



FREIGHT INITIATIVES COMMITTEE

Commissioner Stephen Shaw, Chair
Commissioner Sara Sooy, Vice Chair

Meeting Minutes
April 21, 2025

I. Roll Call of Members

Freight Initiatives Committee (FIC) Chair Stephen Shaw, Morris County Commissioner, called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. and 10 voting members were present.

II. Approval of Minutes

The City of Newark moved the minutes of the February 18, 2025 meeting and Morris County seconded. The minutes were approved by voice vote with one abstention from Somerset County.

III. Update on NJTPA Freight Division Activities

Jakub Rowinski, Central Staff, said the 2050 Freight Industry Level Forecast Update is nearing completion. He said quality assurance, quality control, study documentation and the final report are the remaining outstanding items scheduled for completion by June 30. There will be a presentation on the study at the June 16 FIC meeting.

Data collection is underway for the FY 2025 Freight Concept Development Program Studies. This four-part initiative includes two concept development studies: the Southern Middlesex County North-South Truck Corridor Project in Cranbury and Monroe, and the East Hanover Avenue Bridge/Conrail Clearance Project in Morris Plains and Morris Township. This effort will also include a preliminary screening for Plate F vertical rail clearance in Perth Amboy and general program support activities. Mr. Rowinski said aerial imagery is being collected for the two study sites as an initial step.

IV. Presentation: New Jersey Truck Parking Profile

The Chair introduced four speakers: Janice Marino-Doyle, New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) and Bridget Wieghart, Steve Chiramonte, and Shashank Pulikanti, of WSP, to present a two-phase study on truck parking in New Jersey. More than 500 long-haul drivers completed surveys for the study and most said they spend significant time finding parking. Frequently, many of them cannot find designated spaces and often must detour. The study area included 55 analysis segments along New Jersey's road network, ranging from about 5 to 20 miles and covering major freight corridors and corridors with truck parking capacity. The study identified 76 truck parking facilities with 2,886 striped spaces. Based on truck GPS data

and needs scores, sections of I-95, I-78, I-80, and I-295 all rank in the top 10 of the segments analyzed. Crowded segments have a daily shortfall of 20 to 35 spaces with some growing to more than 100 spaces by 2050. The statewide shortfall is anticipated to hit to 1,700 to 1,800 spaces because truck volumes are expected to increase 74 percent by 2050 on all roads in New Jersey. Overall, looking at detours and costs of crashes, insufficient truck parking costs almost \$93 million annually in the state. Several potential solutions discussed included public capacity expansion, public-private partnerships and modifying local ordinances for short-term truck staging at industrial sites.

The complete meeting video can be found [here](#). Following the presentations, participants asked questions on topics related to the [presentation](#). The questions and responses can be found in the meeting recording. There is additional information on the NJTPA Update Blog [here](#).

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

The Chair asked for updates from committee members. Janice Doyle-Marino, NJDOT said their next Freight Advisory Committee will be held on July 18, and they are currently preparing for their next freight plan.

Commissioner Bette Jane Kowalski, Union County mentioned that she expects objections to trucks parking in and near towns to decrease as we move to more electric powered trucks. The noise will become less of an issue, and she hopes that it can happen soon.

VII. Next meeting: June 16, 2025 (Virtual)

VIII. Adjournment

Union County made a motion to adjourn at 2:27 p.m., Morris County seconded and it carried unanimously.

Freight Initiatives Committee

**Attendance
April 21, 2025**

VOTING MEMBERS	
Hon. Stephen Shaw (Chair)	Morris County
Tom Malavasi	Hudson County
Trevor Howard	City of Newark
Hon. Bette Jane Kowalski	Union County
Mark Jehnke	Ocean County
Stephan Pezdek	PANYNJ
Ken Wedeen	Somerset County
Michael Elenseki	Governors Authorities Unit
Alan Kearns	NJ TRANSIT
Janice Marino-Doyle	NJDOT
OTHERS	
Various members of Central Staff	NJTPA
Bridget Wieghart	WSP, Advisory Services
Steve Chiaramonte	WSP, Advisory Services
Shashank Pulikanti	WSP, Advisory Services
Stephanie Finch	WSP, Advisory Services
Andrew Ludasi	
Blair Kelly	PANYNJ
Bob Hornby	Hunterdon County
Brian Hite	LVPC/LVTS
Chris Wichman	Geotab
Doug Greenfeld	
Daniel Dwyer	
Chris Wichman	Geotab
Elizabeth Langmaid	PANYNJ
Jack Kanarek	Dewberry
James Nunes	
Kevin Stephens	Morris County
Ken Wedeen	Somerset County
James Nunes	
Katherine Fullerton	Hunterdon County
Kamal Saleh	Union County
Leslie Fordjour	NYMTC
Matt J	
Miriam Schwartz	PANYNJ
Nipa Maniar	NJDOT
Ron PC	
Bob Werkmeister	GPI
Ryan Conklin	Warren County
Samantha DeAndrea	Somerset County

Scott Parker	Jacobs
Stephanie Finch	WSP
Syd Chan	
Tanner Thul	Hudson County