



FREIGHT INITIATIVES COMMITTEE

Freeholder Charles Kenny, Chair
Freeholder John Kelly, Vice Chair

Meeting Minutes October 21, 2019

Freight Initiatives Committee (FIC) Chair Freeholder Charles Kenny, Middlesex County, called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Freeholder Kenny noted that the NJTPA would apply for 1.5 AICP Credits and 1.5 Professional Engineering CPC Credits for this meeting.

I. Roll Call of Members

There were 10 voting members of the Freight Initiatives Committee present.

II. Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the August 19, 2019 meeting was made by Morris County, seconded by Somerset County and carried with nine affirmative votes. Ocean County abstained.

III. NJTPA Freight Division Activities Update

Jakub Rowinski, Central Staff, reported that fieldwork continues to gather information on the use of truck parking rest areas in the region, as well as parking along highway shoulders and other areas not designated for truck parking. Mr. Rowinski also reported that two concept development studies are advancing as part of the Pilot Freight Concept Development Program, which is designed to advance freight-related projects that do not have a specific path through the established project pipeline. He said one of the studies involves a bridge over a drain in Hackettstown that cannot accommodate national standard 286-K rail cars. The other looks at the potential realignment of the Dover and Rockaway Railroad, which currently runs through downtown Dover and has no safety gates. As the two studies move forward, the project team has begun the selection process for the next round of studies. Candidate studies have been screened and pre-scored and will be sent to the subregions for input and feedback, and two or three studies will be selected for funding starting in July.

Freeholder Kenny thanked the Port Authority of New York & New Jersey (PANYNJ) for arranging a tour of the FedEx and UPS air cargo operations at Newark Airport in October for NJTPA Board members, along with Union County and City of Newark staff. He said the group saw the various types of aircraft used and the extensive sort operations of the two major freight carriers, and he noted that they were the first outside group to see the new UPS facility.

V. Presentation:

Charlie Bontempo, PANYNJ, provided an overview of the Port Master Plan 2050, which was released in July. The plan is a flexible roadmap to develop a competitive, financially successful port while maximizing regional jobs and economic impacts and minimizing environmental effects. Mr. Bontempo noted that the PANYNJ's port facilities encompass more than 3,000 acres, including the Port Newark, Elizabeth, and Port Jersey marine terminals in New Jersey, and the Howland Hook and Brooklyn marine terminals in New York. He outlined trends and emerging issues that the Master Plan addresses and noted that 2019 container volume through the port is expected to increase by 6.5 percent over 2018, and long-term projections are looking at a potential doubling or even tripling by the Year 2050. Mr. Bontempo stressed the master plan's goals for sustainability and resiliency, to be bolstered by the development of alternative energy sources, such as solar and offshore wind, to power electric equipment while reducing port-related emissions. A wide-ranging Q&A session ensued.

VI. Two Minute Reports on Freight Activities from Committee Members

Steve Brown, PANYNJ, said construction is in progress on a new terminal that will replace Newark Airport's Terminal A, and planning is underway for a second new terminal to replace Terminal B. The AirTrain will be replaced as well.

Genevieve Clifton, NJDOT, said a freight infographic has been completed and will be issued in hard copy and digital forms. She said also that the NJDOT Office of Maritime Resources continues to work with local stakeholders to explore mixed-use maritime development at Port Raritan in Middlesex County.

George Ververides, Middlesex County, said county planners are encouraging municipalities to work with warehouse developers to find solutions to mitigate problems with increasing truck traffic to and from the area, particularly near Exit 8A. He said moving freight by rail would be helpful, but residents oppose it. He noted that there is hope that waterborne cargo could be moved in through the Raritan wharf facility.

VII. Next meeting:

Freeholder Kenny announced that the next meeting of the FIC is scheduled December 9, 2019.

VIII. Adjournment

At 2:05 p.m. a motion to adjourn was made by Ocean County, seconded by Somerset County and carried unanimously.

**Freight Initiatives Committee
ATTENDANCE
October 21, 2019**

VOTING MEMBERS	
Hon. Charles Kenny (Chair)	Middlesex County
Hon. Kathy DeFillippo	Morris County
Hon. John Kelly	Ocean County
Hon. Angel Estrada	Union County
Byron Nicholas	Hudson County
Trevor Howard	City of Newark
Walt Lane	Somerset County
Genevieve Clifton	NJDOT
Alan Kearns	NJ TRANSIT
Steve Brown	PANYNJ
OTHERS	
William Sheppard	Atlantic Rail Services
Eric Nowoslawski	Gateway Lumber
Fank Capo	Haheer
Byron Nicholas	Hudson County
G. M. Bulow	I ³
Thanh Le	Jacobs
Scott Parker	Jacobs
Paul Truban	Keller Engineers
Ivo Oliveira	Maher
George M. Ververides	Middlesex County
Rick Martino	Modjeski and Masters, Inc.
James Bonanno	Monmouth County
Gerald Rohsler	Morris County
Andrew Ludasi	NJDOT
Annie D'Agostino	NJEDA
Justin Balin	NJEDA
Elizabeth Johnson	NJTPA
Mary D. Ameen	NJTPA
Doug Greenfeld	NJTPA
Leslie Fordjour	NYMYC
John Ernst	Ocean County
Ahmed Ismail	PANYNJ
Charlie Bontempo	PANYNJ
Amanda Valdés	PANYNJ
Beth Rooney	PANYNJ
Peter Palmer	Somerset County
Tom Drabic	Sussex County