

# BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN RESOURCE CENTER Educate. Encourage. Empower.

#### February 27, 2024 | Issue: 159

#### 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 March 20, 2024

#### General Meeting, 9:30 am – 11:30 am

#### Register today for a special BPAC meeting featuring a presentation and discussion by Jeremy Chrzan from Toole Design Group about new accessibility guidelines.

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.

There will be no subcommittee breakouts at this meeting. See the March 20, 2024 meeting agenda <u>here</u>.

> BPAC is open to everyone. To participate, please register using the following link:

#### 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



## Special BPAC Presentation: Navigating Updates to the Public Right-of-Way Accessibility Guidelines (PROWAG)

The next BPAC meeting will include a webinarstyle presentation by **Jeremy Chrzan**, **PE**, **PTOE**, **LEED AP**, from Toole Design Group. He will provide key insights into the updated Public Right-of-Way Accessibility Guidelines (PROWAG), with brief updates associated with related national guidance documents. The presentation will run approximately 60 minutes plus time for Q&A.

Jeremy is a Professional Engineer with 25 years of experience in transportation, municipal, and site engineering projects. Jeremy leads Toole

Design's Multimodal Design Practice where he works to develop and apply best practices to accommodate the safety and comfort of people walking, biking, accessing transit, and driving. He has led the development of various local, state, and national design guidance, and is an experienced street designer on projects across North America. Over the course of his career, Jeremy has designed or reviewed thousands of pedestrian curb ramps, led numerous pedestrian accessibility trainings, and helped to develop and innovate on new pedestrian accessibility guidance.



# The Traffic Calming Effects of Delineated Bicycle Lanes, and other Rutgers University Micromobility Research Updates

A new Rutgers University study sponsored by the U.S. National Science Foundation in collaboration with the FHWA shows that protected bicycle lanes were associated with a 20 to 30 percent reduction in traffic speeds. Interested in the topic? Rutgers is hosting a free Micromobility Workshop on Friday, March 22, 2024 at the Bloustein School, in New Brunswick, NJ.

#### Congratulations to Little Silver, Passaic, and Readington for Passing Complete Streets Policies!

The total number of municipalities in New Jersey with Complete Streets policies has increased to 178. The successful passage of the Little Silver and Passaic policies is thanks in part to the efforts of EZ Ride Transportation Management Association.

See the full list of Complete Streets Policies in New Jersey.



#### **BIKENewark: Request for Public Input**

Newark is developing **BIKE**Newark, a comprehensive plan aimed at creating a citywide bicycle network that's safe, comfortable, and accessible for everyone. The plan will place a strong emphasis on safety and equity with the aim of boosting the use of bikes for all types of trips and riders. The goal is to improve access to key destinations like work, school, shopping, recreation, and transit within and around Newark, as well as connecting to neighboring and regional bike networks. The **BIKE**Newark plan will drive a range of projects, strategies, and policies, shaping the city's investment in biking infrastructure and programs.

The **BIKE**Newark team is asking for public participation in the development of the plan through surveys, pop-up outreach, focus groups, and public meetings.

Learn more at BIKENewark.



#### **Monmouth County Black History Trail**

After the ceremonies <u>commemorating the new historic marker in Eatontown for Samuel</u> <u>"Mingo Jack" Johnson</u> were over, the New Jersey Social Justice Remembrance Coalition was sent a list of suggestions by the Equal Justice Initiative for ways to build on this commitment to preserve Monmouth County's African American and Black history. A member of the coalition suggested that Monmouth Timeline might be advantageously positioned to take on one of these suggestions, the creation of a <u>Monmouth County Black</u> <u>History Trail</u>, tying together important people and places in our regional Black history.

Monmouth Timeline is an online resource for local history in Monmouth County compiled by local historians intended for use by students and afficionados of regional history.

Learn more at Monmouth Timeline.



**USDOT Opens FY24 SS4A Grant Application Round** 

The fiscal year (FY) 2024 Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Safe Streets and Roads for All grants is open.

The FY 2024 NOFO has 3 deadlines for Planning and Demonstration Grant applications: April 4, May 16, and August 29, 2024. All Implementation Grant applications are due May 16, 2024.

Resources for prospective applications are available on the USDOT's Safe Streets and Roads for All web page.

Learn more about SS4A Grants.

View this round's Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO).

#### Webinar Series: Safe Streets and Roads for All Grants

The U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) is hosting informational webinars for the fiscal year 2024 **Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A)** Grant opportunity. These webinars will be recorded and will serve as a resource for prospective SS4A applicants.

Thursday, March 7, 2024 1:30 PM to 3 PM: SS4A Action Plans
Friday, March 8, 2024 1:30 PM to 3 PM: SS4A Planning and Demonstration Grants
Wednesday, March 13, 2024 1:30 PM to 3 PM: SS4A Implementation Grants

Webinar information and registration is available here.



## Why Every E-Biker Should Be Worried About NJ's Proposed Micromobility Insurance Law

Instead of ensuring safety on Garden State roads, requiring bikers to carry insurance could make roads more dangerous, inequitable and polluted.

A New Jersey bill to require micromobility users to carry a form of liability insurance that doesn't even exist yet will be the first step down a "slippery slope" of onerous requirements that will have devastating consequences even for exclusively human-

powered modes, advocates say.

#### Read the full article at Streetsblog USA.



# American drivers are now even more distracted by their phones. Pedestrian deaths are soaring.

During the pandemic, distracted driving increased, and it hasn't gone down since. Until relatively recently, good data on the problem of distracted driving has been hard to find. The government estimates that 3,522 people died because of it in 2021, but experts say the official number probably majorly undercounts the number of deaths, in part because police are rarely able to definitively prove that a driver was distracted right before a crash.

Read the full article at Vox.



#### Acoustic Bikes: The New Name for Non-Electric Bikes?

There is no universally accepted name for non-electric bikes, but some suggestions include "acoustic bike," "analog bike," "traditional bike," "push bike," and "normal bike." Each term has its pros and cons, but ultimately, it's up to personal preference.

Read the full article at Discerning Cyclist.



#### WHO: Powered Two-Wheeler Safety

The **World Health Organization** has released the 2nd edition of the **Road Safety Manual** for Powered Two- and Three-Wheeler (PTW) Safety. This 2nd edition offers guidance to help decision makers and practitioners put in place a comprehensive set of laws, regulations and actions needed to save lives. Rooted in new case studies and evidence, including from low- and middle-income countries, it includes guidelines on developing safer roads, ensuring safer mobility for all road users, vehicle safety standards, and actions to improve emergency responses to crashes.

Read the full manual at the World Health Organization.

# **Upcoming Learning Opportunities**



## **Micromobility 2.0 Workshop: Smarter Strategies for Safe Travel**

The Micromobility 2.0 Workshop will be held on Friday, March 22, 2024. The Workshop bridges research and practice surrounding the use of micromobility devices (e-bikes, e-scooters, bicycles, etc.) and how best to address safety, infrastructure, and the use of innovative technology.

Workshop attendees will walk away with a better understanding of:

- The practice and emerging micromobility challenges in New Jersey
- How to use a Vision Zero lens to address safety for all road users
- Innovative technology related to data collection, analysis, prediction, and limitations
- Solutions to safety issues using social, infrastructural, and technological strategies

Register here.

Learn more about the workshop here.

# NJLTAP: Implementing a Toward Zero Death (TZD) Strategy at the Local Level

Monday, March 18, 2024 Piscataway, NJ (in person) 8:30 AM to 12:30 PM

New Jersey DOT and many other states have adopted the Toward Zero Deaths initiative. This workshop will introduce the Toward Zero Deaths (TZD) road safety strategy, the background of the zero deaths philosophy, and the latest roadway fatality trends.



# Save the Date: NJ I-Bank 2024 Seminar Series

**Thursday, April 18, 2024** Water Bank: 9 AM to 12 PM Transportation Bank: 1 PM to 4 PM

**Tuesday, April 23, 2024** Transportation Bank: 9 AM to 12 PM Water Bank: 1 PM to 4 PM

Learn more and register here.



# Complete Streets in New Jersey

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

There are currently **178** municipalities and **8** counties with Complete Streets policies in New Jersey.

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

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



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