



NJ BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN RESOURCE CENTER

Educate. Encourage. Empower.

September 25, 2023 | Issue: 154

Dear Readers,

Welcome to this issue of the NJ Walks and Bikes Newsletter, prepared by the New Jersey Bicycle and Pedestrian Resource Center (NJ BPRC) with support from the NJ Department of Transportation. If you would like to learn more about the NJ BPRC, please visit us [here](#).

Join us for the next BPAC Meeting on September, 27th 2023

General Meeting, 9:30 am – 11:30 am

Join early at 9:15 am for a virtual coffee chat (BYOC- Bring Your Own Coffee)

The New Jersey Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Council (**BPAC**) is coordinated by the Voorhees Transportation Center on behalf of the New Jersey Department of Transportation.

This month's BPAC meeting will include a presentation on bicycle and pedestrian program guidance from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). **For the full agenda, click here (PDF).**

BPAC is open to everyone.

To participate, please register using the following link:

njbikeped.org/join-the-next-meeting/

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

To learn more about BPAC, please visit the [website here](#).
You can also contact James Sinclair at james.sinclair@ejb.rutgers.edu

The graphic features a light blue background with a circular logo in the top left that reads "2023 New Jersey Complete Streets Summit November 1, 2023". To the right are the logos for the New Jersey Department of Transportation and the Office of Accessibility & Pedestrian Services. Two circular photographs are shown: one with a red border showing a street with cars and a yellow diamond sign, and another with a yellow border showing a street with a brick-paved crosswalk and people on bicycles. A blue circular arrow contains the text "COMPLETE STREETS FOR COMPLETE COMMUNITIES". At the bottom, it says "REGISTER TODAY!" and "CompleteStreets2023.com".

REGISTER TODAY!
CompleteStreets2023.com

Venue: Rutgers College Ave Student Center, New Brunswick, New Jersey
Sponsored by The New Jersey Department of Transportation

2023 New Jersey Complete Streets Summit

The 2023 New Jersey Complete Streets Summit, sponsored by the New Jersey Department of Transportation, will be held on November 1, 2023. 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. Morning sessions will be live streamed, but CM credits are only available for in-person attendees.

Complete Streets are streets designed for all road users based on the specific context and needs of the community. This biennial Summit brings together planners, engineers, public officials, health professionals, advocates, and others involved with shaping communities throughout New Jersey. Summit session topics will include advancing Complete Streets through the Safe System Approach, sustainable transit-oriented development, and inclusive design for cognitive divergence.

[Register for the 2023 Complete Streets Summit here.](#)

[Check out the agenda here.](#)

Safe Routes to School Applications Now Being Accepted for Federally-Funded 2024 Grants

The New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) announced the grant solicitation period for the 2024 Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program is open, with applications being accepted through November 17, 2023. The program is administered by the NJDOT Division of Local Aid and Economic Development, in partnership with the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority (NJTPA), the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC), and the South Jersey Transportation Planning Organization (SJTPO).

SRTS grants are available for infrastructure projects that encourage and enable students to walk and bike safely to school. Through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), the program has been [expanded to include high schools](#) for the first time. Proposed infrastructure improvements must be within a two-mile radius of a K-12 school. SRTS facilitates the planning, development and implementation of projects that improve safety and air quality, as well as reduce traffic and fuel consumption around schools.

[Read the full NJDOT press release here.](#)

Register for SRTS Grant Training Webinars here.

See Safe Routes to School Grant resources here.



Complete Streets for Individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDDs)

In January 2023, Governor Phil Murphy signed [S-147](#) into law, directing the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) to update its Complete Streets policy to include design practices for neurodivergent people, including those diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and/or intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDDs). But what do Complete Streets for neurodivergent populations look like?

To answer this question, NJDOT has engaged the expertise of the Voorhees Transportation Center, NV5, Toole Design Group, and an extensive working group of planners and engineers. Phase one of the project, which is currently being completed by the VTC team, involves the development of a primer on the topic of Complete Streets and neurodivergence and will include an extensive literature review, glossary of terms, and information gathered from subject matter expert interviews across New Jersey.

[Click here to read the full article.](#)

Join us at the NJ Safe Routes Academy!

SafeRoutes Academy

Register at:
saferoutesnj.org/safe-routes-academy
Sessions are free!

SEPTEMBER

THURSDAYS IN SEPTEMBER
12PM - 1:30PM
9/7, 9/14, 9/21, 9/28

NEW JERSEY Safe Routes

SPONSORED BY THE NJ DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Register for the 2023 New Jersey Safe Routes Academy

Join us for our "lunch and learn" Annual Safe Routes Academy sessions! It is free to join and will take place online on September 21st and 28th from 12- 1:30 pm.

The New Jersey Safe Routes Academy, sponsored by the New Jersey Department of Transportation, features free online sessions to help participants make their communities more walk- and bike-friendly, especially in the vicinity of schools. The Safe Routes Academy is designed for parents, teachers, students, municipal leaders, local volunteers, and others interested in empowering students and their caregivers of all ages and abilities to walk, bike, and roll to and from campus. Learn about the best practices and resources that you can use to increase safety and accessibility in your community.

[Register for the Safe Routes Academy here.](#)

Safety Summit 2023

Practical Collaboration: Uniting Efforts for Tangible Results

Save the Date: New Jersey Safety Summit 2023

The New Jersey Safety Summit will be held on Tuesday, October 24th from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm (registration begins at 8:30 am).

To successfully reach the goal of zero deaths on New Jersey's roadways, we must work together to brainstorm and implement effective strategies and policies. This year's theme is **Practical Collaboration: Uniting Efforts for Tangible Results**. The Safety Summit will highlight efforts across the 5E's of safety: Enforcement, Education, Emergency Response, Engineering, and Equity.

When: Tuesday, October 24th

Where: The College of New Jersey, Brower Student Center, 2000 Pennington Rd, Ewing Township, NJ 08618

Time: 9:00 am to 1:00 pm (registration begins at 8:30 am)

[Click here to add this event to your calendar.](#)



What Will It Take to Eliminate Pedestrian and Bicycle Fatalities in New Jersey?

In 2022, the U.S. Department of Transportation announced its Vision for Roadway Safety, in which the agency aims to eliminate deaths on all highways, roads, and streets. The New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) has adopted the Zero Deaths National Strategy to achieve zero fatalities on all public roads by the year 2050. The question is, how will we achieve the goal of zero deaths?

[Click here to read the full article.](#)



Gender Split and Safety Behavior of Cyclists and E-Scooter Users in Asbury Park, New Jersey

Micromobility usage has increased significantly in the last several years, as exemplified by shared e-scooters and privately owned bicycles. In this study, researchers from Rutgers University used traffic camera footage to observe the behavior of over 700 shared e-scooters and privately owned bicycles in Asbury Park, New Jersey. They address the following questions:

What are the behavioral differences between bicycle and e-scooter usage in terms of helmet use, bike lane/sidewalk use, gender split, group riding, and time of day?

Are more protective conditions associated with helmet and bike lane/sidewalk use?

What is the gender split between bicyclists and e-scooter riders?

[Click here to read the full article.](#)



NJTPA Releases Active Transportation Plan for North & Central Jersey

Recognizing the importance of active transportation options such as walking and biking, the NJTPA developed a Regional Active Transportation Plan (ATP) for its 13-county northern and central New Jersey region. This plan was crafted against the backdrop of a growing interest in walking and biking that emerged during the COVID lockdown in 2020. The ATP identifies a network of potential on- and off-road routes that connect existing trails and destinations such as downtowns and parks.

[Click here for NJTPA's blog post about the ATP.](#)

[Click here to view the full plan and supporting documents.](#)

From our Friends at NJ Safe Routes Resource Center: Back to School with Healthy Habits

Back-to-school season is here. Let's embrace the opportunity to walk and bike to school this fall, fostering healthy habits that set the tone for a successful academic year. Walking and biking are more than a way to get to school; they're pathways to a world of benefits beyond the classroom, including physical activity, mental clarity, and a feeling of independence that lasts well beyond the morning commute.

[Click for tips on making school travel safe, fulfilling, and empowering.](#)



Virtual Public Meeting #2

Thursday, Sept. 28, 2023
6:30pm – 8:00pm, Zoom

Keep Somerset Moving: Register for the Virtual Public Meeting!

Join a final virtual public meeting to learn about Somerset County's Circulation Plan Update, "Keep Somerset Moving: Transportation Plan 2045." The plan will identify strategies and select priority transportation projects to improve mobility and travel throughout the County.

[Click here to learn more and register for the meeting.](#)



U.S. Department of Transportation

Application Deadline Alert for the Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Program!

USDOT announced a joint Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the Reconnecting Communities Pilot (RCP) and Neighborhood Access and Equity (NAE) programs, which will combine two major discretionary grants into one NOFO. The **application deadline is September 28**. This combined program will be known as the Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods (RCN) Program.

You can learn more about this program from a blog article we wrote [here](#).

[Click here to read the full article.](#)



NJTPA NORTH JERSEY
TRANSPORTATION
PLANNING AUTHORITY

Defining the Vision. Shaping the Future.

Local Safety Plans Informational Session - Webinar 2 of 3

Join the Federal Highway Administration and the NJTPA for a webinar series on Local Road Safety Plans, also called Local Safety Action Plans. These plans provide a framework for identifying, analyzing, and prioritizing safety improvements on local roads. This webinar series will highlight resources available to communities interested in developing a plan.

Date: 9/28/2023
Time: 2:00 - 3:30 p.m.

[Learn more and register here.](#)

PARTICIPANTS NEEDED

Earn \$15 in a 30-minute walk
Join us in the field experiment of a pedestrian research



We are looking for participants to take part in an exciting study where you'll wear 3 sensors - eye tracking glasses, GSR and Garmin watch - and take a short walk around the campus.

After the trip, you'll be asked to complete a survey about your experience. All participants will remain anonymous, and your data will be kept confidential.

To be eligible, you must have normal vision or corrected-to-normal vision with contact lenses. If you're interested in participating, scan the QR code to complete a pre-experiment survey and check your eligibility.

Don't miss this unique opportunity to contribute to research and enjoy a walk!



Contact: Prof WenwenZhang (wenwen.zhang@ejb.rutgers.edu)
Shiyu Ma (sm2758@scarletmail.rutgers.edu)

Participants Needed For Walking Study at Rutgers

Dr. Wenwen Zhang, Assistant Professor at the Bloustein School at Rutgers University, is in need of participants for a research study. Contributors would be asked to wear sensors while walking a short loop in New Brunswick. The length of the route is about 1.1 miles, and walking the route takes approximately 20 minutes on average. The field experiment, in total, should take about 40 minutes, and no more than 1 hour. Upon completing the walk and the survey, participants will be compensated with a \$15 gift card. To sign up, please take a short survey [here](#).



Roselle Park to Conduct Study of Route 28 Corridor

Roselle Park has announced that it will be working in conjunction with the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) on a study of Route 28, locally known as Westfield Avenue. The corridor has been the subject of escalating safety concerns for both pedestrians and motorists.

[Click here to learn more.](#)



The City Looks Different When You're Older

For many of us, leaving our homes and navigating the outside world doesn't require much effort. But for older adults, our towns and cities are filled with obstacles — stairs, unsafe sidewalks and crossings, inadequate lighting — that grow increasingly difficult for them as they age. These challenges combine to keep many older Americans at home, isolated from the world around them.

[Click here to learn more.](#)

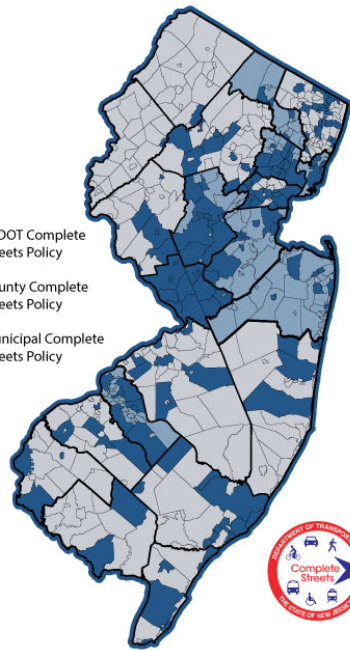
Complete Streets in New Jersey

An up-to-date list of Complete Streets policies in New Jersey

There are currently **174** municipalities and **8** counties with Complete Streets policies in New Jersey.

This brings the total New

-  NJDOT Complete Streets Policy
-  County Complete Streets Policy
-  Municipal Complete Streets Policy



Jersey population living in municipalities with Complete Streets policies to over 4 million people, or 46% of the population.

To access the most up-to-date list of Complete Streets policies adopted in the state, click the button!

[Click here for the complete list of policies.](#)

**Alan M. Voorhees
Transportation Center**



[Visit Our Website](#)



Voorhees Transportation Center | Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy | Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey | 33 Livingston Avenue, New Brunswick, NJ 08901

[Unsubscribe james.sinclair@ejb.rutgers.edu](mailto:unsubscribe_james.sinclair@ejb.rutgers.edu)

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