



Regional Technical Advisory Committee (RTAC)

Mark Jehnke, Chair
Barkha Patel, Vice Chair

Meeting Minutes **October 13, 2020**

I. Roll call

RTAC Chair Mark Jehnke called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. Beverly Morris, Central Staff, called the roll and 17 voting members were present for the virtual meeting via GoToMeeting.

II. Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the August 10 meeting was made by Hunterdon County, seconded by Essex County and carried with 15 affirmative votes. City of Newark and Passaic County abstained.

III. Presentation: Active Transportation Background Paper for Plan 2050

Aimee Jefferson, Central Staff, said the paper is the first in a series of white papers that will inform the long range transportation plan update. She said the paper provides a “snapshot” of existing active transportation conditions, which can include walking, biking, scooter use, and skateboarding. She said the paper also discusses the health and economic benefits of active transportation and how to incorporate it into planning work. She noted the limited availability of data on active transportation modes and sidewalk and trail networks

Keith Hamas, Central Staff, said the paper also outlines a combination of strategies and programs employed by the NJTPA and its planning partners to address the principal guiding goal of planning for active transportation – connectivity. He noted some of the programs related to active transportation, including the Local Safety Program, Transportation Management Association (TMA) programs, Planning for Emerging Centers, the Complete Streets Technical Assistance program, the Together North Jersey Technical Assistance program, as well as coordination with the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) on the State Strategic Highway Safety Plan, Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) initiatives such as the Transportation Clean Air Measures program, Safe Routes to School, and other opportunities.

Ms. Jefferson followed with some case studies that demonstrate how different initiatives and programs can align at the local level. The Active Transportation white paper is available on the NJTPA website at https://www.njtpa.org/NJTPA/media/Documents/Planning/Plans-Guidance/Planning%20for%202050/njtpa_activetransportation.pdf.

IV. Information Items

1. TMA Report

Tara Shepherd, goHunterdon, said the TMAs had submitted their FY 2022 work programs to the NJTPA. The programs include core work in the areas of accessibility, economic development, reliability, environmental and safety programming and supplemental programming related to Street Smart NJ campaigns and Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan initiatives. She said October is Pedestrian Safety Month and the TMAs are engaged with pedestrian safety education and encouragement activities.

2. Plan 2050: Transportation, People and Opportunity Update

Lois Goldman, Central Staff, said NJTPA staff members are working with a financial element consultant and will hold meetings with partner agencies and Metropolitan Planning Organizations soon to discuss financial assumptions for the long range transportation plan update.

Ted Ritter, Central Staff, said the [Plan 2050 website](#) includes a survey in multiple languages. He encouraged all to take the [survey](#) and share it through county and municipal communication channels, social media, and email. Mr. Ritter reported that, with consultant support, NJTPA staff conducted five virtual public workshops, one entirely in Spanish. He said the public outreach team is exploring ways to attract a larger and more varied audience for upcoming virtual workshops. Mr. Ritter said the first symposium in the TPA Tuesdays series was held October 6 and focused on Adapting to Change.

3. FY 2022 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Development Update

Karen Rosenberger, Central Staff, updated the Committee on the development of the FY 2022 UPWP. Prior to the meeting Ms. Rosenberger distributed a package of the following materials to Board and RTAC members via email: FY 2022 UPWP Development Schedule for Chapters I, II, III and IV; a letter outlining NJDOT Planning Priorities for MPOs; a letter outlining FHWA priorities for MPOs; and a slide presentation outlining elements of the FY 2022 UPWP.

Ms. Rosenberger said input from the Trustees and RTAC members will be sought throughout the development process, and she asked that any suggestions for the program update be submitted by October 31, so they may be incorporated into the first draft, which will be distributed for review in December. Ms. Rosenberger said subsequent comments on the draft program are requested by

January 7. The final draft will be presented to the standing committees for endorsement in February 2021 and to the Board for approval in March.

4. FY 2022 Subregional Transportation Program Solicitation

Peter Zambito, Central Staff, thanked RTAC members who reviewed the draft program solicitation and provided helpful feedback. He said several changes were made in response to the feedback, including additional detail or examples of successful projects, changes to the slate of core and elective activities, participation on RTAC in a leadership capacity and participation in environmental education efforts. Mr. Bilton said proposals are due October 30.

5. NJTPA CMAQ Performance Plan and NJDOT Mid Period Performance Measures Reports.

Rick Cippoletti and Keith Miller, Central Staff, said that NJDOT has submitted the NJTPA CMAQ Performance Plan to the Federal Highway Administration FHWA as part of its Mid Performance Period Progress Report. This Plan demonstrates the region's progress on three federally required performance measures, two dealing with congestion and one concerning the reduction of vehicle emissions. The NJTPA's plan shows that targets for these three measures have been met, and it also provides a list of upcoming CMAQ projects and discusses their part in improving air quality. For further information visit [State Performance Dashboard and Reports](#) on the FHWA website.

6. Together North Jersey (TNJ) Initiative Update

Jeff Perlman, Central Staff, said TNJ members and the NJTPA are collaborating with the Voorhees Transportation Center (VTC) to update the TNJ plan. As part of the process, the four TNJ task forces (Efficient, Competitive, Resilient, and Livable) are holding meetings in October and updating strategies through early 2021. Also, the VTC is developing a survey to inform the updated plan on county level issues. Mr. Perlman said the TNJ Initiative will collaborate with New Jersey Institute of Technology to conduct three one-hour webinars on brownfields redevelopment on October 26, November 5 and November 12. He noted that the Resilient Task Force will be scheduling a webinar on using its web-based Best Practices Sustainability Toolkit.

V. Review of Standing Committee Action Items

Members of Central Staff, briefed the Committee on action items slated for consideration at the October 21, 2020 joint meeting of the Project Prioritization Committee and Planning and Economic Committee:

Project Prioritization Committee

1. Endorsement of the Draft FY 2021 Transportation Capital Program – Ann Ludwig, Central Staff
2. Approval of Projects for the 2020 Local Safety Program and High Risk Rural Roads Program – Christine Mittman and Patricia Newton, Central Staff
3. Minor Amendment to the FY 2020 - 2023 Transportation Improvement Program to Add the Route 15, Route 94 to Route 206/CR 565 Project in Sussex County – Eve Chamberlain, Central Staff
4. Minor Amendment to the FY 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program to Add the CR510 (Columbia Turnpike) Bridge over Black Brook Project in Morris County – Eve Chamberlain
5. Minor Amendment to the FY 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program to Add the East Anderson Street Bridge over the Hackensack River Project in Bergen County – Eve Chamberlain
6. Minor Amendment to the FY 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program to Add the Kingsland Avenue Bridge over Passaic River in Bergen County – Eve Chamberlain
7. Minor Amendment to the FY 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program to Add the CR 567 (Picket Place) Bridge over South Branch of Raritan River Project in Somerset County – Eve Chamberlain
8. Minor Amendment to the FY 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program to Add the CR 512 (Valley Road) Bridge over Passaic River Project in Somerset County – Eve Chamberlain

Planning and Economic Development Committee

9. Support for 2021 Safety Performance Measure Targets Set by the NJDOT in Collaboration with the NJTPA and other MPOs in New Jersey – Keith Miller, Central Staff
10. Approval of FY 2021-2023 Congestion Management Air Quality (CMAQ) Funding for the Transportation Clean Air Measures Program – Liz DeRuchie, Central Staff
11. Approval of FY 2021-2023 CMAQ Funding for the Local Mobility Initiatives Program – Peter Bilton, Central Staff

VI. RTAC Teleconference – November 16, 2020 (Tentative)

Mr. Jehnke asked Committee members to reach out to him or RTAC Vice Chair Barkha Patel, Jersey City, with proposed topics for discussion.

VII. Next Meeting: December 7, 2020

VIII. Adjournment

At 12:00 p.m. a motion to adjourn was made by Passaic County, seconded by Somerset County and carried unanimously.

Regional Transportation Advisory Committee

Attendance
October 13, 2020

Voting Members	
Mark Jehnke (Chair)	Ocean County
Barkha Patel (Vice Chair)	Jersey City
Chris Helms	Bergen County
David Antonio	Essex County
Byron Nicholas	Hudson County
Adam Bradford	Hunterdon County
Inkyung Englehart	Monmouth County
John Hayes	Morris County
Trevor Howard	City of Newark
Mike Lysicatos	Passaic County
Ken Wedeen	Somerset County
Tom Drabic	Sussex County
Liza Betz	Union County
Brian Appezzato	Warren County
Brian Leckie	NJDOT
Megan Massey	NJ TRANSIT
Jay Shuffield	Port Authority of New York & New Jersey
Other Attendees	
Sutapa Bandyopadhyay	Federal Highway Administration
Ray Tomczac	Federal Transit Administration
Tara Shepherd	goHunterdon
Bob Werkmeister	GPI
Tom Malavasi	Hudson County
Elias Guseman	Jersey City
Shilpa Bhojappa	Monmouth County
Jim Vari	NJDOT
Eric Powers	NJDOT
Various members of Central Staff	NJTPA
Sal Presti	Passaic County
Jason Miranda	Passaic County
Kyle Winslow	WSP
David Moss	
Humayra Ahm	
Jim Hess	
Raymond Fusco	
James Yeager	