Allegra, RideWise
- Jen Farris, DVRPC
- Charlie Romanow, WSP
- Jenna Monaghan, SJTPO
- Jacob Nieman, Montclair Township
- Michael Elling, Deep Cycle
- Erik DeLine, Borough of Glen Ridge
- Kristin McLaughlin, Cross County Connection TMA
- Christopher Gonda, KMM TMA
- Jelena Lasko, NJDOT
- Bettina Zimny, NV5
- Vittorio Anepete, McCormick Taylor
- Antonio Scanziani, Monmouth County
- Syd Chan, City of Newark
- Anya Saretzky, Cross County Connection TMA
- Valerie Brown, Camden County
- John Mullen, McCormick Taylor
- Linda Rapacki, NJTIP
- Tiffany Robinson, NJBWC
- Mike Russo, McCormick Taylor
- Laura Cerutti, NJDHTS
- Kenneth Wedeen, Somerset County
- Gary Kahn, NJMVC
- Lisa Serieyssl, City of Trenton
- Collin Rieger, NV5
- Katie O'Connor, BIANJ
- Andrea He, NV5
- Ariel Saulog, Rutgers
- Liza Betz, Union County
- Matthew Zahorsky, Wall Township
- David Verdia, McCormick Taylor
- Emmanuelle Morgen, Hudson County
- Jacqueline Moskowitz, NJ Division of Disability Services
- Joe Rapp, NJDOT
- Kathleen Ebert, GMTMA
- Dan Hutton, STV
- Tim Evans, NJ Future
- David Guinan, NJSP
- Felix Ban, NJDOT

- John Wenz, NJ Human Relations Advisory Council
- Bill England, Camden County
- Dan LiSanti, NJDOT
- Delmy Cruz, BIANJ
- Emily Kennedy, TYLin
- Evan Mabin, NJDOT
- Evelyn Kong
- Jessica Johnson, AIM TMA
- Jimmy Lee, SafeStreetsJC
- John Wheeler
- Joseph Lehman
- Ken Weeden, Somerset County
- Laurel Fang
- Lorretta Kelly, NJDOH
- Marissa Rodriguez, NJOAG
- Omeed Rahin
- Polli Schildge, Asbury Park Complete Streets Coalition
- Rachana Sheth, NV5
- Sophia Huang
- Ramond Joseph, NJDCA
- Ranjit Walia, Civic Eye Collaborative
- Ryan Grohowski, Borough of Point Pleasant