



Kathryn A. DeFillippo, Chair
Mary D. Ameen, Executive Director

FREIGHT INITIATIVES COMMITTEE
Freeholder Charles Kenny, Chair
Freeholder Joshua Hertzberg, Vice Chair

Meeting Minutes
August 17, 2020

I. Roll Call

Freight Initiatives Committee Chair Freeholder Charles Kenny, Middlesex County, called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Eleven voting members were present. The meeting was held virtually via GoToMeeting.

II. Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the June 15, 2020 meeting was made by Morris, seconded by Somerset County and carried.

III. NJTPA Freight Division Update

Anne Strauss-Wieder, Central Staff, said the region had 840 million square feet of industrial property with over 15 million square feet under construction in Second Quarter 2020. E-commerce accounted for 48 percent of leasing activity—a trend accelerated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Ms. Strauss-Wieder said last year about 16 percent of retail sales were made by e-commerce, increasing to 27 percent in April.

Ms. Strauss-Wieder said the latest edition of the Port Economic Impact Assessment would be released that week. The report is a collaboration of members of the Council on Port Performance, of which the NJTPA is a member, along with many port stakeholders including the New York Shipping Association and the Port Authority of New York & New Jersey (PANYNJ).

Ms. Strauss-Wieder said a summary of findings from an informal survey of truck drivers about their experiences driving during the early months of the pandemic is available online. She said that survey findings would be discussed during the September 10 four-state truck parking workshop along with hours of service, staging and emergency truck parking needs. The workshop is a MAP Forum initiative.

Ms. Strauss-Wieder announced that a request for proposals was issued for the FY2021 Freight Concept Development Program.

IV. Presentations:

1. 2050 Freight Forecast Project

Jakub Rowinski, Central Staff, announced completion of freight industry-level forecasts out to the year 2050 and noted that the forecasts are already being put to good use by the subregions. Chris Lamm, Cambridge Systematics, the study consultant, then discussed the forecasts and related products, including a new Freight Forecasting Tool; a regional freight profile that highlights the region's economic and freight data for 2020 and 2050; 15 subregional freight profiles--one for each NJTPA subregion; and 12 regional top commodity bundle profiles. The profiles and study final report are available on the NJTPA website.

(<https://www.njtpa.org/2050FreightForecasts.aspx>)

Mr. Lamm said that study findings indicate that e-commerce market demand is growing as a percent of retail sales and is forecasted to reach 47 percent in 2050 compared to 19 percent in 2019. E-commerce deliveries could increase by 250 to 400 percent in NJTPA's counties by 2050. Baseline forecast through 2050 shows a 16 percent growth in tonnage between 2020 and 2050 and 15 percent growth in value, and trucks are the dominant mode of goods transport, by tons, in region through 2050. Energy products, construction materials and food are the top commodity groups now and projected out to 2050.

2. Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Freight Fluidity Program

Chandra Bondzie, FHWA Office of Freight Management and Operations, introduced a mapping and visualization tool developed under the FHWA Freight Fluidity Program to enable users to assess supply chain performance and identify critical flows, connections, and opportunities for improvement. As an example, she showed how the tool could be used to track the reliability of a specific trip at five delivery stages from port to retail. The tool uses supply chain data from 30 major US companies across a spectrum of industry sectors and locations. The NJTPA previously hosted one of the regional workshops held by FHWA as part of this Freight Fluidity Program.

3. FEWSION Supply Chain Visual Analysis

Benjamin Ruddell, Northern Arizona University, introduced the committee to FEWSION, an online tool that planners and communities can use to visualize local supply chains. Mr. Ruddell noted that the tool has been used as part of FEMA disaster simulations and planning. The tool incorporates national data to shed light on supply chain dynamics. In his presentation, he used Middlesex County as an example to demonstrate the availability of county-level supply chain information in the tool. Mr. Ruddell noted that the project was funded by National Science Foundation through the Department of Agriculture in 2016 to assemble a complete data set for analyzing the structure and resilience of the nation's supply chains. A visual interface was developed in the process.

V. Two-Minute Reports on Freight Activities from Committee Members

- Genevieve Clifton said NJDOT is now accepting grant applications for the Rail Freight Assistance Program.

- Stephanie Finch, PANYNJ, said trans-Hudson crossings traffic has rebounded, with truck volume showing the most resilience. She said data from May show that cargo was down 16 percent domestically and 44 percent internationally and passenger levels down about 97 percent at most metropolitan region airports. At the port, container volume was down 20 percent over last year though the Port has been doing much better than other ports in terms of volume changes.
- Freeholder Kathy DeFillippo, Morris County, said the High Bridge Railroad Branch Rehabilitation Project, which was funded through the Rail Freight Assistance Program, has been completed.
- Freeholder Joshua Hertzberg, Sussex County, said the County is seeing renewed interest in warehousing projects as the state continues to reopen.
- Liza Betz said the first Technical Advisory Committee meeting was held for the Union County Truck Mobility Study and focused on the county road network.

VI. Next meeting: Wednesday October 21, 2020, at 1:00 pm and will focus on the critical pharma and food supply chains.

VII. Adjournment

At 2:30 p.m., a motion to adjourn was made by Morris County, seconded by Somerset County and carried unanimously.

Freight Initiatives Committee
ATTENDANCE
August 17, 2020

VOTING MEMBERS	
Hon. Charles Kenny (Chair)	Middlesex County
Hon. Kathy DeFillippo	Morris County
Hon. Joshua Hertzberg	Sussex County
Hon. Angel Estrada	Union County
Byron Nicholas	Hudson County
Walt Lane	Somerset County
John Ernst	Ocean County
Genevieve Clifton	NJDOT
Alan Kearns	NJ TRANSIT
Steve Brown	PANYNJ
Jared Rodriguez	Citizens' Representative
OTHER ATTENDEES	
Rosanna Collars	Arup
Chris Lamm	Cambridge Systematics
Rodney Oglesby	CSX
Kristen Scudder	DVRPC
Robert Clark	FHWA
Chandra Bondzie	FHWA
Sutapa Bandyopadhyay	FHWA
Bob Werkmeister	GPI
Tom Vissee	HDR
Richard Semenick	HDR
Mary Grace Parker	I95 Coalition
Paul Bingham	IHS Markit
Scott Parker	Jacobs Engineering
Thanh Le	Jacobs Engineering
EuinSu Lee	Jersey City University
Jeff Flumignan	MARAD
Richard Martino	Modjeski and Masters
James Bonanno	Monmouth County
Lou Millan	NJ TRANSIT
Andrew Ludasi	NJDOT
Angellita Young	NJTPA
Mary Ameen	NJTPA
Jakub Rowinski	NJTPA
Brian Fineman	NJTPA
Anne Strauss-Wieder	NJTPA
David Behrend	NJTPA
Keith Hamas	NJTPA
Gabrielle Fausel	NJTPA

Jeffrey Perlman	NJTPA
Karen Rosenberger	NJTPA
Lois Goldman	NJTPA
Mark Solof	NJTPA
Aimee Jefferson	NJTPA
Beverly Morris	NJTPA
Karen Rosenberger	NJTPA
Ben Ruddell	Northern Arizona University
Leslie Fordjour	NY State Dept. of Transportation
Matthew Waskiewicz	NYC Dept. of Planning
Ryan White	NYCEDC
John Nardi	NY Shipping Association
John Ernst	Ocean County
Jay Shuffield	PANYNJ
Stephanie Finch	PANYNJ
Sushant Sharma	PANYNJ
Blair Wegescheide	PANYNJ
Amanda Valdes	PANYNJ
Huajing Shi	PANYNJ
Hilary McCarron	PANYNJ
Sal Presti	Passaic County
Ken Wedeen	Somerset County
Peter Palmer	Somerset County
Tom Drabic	Sussex County
Hon. Joshua Hertzberg	Sussex County
Frank Harder	Tioga Group
Liza Betz	Union County
Emily Navarrete	Volpe Center
Stephen Chiamonte	WSP
Alan Meyers	WSP
Kyle Winslow	WSP
Jenn Grenier	WSP
Holly Herdman	
Valeriya Remezova	
Paul Onish	
Aleksandra Maguire	
Baily DeJonge	
Nicholas Kehoe	
Joe Torp	
Miki Krakauer	
Salah Momtaz	
Coral Torres	
Doyin Ashiru	
Dennis Lombardi	
Erin Dean	

Allan McCarron	
Khaled Al-Dabbas	
Matt Van Hattern	
George Bulow	
Chris Lutick	
Zahra Pourabdollahi	
Miki Krakauer	
Ron Marisco	
Salah Momtaz	
Sammy Hopp	
Sushant Sharma	
George Kinney	
Doyin Ashiru	