



BPAC Design & Safety Combined Subcommittee Meeting
February 18, 2025, 10:15 am to 11:10 am
Online Zoom Meeting

Attendance:

- **Michael Dannemiller, (chair), NJ Transit**
- **Peter Bilton, (chair), NJTPA**
- Andrea He, NV5
- Anne Heasley, Sustainable Jersey
- Antonio Scanziani, Monmouth County
- Anya Saretzky, CCC TMA
- Ariel Saulog, Rutgers
- Bettina Zimny, NV5
- Bill England
- Brian Stankus, NV5
- Chris Townley, Middlesex County
- Christopher Gonda, KMM
- Collin Rieger, NV5
- Dan Hutton, STV
- Dan LiSanti, NJDOT
- David Verdia, McCormick Taylor
- Delmy Cruz, BIANJ
- Emily Kennedy
- Evan Mabin, NJDOT
- Evelyn Kong
- Greg Woltman, VTC
- Jack Molenaar, NJTPA
- Jaquai Moskowitz, NJ Division of Disability Services
- James Clavelli, NV5
- Jelena Lasko, NJDOT
- Jenna Monaghan, SJTPO
- Jessica Johnson, AIM TMA
- John Wheeler
- Joseph Lehman
- Kathleen Ebert, GMTMA
- Katrina Budischak, McCormick Taylor
- Keith Hamas, Jacobs Engineering
- Ken Weeden, Somerset County
- Laurel Fang
- Linda Rapacki, NJTIP
- Liza Betz
- Loretta Kelly, NJ Department of Health
- Marissa Rodriguez, NJOAG
- Michael Manzella, NJDOT
- Michael Russo, McCormick Taylor
- Olivia Allegra, RideWise TMA
- Omeed Rahin
- Polli Schildge, Asbury Park Complete Streets Coalition
- Rachana Sheth, NV5
- Ramond Joseph, NJDCA
- Ranjit Walia, Civic Eye Collaborative
- Ryan Grohowski, Point Pleasant Boro
- Sam Rosenthal, VTC

- Sean Meehan, VTC
- Sophia Huang
- Syd Chan, City of Newark
- Tiffany Robinson, New Jersey Bike & Walk Coalition
- Bill Riviere, NJDOT

Agenda:

1. **Topic Discussions**
 - a. NJ Bicycling Manual Update Overview: NV5
 - b. BPAC Participant feedback on proposed manual updates

Meeting notes:

- **Collin Rieger (NV5)** welcomed everyone and introduced the work that NJDOT, NV5, and Toole Design have been doing to update the New Jersey Bicycling Manual.
- **Jelena Lasko (NJDOT)** discussed the makeup of the Technical Resource Group that has been assisting in the design of the manual update. Jelena also provided background on the last report: completed in 2010, the manual provides details of how to bike comfortably in the state. The end product will be an updated manual supported by 6 informational flyers. Final content will be presented June 3rd at BPAC.
- **Collin Rieger** discussed the work to date on the manual:
 - The kickoff was held in December 2025, followed by a focus group at the end of January 2026.
 - The kickoff happened before the new E-bike law was signed and the focus group was after. Information specific to e-bikes will largely be left alone (not addressed in the manual) as the state continues to work through e-bike laws.
 - NV5 reviewed best practices (MUTCD, NATCO, other states' manuals)
 - The primary audience is vast, so the team kept the scope broad to appeal to all users.
- **Collin Rieger** went through an overview of each chapter:
 1. Traveling by Bicycle
 2. Quick Start
 3. What's New
 4. Selecting, Fitting & Equipping your Bike
 5. Quick Maintenance Checks
 6. Off to a Good Start
 7. Riding on the Road
 8. Traffic Basics
 9. Sharing the Road
 10. Riding on Shared Use Paths
 11. Parking Your Bike

12. Difficult Situations
13. Riding in Rain and Snow
14. Riding with Others
15. Children as Bicyclists
16. Riding with Passengers
17. Riding with Cargo
18. Using Transit with Your Bicycle
19. NJ Bicycling Law and Roadway Restrictions
20. Traffic Signals Signs and Road Markings

- **Collin Rieger** opened the floor for input by asking specific questions and collecting answers both live in the breakout room and through mentimeter:
 - Question 1: Is there anything in the guide that you think is missing? Responses included:
 - Put it online and allow people to self-select which type of bicyclist they are (new user, senior, recreational rider, etc.) as it will help users know where to start.
 - Add information on identifying what a throttle is, changing a flat tire, riding with pets, bike parking if you have more than two wheels, protecting your bike from the elements, and riding in tandem.
 - Will the manual cover that bike riders are not required to ride in a bike lane if there is danger of getting doored?
 - Collin indicated that the manual will discuss getting doored and how to avoid it.
 - Discussion about the parts of a bike, maintenance, etc. should be placed in the back of the manual because casual/new riders will not be interested. He also agreed with idea of being able to self-select for what type of rider a user is. He further suggested putting legal requirements up front because all types of riders should know those details.
 - Is there anything in the manual about rural riding safety?
 - Collin stated that he is unsure if there is anything specifically geared towards rural riding, but he said that they are open to the idea of adding information about locational contexts.
 - Question 2: Is there anything that needs extra emphasis?
 - Can the manual ensure that vulnerable populations feel supported? She asked for discussion on hydration and heat protection for people biking to work, routes that minimize exposure to pollution, affordability, riding in conditions with bad pavement and poor lighting, navigating industrial corridors, interactions with law enforcement, and some reporting mechanisms such as how to report unsafe infrastructure, request a bike lane, etc.

- Question 3: Should anything be removed?
 - The current edition of the manual speaks about paper route maps. This is a holdover that can be removed. The updated manual should focus on mapping apps.

- Question 4: Are there any ways that you would restructure the manual?
 - Arrange the chapters into sub-groups as 20 chapters is a lot for one document.
 - Rename the manual as currently it may come across as too technical when really it is aimed at the person who is hesitant to ride but wants to start.
 - How will online users be able to get to the section they want in the manual?
 - Collin responded that it will likely be a PDF file with a linked table of contents.