



Charles Kenny, Chair
Jason J. Sarnoski, First Vice Chair
David W. Behrend, Executive Director

Board Meeting Minutes July 13, 2026

A. Open Public Meetings Act Compliance

Chairman Charles Kenny, Middlesex County Commissioner, called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. at Middlesex College in Edison. Denise Truvillion, Central Staff, reported that the meeting was being held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L.1975. Adequate notice of the meeting was also forwarded to the *Star Ledger*, the *Asbury Park Press*, the *Courier News*, the *Home News Tribune*, the *New Jersey Herald*, and *The Daily Record*. It was also posted at the Essex County Hall of Records in Newark.

B. Salute to the Flag

The Chairman led the room in a salute to the flag.

C. Roll Call

Ms. Truvillion called the roll, and 18 voting members were in attendance. (Attachment 1).

D. Approval of Minutes

Hunterdon County made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 11, 2026, meeting; City of Newark seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

E. Chair Remarks

Chairman Kenny welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked Middlesex County College President Mark McCormick and staff members for hosting the NJTPA meeting and providing breakfast. He extended a special welcome to Megan Massey, Director of Transit Friendly Planning at NJ TRANSIT and a member of the NJTPA's Regional Transportation Advisory Committee. Ms. Massey gave the featured presentation on NJ TRANSIT's LAND Plan, an acronym for Leveraging Assets for Non-Farebox Dollars. The plan represents a major 30-year opportunity for NJ TRANSIT to generate new revenue and drive economic development across the region.

Chairman Kenny gave an overview of projects and programs in Middlesex County, including the Middlesex County Improvement Authority's partnership with NJ TRANSIT on a nearly \$70 million renovation of the 120-year-old New Brunswick Train Station. The upgraded station is designed to handle the anticipated influx of commuters and visitors from the New Jersey Health Life Sciences Exchange (HELIX) and continued growth at Rutgers University. The county will be among the anchor tenants in the HELIX complex, which will feature three state-of-the-art buildings encompassing more than 1.5 million square feet to house research labs, office space, and residential units, serving as home to the Rutgers Medical School and Nokia Bell Labs' East Coast Headquarters for Research and Development. He said this project serves as a prime example of what can be accomplished when working together to invest in infrastructure that strengthens communities, supports economic growth, and prepares the region for the future.

Citing a recent NJ.com op-ed by Assemblyman Andrew Maccurdy regarding the renovation of New York Penn Station, Chairman Kenny said increased track capacity for NJ TRANSIT trains is required to provide residents

with faster, more reliable commutes, including additional options for a one-seat ride on the Raritan Valley Line. As the federal government finalizes renovation plans through Amtrak, he stressed the critical need to engage federal representatives to ensure expanded capacity is included in the final design

Additionally, Chairman Kenny thanked Assemblyman Macurdy for inviting the NJTPA to present on its local technical assistance programs at his Legislative District Local Leaders Conference scheduled for later this month.

He shared that the NJTPA's Demonstration Library has been in high demand. Highland Park utilized materials for a recent FIFA watch party, and Perth Amboy plans to install a traffic calming demonstration on Hall Avenue next month as part of the NJTPA's Complete Streets Conceptualization Pilot Study. Roselle Park installed temporary curb extensions and flexible delineators throughout September at locations experiencing significant pedestrian traffic and illegal wrong-way driving.

Chairman Kenny also noted that he attended last month's in-person Regional Transportation Advisory Committee meeting, which featured a productive conversation on implementing Local Safety Action Plans. Middlesex County highlighted its own safety plan-related efforts underway.

The County recently started a Subregional Study to update the transportation and mobility element of its Master Plan. Through the same program two years ago, the county conducted Road Safety Audits at five locations to develop improvement recommendations and is now using that report to seek grant funding for implementation. The county also previously completed the Southern Middlesex County Freight Movement Study through the Subregional Studies Program, which recommended developing a North-South truck corridor to reduce truck traffic in residential areas by providing a dedicated route parallel to the New Jersey Turnpike and County Route 619. That recommendation is being explored further through the NJTPA's Freight Concept Development Program. Chairman Kenny said he looks forward to the outcome when the effort wraps up a year from now. While highlighting these Middlesex County examples, the Chair acknowledged that many subregions participate in these programs, laying the early planning foundation for future improvements, often funded with federal dollars, to make travel safer, more efficient, and more reliable.

In conclusion, Chairman Kenny extended the Board's best wishes and congratulations to former Passaic County Commissioner John Bartlett, a longtime member and former Chair. At the joint committee meeting last month, Commissioner Bartlett shared that he would be resigning from the County Board of Commissioners to become the Chief Legal Officer for the Gateway Development Commission. The Chair stated that while the Board will miss working with him, they look forward to his efforts to complete the Hudson Tunnel Project, which stands as one of the most critical transportation projects for the region and the entire country.

F. Executive Director's Report

NJTPA Executive Director David Behrend thanked Middlesex College and Dr. McCormick for hosting the meeting. Mr. Behrend reflected on the agency's FY 2026 achievements across planning programs aimed at moving communities from ideas to implementation.

Vibrant Places Program: Completed a placemaking plan for the Midtown Elizabeth Special Improvement District in partnership with Rutgers University.

Brownfields & Redevelopment: Partnered with NJIT's Center for Community Systems to provide technical assistance, assessments, and guidance to five Essex County communities, including four located along The Greenway, New Jersey's new state park. .

Street Smart NJ Campaign: Launched a pedestrian safety campaign last month in Asbury Park alongside Monmouth County Commissioner Director Thomas Arnone and city officials. The program recently surpassed 300 statewide partners.

Subregional Studies Program: Three studies concluded last month: Somerset County’s Electric Vehicle Charging and Suitability Analysis, Jersey City’s “Let’s Move JC” transportation master plan, and Hunterdon County’s bicycle plan.

In addition to the Middlesex County study Chairman Kenny mentioned, Passaic County is launching an Urban Core Trucking Study this fiscal year.

The NJTPA Received a potentially record-high number of applications for the FY 2028 funding round; staff is currently reviewing proposals.

Performance Measure Target Setting: Staff continue to coordinate with partners on federal target setting for safety, infrastructure, reliability, freight, and congestion.

US Department of Transportation Certification Review: The federally mandated review occurs every four years to maintain eligibility for federal funding. Staff are preparing for the USDOT’s site visit in October, and Board members and subregional partners are encouraged to participate.

In closing, Mr. Behrend announced the upcoming retirement of Ted Ritter after 25 years of service with the NJTPA, noting this was his final Board meeting. He thanked him for his extensive contributions to public engagement, videos, partner agency boards, the Morris Canal Working Group, and his participation and support in many other projects over the years. Chairman Kenny also congratulated Mr. Ritter on his upcoming retirement.

G. Presentation: NJ TRANSIT’s LAND Plan

Ms. Massey began her presentation by providing information about the Transit-Friendly Planning Program. This program sets the stage for NJ TRANSIT projects and stations on both privately and publicly owned land. This program has existed since the 1990s, and the NJ TRANSIT real estate team facilitates development on NJ TRANSIT-owned land.

NJ TRANSIT developed the Transit-Oriented Development policy to guide the development of walkable, mixed-use communities centered around transit friendly facilities in 2023.

The LAND Plan outlines how NJ TRANSIT can leverage part of its 8,000 acre real estate portfolio for development. Ms. Massey gave an overview of the key benefits of the Plan, including the following:

- \$1.2-1.9 billion incremental revenue to NJ TRANSIT
- \$10-14 billion in economic impact to New Jersey
- \$1.1-1.6 billion increase in municipal revenues
- 14-20,000 new housing units, including affordable housing units
- 30-50,000 New Jersey jobs created
- Solar power & Wetland restoration

The presentation included an overview of housing units, revenue projections and tax revenues for projects in various stages of completion.

Ms. Massey said NJ TRANSIT hosted its first LAND Plan industry day in April, showcasing 11 sites with development potential, including 34th Street in Bayonne, Liberty State Park Hudson-Bergen Light Rail, Koppers Coke in Kearny, Bergenline Avenue in Union City and Netherwood Station in Plainfield. The largest mixed-use projects underway include Metropark Station in Woodbridge, Somerville and Hoboken.

The full meeting, including questions and responses, can be found [here](#), and the meeting presentation can be found [here](#).

H. Committee Reports/Action Items

- **Project Prioritization Committee**

Hunterdon County Commissioner Susan Soloway gave the report and recommended the approval of the two action items before the Board. The first action item is an amendment to the FY 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) transferring \$3.625 million in Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality program funds to NJ TRANSIT for two projects in Passaic County and associated administrative costs. These projects were selected through the NJTPA's Local Mobility Initiatives Program, administered in partnership with NJ TRANSIT. With approval of this action, the Passaic County MOVE Microtransit Program will receive nearly \$2.3 million to expand service into the City of Paterson, and the City of Passaic's Urban Enterprise Zone Shuttle Bus Program will receive \$1 million to expand operations and purchase two buses.

The second action item requested by the NJDOT includes TIP amendments that make changes to six programs and four projects to align funding with anticipated needs. This action will release funds from projects not ready to advance in Federal Fiscal Year 2026 and advance or add funds to those ready for authorization. The changes are as follows:

- Funding removed from two program lines: the Bridge Deck/Superstructure Replacement Program and the Bridge Replacement, Future Projects Program.
- Funds added to four program lines: the Bridge Preventive Maintenance Program, the Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Program, the Local Safety/High Risk Rural Roads Program, and Safety Programs.
- Funds added to three projects – Oak Tree Road Bridge in Middlesex County; the Route 80/15 Interchange in Morris County; and Route 287 from Route 202 to the Ramapo River, in Morris, Bergen and Passaic counties. Programming schedules for these projects are being adjusted to align with the anticipated construction schedules.
- Funding for the Route 80 Eastbound Retaining Wall replacement project in Warren County is being pushed back four years to provide time to complete environmental reviews and approvals required due to the project's location in the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area.

Action Item 1: Minor Amendments to the FY 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program as requested by NJTPA (Attachment H.1) [Details here on page 12.](#)

Passaic County moved the item, Governor's Authorities Unit seconded, and it passed unanimously.

Action Item 2: Minor Amendments to the FY 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program as requested by the New Jersey Department of Transportation (Attachment H.2) [Details here on page 18.](#)

Sussex County moved the item, Hudson County seconded, and it passed unanimously.

- **Planning and Economic Development Committee**

Union County Commissioner Michèle Delisfort reported on the activities of the Planning and Economic Development Committee at the joint meeting. Somerset County officials presented *Powering Ahead*, an electric vehicle study that created a practical fleet electrification roadmap, identified secondary charging corridors, and pinpointed public charging opportunities on county-owned properties. The study evaluated 43 county properties based on electrical access and flood risks, narrowing the list to 14 candidates and selecting three priority sites for the first Phase of implementation.

The presentation highlighted ADA-compliant chargers, wayfinding signage and safety lighting to be installed at Lord Sterling Park Environmental Education Center, Howe Athletic Complex at Colonial Park, and Mountain View Park as part of this first phase. The fleet plan also includes a phased implementation, with plans to electrify sedans and SUVs in the near-term, while monitoring the potential electrification of heavy-duty construction vehicles. The timeline includes short-term financial and design steps that can be completed in the next year, mid-term initiatives for the next one to five years, and long-term vehicle conversions. The final report was completed

last month and will go before the Somerset County Planning Board for adoption this summer or early fall. Once adopted, engineering, design, and funding coordination will begin. Commissioner Delisfort also extended her congratulations to Mr. Ritter on his retirement.

Freight Initiatives Committee

Sussex County Commissioner Jack DeGroot presented the Freight Initiatives Committee report. The meeting included an update from NJTPA staff on the continuing work on Freight Concept Development Program Studies, including the Middlesex County North-South Truck Corridor Project, and the East Hanover Bridge Catenary Rail Clearance Project. Consultants are developing alternatives for both studies to be presented to local officials and the public later this fiscal year.

The New Jersey Department of Transportation and its consultant, WSP, presented on the Statewide Freight Plan update and used live polling to gather input from participants, who identified priorities areas of focus, concern, and interest.

Committee members reports included; the Port Authority of New York New Jersey saying it continues to coordinate with the New York State and New Jersey departments of transportation on all FIFA-related activity, and their drone cargo pilot program had been underway for four weeks as of the meeting date.

I. Public Participation

There were no comments from the public.

Time and Place of Next Meeting

The next Board meeting is Monday, September 14, 2026, at NJTPA, One Newark Center, (1085 Raymond Blvd.), Newark, NJ 07102.

K. Adjournment

Hunterdon County made a motion to adjourn at 11:18 a.m.; Union County seconded, and it carried unanimously.

NORTH JERSEY TRANSPORTATION PLANNING AUTHORITY, INC.
Meeting of the Board of Trustees
Attendance Record: July 13, 2026

Subregion/ Agency	Voting Board Members/Alternates	Staff & Others
Middlesex County	Hon. Charles Kenny	Andrew Lappitt
Warren County	Ryan Conklin	
Morris County	John Hayes	Ryan Sprong
Passaic County	Andras Holzmann	
Bergen County	Hon. James J. Tedesco III	
Union County	Hon. Michèle Delisfort	Ricardo Matias, Kamal Saleh
Essex County	David Antonio	
Hudson County	Mark Kataryniak	
Hunterdon County	Hon. Susan Soloway	Bob Hornby, Alan Hunt
City of Jersey City	Elias Guseman	
City of Newark	James Adams	Trevor Howard
Monmouth County	Joseph Ettore	
Ocean County	Hon. Frank Sadeghi	Mark Jehnke
Sussex County	Hon. Jack DeGroot	Tom Drabic
Office of the Governor	Blair Gerold	
NJDOT	Mike Manzella	
NJ TRANSIT	John Dean	Megan Massey, RJ Palladino
PANYNJ	Jay Shuffield	

Other Attendees

Various members of Central Staff	NJTPA
Ted Del Guercio, III	McManimon, Scotland & Baumann, LLC
Edward Murray	Photographer
Bob Werkmeister	GPI
Samantha DeAndrea	Somerset County

Approved July 13, 2026

**DRAFT RESOLUTION: MINOR AMENDMENT TO THE FY 2026-2029
TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AS
REQUESTED BY NJTPA**

WHEREAS, the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority, Inc. (NJTPA) has been designated by the Governor of New Jersey as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the northern New Jersey region; and

WHEREAS, the NJTPA adopted the FY 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) on September 8, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the NJTPA on January 12, 2026 approved a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) among the NJTPA, the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT), and NJ TRANSIT on procedures to amend and modify the State Transportation Improvement Program and the NJTPA TIP; and

WHEREAS, the TIP may be revised any time; and

WHEREAS, according to the MOU when a project is added or funds are added above the specified threshold and a new air quality conformity determination is not required, this constitutes a minor amendment; and

WHEREAS, the NJDOT has requested a minor amendment to the FY 2026-2029 TIP to transfer and flex funding from the Local Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Initiatives Program (DBNUM X065) to the Small/Special Services Program (DBNUM T120) to advance two transit projects located in Passaic County, selected under the NJTPA Local Mobility Initiatives Program;

WHEREAS, fiscal constraint is maintained by adding federal funds available from the Local CMAQ Initiative Program; and

WHEREAS, these minor amendments are exempt from an air quality conformity analysis as per the Transportation Conformity Rule (40 CFR 93.126 and 93.127) and do not impact the current conformity determination; and

WHEREAS, Congestion Management Process requirements do not apply to these actions; and

WHEREAS, the FY 2026- 2029 TIP conforms to federal performance-based planning requirements; and

WHEREAS, consistent with NJTPA public participation procedures, the NJTPA has provided opportunities for review of these actions; and

WHEREAS, no action authorized by the NJTPA shall have force or effect until 10 days, Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays excepted, after a copy of the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Trustees has

been delivered to the Governor for review, unless prior to expiration of the review period the Governor shall approve same, in which case the action shall become effective upon such approval.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority hereby approves the specified minor amendments to the FY 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution is forwarded to the NJDOT and NJ TRANSIT for submission to the Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration.

Approved July 13, 2026

**DRAFT RESOLUTION: MINOR AMENDMENT TO THE FY 2026-2029
TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AS
REQUESTED BY NJDOT**

WHEREAS, the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority, Inc. (NJTPA) has been designated by the Governor of New Jersey as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the northern New Jersey region; and

WHEREAS, the NJTPA adopted the FY 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) on September 8, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the NJTPA on January 12, 2026 approved a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) among the NJTPA, the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT), and NJ TRANSIT on procedures to amend and modify the State Transportation Improvement Program and the NJTPA TIP; and

WHEREAS, the TIP may be revised any time; and

WHEREAS, according to the MOU when a project is added or deleted, or funds are added above the specified threshold and a new air quality conformity determination is not required, this constitutes a minor amendment; and

WHEREAS, the NJDOT has requested a minor amendment to the FY 2026-2029 TIP to align funding with anticipated need and/or increase federal funds to the Bridge Preventive Maintenance Program (DBNUM 13323); Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Program (DBNUM 22350); Local Safety/High Risk Rural Roads Program (DBNUM 04314); Oak Tree Road Bridge, CR 604 (DBNUM 99316); Route 80 EB, Retaining Wall Replacement (DBNUM 22360); Route 80/15 Interchange (DBNUM 93139); Route 287, Route 202 to Ramapo River (DBNUM 14359); and Safety Programs (DBNUM 19370); and to remove federal funds on the Bridge Deck/Superstructure Replacement Program (DBNUM 03304) and Bridge Replacement, Future Projects (DBNUM 08381); and

WHEREAS, fiscal constraint is maintained by adding federal funds available from unobligated balances and through a fiscal constraint bank which contains a net zero or positive balance in the first four years (FY 26 through FY 29) of the TIP; and

WHEREAS, these minor amendments are exempt from an air quality conformity analysis as per the Transportation Conformity Rule (40 CFR 93.126 and 93.127) and do not impact the current conformity determination; and

WHEREAS, Congestion Management Process requirements do not apply to these actions; and

WHEREAS, the FY 2026- 2029 TIP conforms to federal performance-based planning requirements; and

WHEREAS, consistent with NJTPA public participation procedures, the NJTPA has provided opportunities for review of these actions; and

WHEREAS, no action authorized by the NJTPA shall have force or effect until 10 days, Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays excepted, after a copy of the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Trustees has been delivered to the Governor for review, unless prior to expiration of the review period the Governor shall approve same, in which case the action shall become effective upon such approval.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority hereby approves the specified minor amendments to the FY 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution is forwarded to the NJDOT for submission to the Federal Highway Administration.