



Regional Transportation Advisory Committee (RTAC)

David Antonio, Chair
Andras Holzmann, Vice Chair

Meeting Minutes June 9, 2025

I. Roll call

RTAC Chair David Antonio called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. Denise Truvillion, Central Staff, called the roll and 17 voting members were present.

II. Approval of Minutes

Passaic County moved the minutes of the April 14, 2025 meeting, Somerset County seconded, and the motion carried. There were no abstentions

III. Presentation: Game On! Activating Public Spaces During the World Cup - Gernot Riether, NJIT

Blythe Eaman, Central Staff, introduced Gernot Riether, Associate Professor at NJIT's Hillier College of Architecture and Design, to present on a project funded by the NJTPA. Five students explored ways New Jersey municipalities without major stadiums could benefit from the 2026 FIFA World Cup. Mr. Riether's class identified opportunities to transform local public spaces into unique soccer-themed experiences. The concept draws inspiration from precedents such as the transformation of Rockefeller Center's public space for the Paris Olympics. This project culminated in recommendations designed to be affordable and adaptable for diverse spatial conditions. The NJTPA will be compiling the recommendations into a guide for municipalities. The presentation is available [here](#).

IV. Information Items

Next Steps for Local Safety Actions Plans

Keith Hamas, Central Staff, said that NJTPA is in the final stages of developing Local Safety Action Plans for eight counties in the region, aimed at eliminating fatal and serious injuries on county and local roads. The project team has completed the final round of public engagement through virtual and in-person workshops and draft plans have been sent to each county's Local Implementation Committee (LIC) for review. Counties and LICs will be responsible for implementing these plans. The NJTPA will continue to provide resources and assistance to counties and municipalities for implementation. The final plans will incorporate feedback from LICs and will be available on county websites and the NJTPA's [webpage](#).

Mike Dannemiller, Middlesex County, asked if dashboards were set up on the webpage for counties that were not part of the NJTPA effort. Mr. Hamas said that there is a regional dashboard available and they could discuss data sharing offline. Mike Manzella, City of Jersey

City, asked if High Injury Network locations had been identified for subregions that were not part of the NJTPA effort, specifically Jersey City and Hudson County. Mr. Hamas responded yes, the final plan has been completed. Lois Goldman, Central Staff, added that endorsements from county commissioners are a critical next step in the process and necessary to have a Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) compliant plan.

FY 2027 Subregional Transportation Planning Solicitation Schedule

Frank Tolbert, Central Staff, said a key change in the Subregional Transportation Planning Solicitation Schedule for FY 2027 is that elective activities previously submitted via Microsoft Word can now be submitted directly through the Cost Tracking System (CTS). To facilitate this transition, a virtual subregional workshop is scheduled for Tuesday, August 26, 2025. NJTPA Central Staff will guide subregions through the new CTS submission process and a draft technical work program is planned for release to the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) in August. The complete FY 2027 program solicitation package and draft work programs are scheduled for release in September. Specific dates for these releases will be announced soon.

Connecting Communities Update

Ms. Goldman said the draft *Connecting Communities* plan was distributed to RTAC, Board members and agency partners during the last week of May. Comments on the draft are requested by Friday, June 13, 2025, before the draft is finalized and released for public review. The 30-day public comment period will begin on July 7, 2025, and run concurrently with the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and Air Quality Conformity Determination comment periods. A virtual public meeting is scheduled for July 17, 2025, from 5 to 7 p.m.

Ted Ritter, Central Staff said hundreds of people were engaged at in-person events throughout the region this spring. Outreach efforts focused on key areas identified in a prior online visioning survey. This approach was met with positive feedback and residents expressed appreciation for the opportunity to voice their opinions on the transportation planning process. Feedback will help shape future transportation investments for the region. Additional details on the public comment period can be found [here](#).

FY 2026 Transportation Improvement Program Development Update

Vanessa Koenigkramer, Central Staff, said the Transportation Capital Program (TCP) was distributed to the subregions at the end of April. Comments from NJDOT and follow-up questions from the subregions are being addressed. The draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) database was received on June 5, and the data is being processed for distribution to the subregions. A preliminary review of the data includes 324 projects and programs, totaling over \$16 billion across the first four years, encompassing projects from NJDOT, NJ TRANSIT, the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey (PANYNJ), the Gateway Development Commission and other discretionary grants. The draft will be posted on the NJTPA website for review in advance of the public comment period. Further updates will be shared as they become available.

Zoning Atlas Update

Rich Cippoletti, Central Staff, said the NJTPA is developing a Zoning Atlas, part of a statewide effort to map all zoning boundaries and codes for every municipality in New Jersey. This project will result in an updatable, downloadable Geographic Information System (GIS) dataset integrating mapped zoning information with a comprehensive zoning code database. The GIS data set has been completed, and the zoning code data is approximately 50 percent complete. NJTPA will develop an application to view and share this data with the public. The GIS database will be continuously maintained, and a methodology is being explored to incorporate changes made by municipalities. The data will also contribute to the [National Zoning Atlas](#) project and will enhance the travel demand model by providing new perspectives on land use. The NJTPA anticipates sharing this valuable resource with RTAC soon.

Congestion Management Process Update

Eugene McGuinness, Central Staff, said the Congestion Management Process (CMP) working group held its final meeting of the fiscal year. Participants reviewed final drafts on regional needs and strategies from the latest technical memoranda and reviewed a pilot version of the enhanced [Congestion Management Process webpage](#). The webpage features three story maps and a series of strategy profiles, offering implementation guidance for future stakeholders. Findings from this process are being integrated into the draft LRTP.

V. Written Information Items

The Chair read the titles of the two written information items. There were no comments or questions.

Project Prioritization Scoring Process Update – John Witsch, Central Staff

Planning for Emerging Centers Solicitation – Peter Bilton, Central Staff

VI. Review of Standing Committees Action Items

Project Prioritization Committee

Mr. Witsch presented the five action items the committee considered at the meeting.

1. Minor Amendments to the FY 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program to Split the Route 80 Riverview Drive (CR640) to Polifly Road (CR 55) Project into Six Projects in Bergen and Passaic Counties

Mr. Witsch said this request is to remove the Route 80, Riverview Drive to Polifly Road project from the TIP and divide it into six separate projects under this action. Dividing the project into multiple contracts allows NJDOT to prioritize critical sections and replace structure-critical bridges promptly. [A summary of the action item is included in the agenda package for the Joint Committee meeting on page 14 [here](#).]

2. Minor Amendments to the FY 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program to Add Federal Funds to Seven Programs.

Mr. Witsch presented the changes to the seven programs:

Bridge Preventive Maintenance, Statewide - This request is to add \$58.5 million of Surface Transportation Block Grant Program-FLEX funds for Engineering and Construction in FY 2025, increasing the total to \$68.5 million dollars.

ITS Safety Program, Statewide - This request is to add \$20.1 million in Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) funds for Engineering, Right-of-Way, and Construction in FY 2025, increasing the total to \$23.1 million.

Local Safety/High Risk Rural Roads Program, Regional - This request is to add \$18.8 million of HSIP funds for Engineering Right of Way, and Construction in FY 2025, as well as \$7.4 million of HSIP-Vulnerable Road User Safety funds for Engineering Right of Way, and Construction in FY 2025.

Mobility and Systems Engineering Program, Statewide - This request is to add \$ \$29.2 million of National Highway Performance Program (NHPP) funds for Engineering and Construction in FY 2025.

Pavement Preservation, NJTPA, Regional - This request is to add \$27 million of NHPP funds for Engineering Right of Way, and Construction in FY 2025, increasing the total to \$107 million dollars.

Resurfacing, Federal, Statewide - This request is to reduce \$40 million of NHPP funds for Engineering Right of Way and Construction in FY 2025. These funds will be reallocated to fund other projects anticipated to be authorized in FY 2025.

Safety Programs, Statewide - This request is to add \$22.9 million of HSIP funds for Engineering Right of Way and Construction in FY 2025. This request also reduces \$7.4 million dollars of HSIP-Vulnerable Road user funds for Engineering Right of Way, and Construction in FY 2025 to be reallocated to NJTPA Local Safety/High Risk Rural Roads Program.

[A summary of the action item is included in the agenda package for the Joint Committee meeting on page 27 [here.](#)]

3. Minor Amendment to the FY 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program to Add Federal Funds to the Bus Support Facilities and Equipment Program

Mr. Witsch said this request is to add \$79.6 million of Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5339 funds for Engineering Right of Way, and Construction in FY 2025. [A summary of the action item is included in the Joint Committee meeting agenda package on page 42 [here.](#)]

4. Minor Amendment to the FY 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program to Transfer NJTPA Carbon Reduction Program Funds to the NJ TRANSIT Light Rail Infrastructure Improvements Program.

Mr. Witsch said the NJTPA Carbon Reduction Program provides urbanized area Carbon Reduction-New York/Newark funds for local level projects in the NJTPA region to support transportation emission reductions. This request is to transfer \$28.4 million of these funds for Engineering, Right-of-Way and Construction to the NJ TRANSIT Light Rail Infrastructure Improvements Program. [A summary of the action item is included in the Joint Committee meeting agenda package on page 48 [here](#)]

5. Modifications to the FY 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program to Add Federal Funds to One Regionwide Program and One Project in Bergen County.
 - Rail-Highway Grade Crossing Program, Federal, Regionwide
 - Route 17, Essex Street to South of Route 4, Bergen County

Mr. Witsch said this action will add \$11.6 million of Rail-Highway Crossing funds for Engineering and Construction in FY 2025 to the Rail-Highway Grade Crossing Program.

It would also add \$8 million of NHPP funds for Preliminary Engineering in FY 2025 to the Route 17, Essex Street to South of Route 4 Project. [A summary of the action item is included in the Joint Committee meeting agenda package on page 55 [here](#)]

VII. Other Items for Discussion

Dolores Wooden-Martinez, City of Newark, asked if there were meetings scheduled to evaluate the overall accessibility to stadium facilities where visitors will gather for soccer match activities for the 2026 FIFA World Cup. She said that the City of Newark is evaluating areas near the stadium in Harrison. Jeff Perlman, Central Staff, said the NJTPA is not involved in those discussions but will share any information if it becomes available. Michael Manzella, City of Jersey City, offered to share the host committee contact information with Ms. Wooden-Martinez.

There were no other items for discussion.

VIII. RTAC Teleconference – July 21, 2025 (Tentative)

The Chair asked anyone who had topics to address during the teleconference please contact him or Vice Chair Andras Holzmann.

IX. Next Meeting: August 11, 2025

X. Adjournment

The City of Newark made a motion to adjourn at 11:28 a.m., Somerset County seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

**Regional Transportation Advisory Committee Attendance
June 9, 2025**

Voting Members	
David Antonio (Chair)	Essex County
Andras Holzmann (Vice Chair)	Passaic County
Chris Helms	Bergen County
Tom Malavasi	Hudson County
Katherine Fullerton	Hunterdon County
Elias Guseman	City of Jersey City
Mike Dannemiller	Middlesex County
John Hayes	Morris County
Joseph Ettore	Monmouth County
Dolores Martinez-Wooden	City of Newark
Ken Wedeen	Somerset County
Tom Drabic	Sussex County
Farzana Ahmed	NJDOT
Jay Shuffield	PANYNJ
Dorian Smith	Governor's Authorities Unit
Kamal Saleh	Union County
Ryan Conklin	Warren County
Other Attendees	
Various members	NJTPA Central Staff
Dan Callas	Avenues in Motion
Gernot Riether	NJIT
Adam Bradford	Passaic County
Bob Hornby	Hunterdon County
Brendan Lamb	
Frank Bell	
David Schmetterer	Monmouth County
Michael Nei	
Trevor Howard	City of Newark
Evan Hanson	NJ TRANSIT
Gregory Smith	
Halleigh Johnston	
Jack Kanarek	Dewberry
Kevin Stephens	
Mark Kataryniak	
Peter Kortright	Bergen County
Rosemary Nivar	
Samantha De Andrea	
Shilpa Bhojappa	
Tanner Thul	Hudson County
Union County ENG, PW& FAC Zoom	
Vijayayant Rajvanshi	
Zyaire Fowler	