

Monmouth County Transportation Council Quarterly Newsletter



Issue Twelve - Spring 2020

More Electric Vehicle Chargers Coming to the Turnpike

Tesla Motors and the New Jersey Turnpike Authority have a new agreement to install new electric vehicle chargers at six service areas, as well as additional charging equipment to two others that are already equipped. This will bring the total number of chargers at Turnpike service areas to 64 Tesla chargers, and 12 EVgo chargers. Tesla will also be installing infrastructure to allow another provider to install an additional 24 chargers further raising the capacity for a [total of 100 electric vehicle chargers](#).



New Alert System to Help Police Apprehend Hit and Run Drivers

[The Zack Alert](#) is a new system being rolled out in New Jersey that is similar to the Amber and Silver Alerts already in place. If a pedestrian is seriously injured or killed by a driver who flees the scene; police will coordinate with state transportation agencies and the media to alert the public and request their assistance. This system is in honor of Hoboken resident Zackhary Simmons, who was struck and killed in a hit and run incident in 2016.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- [MCTC Meeting](#) April 14, 7p.m., Hall of Records Annex, Freehold

Did you know?

New Jersey is the national leader in the [Complete Streets Campaign](#) with [154 municipalities](#) and [8 counties](#) having adopted [Complete Streets policies](#). In 2010 the National Complete Streets Coalition ranked NJDOT's Complete Streets policy #1 out of 210 policies nationwide.

Participate with the Council

If you have an interest in transportation, we invite you to contact the staff advisors to the Monmouth County Transportation Council at transportation@co.monmouth.nj.us and find out about ways you can participate or volunteer with us.

License, Registration, and Real ID Deadlines Extended

Drivers who have [licenses or registrations that expire in March, April, or May will receive an automatic two-month extension](#). Additionally, [the federal deadline for Real IDs has been pushed back from its current date of October 1st](#) to reduce congestion at Motor Vehicle Commission Locations once Covid19 Precautions have ended.

Waze is Sharing Their Traffic Data

Waze is partnering with government agencies willing to share data. In order to increase the accuracy of their application Waze will provide data that will help municipalities manage traffic and make informed roadway improvements and policies. [Visit the Waze Connected Citizens Program website to find out more.](#)



More Cash, No Fare Hike, and New Board Members for NJ TRANSIT

NJ TRANSIT will not be raising fares this upcoming year and will instead [be receiving an increase in funding](#) intended to help the agency enhance operations and hire additional employees. Additionally, after years of having only four members, the State Senate has confirmed [four new NJ TRANSIT Board Members have been appointed](#) while two more are still being vetted. The NJ TRANSIT Board is on its way to once again having a full voting membership.

Turnpike Authority Planning a Toll Hike for Parkway and Turnpike

On February 25, 2020 the NJ Turnpike Authority announced it will be holding three public meetings regarding a toll increase on both the Garden State

NJ Announced \$3M for Transportation Initiatives

Local aid grants totaling 3 million dollars have been awarded to thirteen New Jersey municipalities for [bikeway, safe streets to transit, and transit village projects](#).

Transportation Trends of the New Decade

In the last decade we witnessed a rapid growth in electric vehicle and charging industry, the introduction of electric scooters, and a huge growth in delivery vehicles due to e-commerce. [These transportation trends are predicted to continue to grow in 2020 and beyond.](#)

Electric Car Sales Surge in Europe

[121% more electric vehicles were registered in January 2020 than the year before for a total of 74,663 plug-in cars.](#)

Parkway and New Jersey Turnpike. [Drivers using the New Jersey Turnpike will see a 36% increase in tolls while Garden State Parkway tolls will be increased by 27%.](#) The increase in tolls is intended to help pay for needed capital improvements along both highways.



Monmouth County Biking, Walking, and Hiking Trails

Those looking to escape their homes as warmer weather arrives should explore [Monmouth County's many biking, walking, and hiking trails](#). The Henry Hudson Trail and Union Transportation Trail provide long scenic biking and walking routes through numerous municipalities while mountain biking, hiking, and leisure trails can be found throughout Monmouth County in its many parks.

To help you find a trail appropriate to your desired activity and skill level check out [the Monmouth County Park System's interactive trail map](#). The interactive map allows you to explore trails, their difficulty levels, and conditions.

Spring Driving Tips

We may have avoided the snow this winter but the wear and tear of the cold winter will be visible on the road as new potholes appear. Warmer weather means animals will be more active crossing roads, and spring rainstorms make roads slippery. On top of all that, bicyclists, motorcyclists, and pedestrians will be returning to the roadways and crosswalks.

So check your headlights and windshield wipers to ensure proper visibility during rainstorms, your tire pressure to lessen the risk of sliding, and keep your eyes peeled for wildlife, new potholes, and all types of travelers on the road. [Trafficsschoolonline.com has published a good set of tips for drivers.](#)

**Have a question, comment or hot tip? Send us an email:
transportation@co.monmouth.nj.us**

About This Newsletter

The purpose of this newsletter is to inform Monmouth County citizens about transportation topics and related events in their community. This newsletter is produced by the Monmouth County Division of Planning Transportation Section for the Monmouth County Transportation Council. The County of Monmouth and the Board of Chosen Freeholders do not necessarily share the viewpoints of the material mentioned in this newsletter.

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