



Regional Transportation Advisory Committee (RTAC)

David Antonio, Chair
Andras Holzmann, Vice Chair

Meeting Minutes April 10, 2023

I. Roll call

RTAC Vice Chair Andras Holzmann, Passaic County called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. Beverly Morris, Central Staff, called the roll. There were 18 voting members present.

II. Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the February 14, 2023 meeting was made by Sussex County, seconded by Somerset County and carried with 17 affirmative votes. Middlesex County abstained.

III. Presentation

Elias Guseman, Jersey City, presented an overview of the City's Vision Zero Initiative. He said, like most of the country, Jersey City saw an increase in traffic fatalities in 2021, but recorded no fatalities in 2022, for the first time since 2016. Mr. Guseman called that a validation of the city's Vision Zero efforts to eliminate all traffic deaths by 2026. He said that goal led to an action plan that identified 77 action items to be led by multiple departments, agencies and stakeholders. Since 2019, 50 of those action items have been completed or are in progress. They include: 679 speed bumps, 183 No Turn on Red restrictions, more than 30 active parklets, 19 miles of protected bicycle lanes, and 124 curb extensions. He said another five miles of protected bicycle lanes and 44 more curb extensions are planned.

IV. Transportation Management Associations (TMAs) Report

Avnish Gupta, EZ Ride, highlighted several TMA activities focused on human services transportation initiatives that implement elements of the NJTPA Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan. These paratransit services, including arrangements with app-based ride services such as Uber and Lyft to provide a variety of ride options that include trips to employment, medical services, social service appointments, and more. Also, discounts are available to those in need. These efforts are especially beneficial to senior and disabled citizens as well as transportation-disadvantaged riders.

V. Information Items

1. Zoning and Land Use Database

Jeff Perlman, Central Staff, said the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) requires Metropolitan Planning Organizations to consider housing in their planning work, and the NJTPA is considering collecting land use and zoning data in keeping with this requirement. Also, he said, part of the NJTPA's long range transportation plan is to better understand the relationships between land use, zoning and housing. Mr. Perlman said the NJTPA will seek to engage RTAC members in this activity.

Rick Cippoletti, Central Staff, said the NJTPA will develop a regionwide zoning and land use database based on municipal and map data to produce a visual tool that evolves as data changes. Mr. Cippoletti said staff members are planning to hold a teleconference to discuss the project with RTAC members in more detail. Peter Kortright, Bergen County, emphasized the need to keep the data current because it involves hundreds of municipalities.

2. Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) Update

Blythe Eaman, Central Staff, detailed the Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Discretionary Grant Program notice of funding opportunity (NOFO) released in March. She said the program provides two funding categories - Community Charging and Fueling Grants (Community Program) and Alternative Fuel Corridor Grants (Corridor Program). Applications are due May 30. Ms. Eaman said a NOFO from the Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-Saving Transportation (PROTECT) Formula Program is expected soon.

Lois Goldman, Central Staff, highlighted a NOFO for the Wildlife Crossing Pilot Program, which was released on April 4. Applications are due August 1. Also, Ms. Goldman said the NOFO for the 2023 Safe Streets and Roads for All Program was released March 30, and applications are due July 10.

3. FY 2025-2026 Subregional Studies Program (SSP) Solicitation and Pass Through Programs Workshop

William Long, Central Staff, said the SSP solicitation will be released in June, thumbnails will be due in early July, and full proposals in August. He encouraged the subregions to speak with Central staff about their proposal ideas before submitting their thumbnails. He said the previous year's solicitation had been sent to RTAC members for their input for the upcoming solicitation. The deadline for comments is April 12. Mr. Long said an RTAC member whose subregion will not be applying for the SSP will be asked to serve on the Proposal Selection Committee.

Mr. Long said a summer workshop is being planned to discuss the SSP and Subregional Transportation Program. Liza Betz, Union County, suggested that a separate workshop for each program would serve to better inform RTAC members about the various distinct aspects of both. Also, in reaction to NJTPA comments that the SSP is essentially a one year program, Ms. Betz noted that it would be helpful, prior to any SSP workshop, to get more clarification about how

many months the subregions have to actually work on the projects, which has a direct bearing on scope of work because the RFP for a 12 month project is different than one for 24 months.

4. NJTPA Outreach Liaisons Update – Ted Ritter, Central Staff

Ted Ritter, Central Staff, said the NJTPA’s ongoing innovative public outreach efforts include its pilot outreach liaisons program. The liaisons help tailor outreach strategies to the specific needs of various communities, ethnic or cultural groups, civic organizations, and non-governmental organizations. He said community members with some training and ongoing support from NJTPA staff will conduct public outreach on the agency’s behalf using their established networks and local contacts. There are currently seven outreach liaisons working with the NJTPA in the second year of the two-year pilot program. Mr. Ritter said the Outreach Liaisons program will lay the foundation for the development of the next NJTPA long range transportation plan by talking to communities to identify transportation priorities. He asked RTAC members to let staff know of upcoming community events that might be useful venues where the liaisons can talk to people about transportation issues. More information can be found on the NJTPA website [here](#).

5. Together North Jersey (TNJ) Initiative Update

Blythe Eaman, Central Staff, said the TNJ Initiative is forming an advisory group to provide insights and recommendations that will guide the work of the TNJ consortium and assist with engaging and recruiting external organizations and partners to collaborate on TNJ activities. She said they will contribute to training, technical assistance events, and advising the Vibrant Places Program. Ms. Eaman said the initiative will hold a forum on parklet implementation later in April, where speakers will discuss lessons learned from the past 10 years and provide insights and ideas for future parklets. NJTPA staff will present information on the upcoming Parkland Manual being developed through the Vibrant Places program.

VI. Written Information Items Provided with Agenda Prior to Meeting

1. Autonomous Vehicle Symposium Update – Andy Kaplan, Central Staff
2. FY 2024 Study and Development Program Update – John Witsch, Central Staff
3. Complete Streets Demonstration Library – Peter Bilton, Central Staff

There were no questions or comments on these items.

VII. Review of Standing Committee Action Items

Members of Central Staff briefed the committees on action items slated for consideration at the April 17, joint meeting of the Project Prioritization Committee and Planning and Economic Development Committee.

Project Prioritization Committee

1. Minor Amendment to the FY 2022-2025 Transportation Improvement Program to Add Federal Funding for the Portal North Bridge Project as Requested by NJ TRANSIT – John Witsch, Central Staff
2. Minor Amendments to the FY 2022-2025 Transportation Improvement Program to Add Federal Funds for Two Projects in Morris County as Requested by the New Jersey Department of Transportation – John Witsch
 - Route 80/15 Interchange Project
 - Route 80, Bridges over Howard Boulevard (CR 515) Project
3. Minor Amendment to the FY 2022 – 2025 Transportation Improvement Program to Transfer NJTPA Carbon Reduction Program Funds to NJ TRANSIT’s Transit Enhancements Program as Requested by the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority and NJ TRANSIT – Ann Ludwig, Central Staff
4. Approval of Projects for the 2023 Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program – Sascha Frimpong
5. Approval of the 2022 Financial Plan Update for the Route 80, 15 Interchange Project – Ann Ludwig

Planning and Economic Development Committee

6. Support for Pavement, Bridge, Travel Time Reliability, and Freight Performance Measure Targets Set by New Jersey Department of Transportation – Keith Miller, Central Staff

VIII. RTAC Teleconference – May 15, 2023 (tentative)

IX. Next Virtual Meeting: June 12, 2023

X. Adjournment

At 11:55 a.m. a motion to adjourn was made by Somerset County, seconded by the Port Authority of New York & New Jersey (PANYNJ), and carried unanimously.

Regional Transportation Advisory Committee
Attendance
April 10, 2023

Voting Members	
Andras Holzmann (Vice Chair)	Passaic County
Chris Helms	Bergen County
Tom Malavasi	Hudson County
Katherine Fullerton	Hunterdon County
Elias Guseman	Jersey City
Linda Weber	Middlesex County
Joseph Ettore	Monmouth County
Dede Murray	Morris County
Trevor Howard	City of Newark
Ken Wedeen	Somerset County
Tom Drabic	Sussex County
Liza Betz	Union County
David Dech	Warren County
Dorian Smith	Governor's Authorities Unit
Andrew Clark	NJDOT
Megan Massey	NJ TRANSIT
Jay Shuffield	PANYNJ
Jared Rodriguez	Citizens' Representative
Other Attendees	
Dan Callas	Avenues in Motion
Peter Kortright	Bergen County
Jack Kanarek	Dewberry
Avnish Gupta	EZ Ride
Tara Shepherd	goHunterdon
Bob Werkmeister	GPI
Luis Delgado	Hudson TMA
Mike Manzella	Jersey City
Charles Burton	LeFrak
Mike Dannemiller	Middlesex County
Andrew Lappitt	Middlesex County
Michael Popovech	Monmouth County
Various members of Central Staff	NJTPA
Donna Allison	RideWise
Ryan Conklin	Warren County
Ann Marie Fitzgerald	
T. Fitzgerald	
James Humphries	

Bruce Hain	
Tod Davies	
Matt Larkin	

