

Monmouth County Transportation Council Quarterly Newsletter



Issue Thirteen - Summer 2020

NJ Investing Heavily in Electrifying the Transportation Sector

New Jersey is allocating money to help meet [two top priorities: electrifying the transportation sector as well as addressing poor air quality and health issues in low and moderate income communities](#). This will be done through multiple initiatives including helping NJ TRANSIT purchase electric vehicles, spurring investment in clean energy technologies and [providing funds for the replacement of older heavy duty vehicles such as dump trucks, garbage trucks, school buses, and port and airport equipment](#).



NJ TRANSIT to Begin Testing Contactless Ticketing

NJ TRANSIT is installing [14 new ticketing machines that are intended to be quicker and easier for riders to use](#). They are to be placed in the park and rides in Old Bridge, Allwood, and Route 23 park and rides, at the Metuchen, Hamilton Princeton Junction, and Trenton train stations, and Tonnelle Avenue, Branch Brook Park, and Broad Street Light rail stops.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- [MCTC Meeting July 14](#), 7p.m. to be held online.

Did you know?

The COVID-19 outbreak has caused at least a [60% decrease in vehicle miles traveled in all states](#) and has dropped the nation fuel use from \$4.6 Billion in early March to \$1.3 Billion in the second week of April.

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.

Taking Advantage of

License, Registration Deadlines Extended now until July 31st

[All expired licenses, registrations, inspections, and temporary tags have been extended until July 31, 2020.](#) Drivers are being encouraged to conduct whatever business they can through the Motor Vehicle Commissions webpage to avoid long lines once MVC offices reopen.

Fewer Bridges in New Jersey are in Need of Major Repairs.

The Federal Highway Administration's annual report found that fewer bridges in the state have been rated as structurally deficient, or in poor condition than any year in the past decade. [While many more still require repairs and rehabilitation, the rise in bridge repairs has been attributed to the increase in the gasoline tax.](#)



Turnpike Authority Planning a Toll Hike for Parkway and Turnpike

Beginning September 13, 2020 the [average toll for passenger vehicles will increase by \\$1.30 on the New Jersey Turnpike and cash tolls along the Garden State Parkway are increasing from \\$1.50 to \\$1.90.](#) These toll increases are intended to fund [the Turnpike Authority's \\$24 billion Capital Plan.](#)

COVID-19 to Get Things Done

Municipalities and cities around the Country have taken advantage of the decrease in road users during the COVID-19 pandemic to [complete long overdue transportation improvement and transit construction.](#)

NJ TRANSIT Twitter

NJ TRANSIT offers expedited information about your preferred transit service through social media. Get the information that is useful to you and your routes using the following links:

[North Jersey Coast Line](#)

[Northeast Corridor](#)

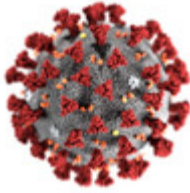
[North Jersey Buses](#)

[All other NJ TRANSIT Social Media Accounts](#)

EZ Ride Offering Free Rides to Asbury Park Residents

[EZ Ride is offering free rides through their Ryde4Life Program to all Asbury Park Residents aged 18 and over to get to their doctor's appointment or food shopping within a 15 mile of their home.](#)

NJ TRANSIT Strategic and Capital



Commuting May have Been Permanently Changed by COVID-19

As the state reopens, experts believe businesses will not look to bring their entire workforce back to the office. Many employers have found working remotely to be very efficient and may plan to physically downsize their businesses. Additionally to prevent further outbreak of the virus, many employers are looking to stagger employee start times. [Together these efforts may lower the total number of vehicles on the road and spread traffic out past conventional peak travel hours.](#)

Improvement Plans Available for Review

NJ TRANSIT has unveiled their [10-Year Strategic Plan](#) which outlines their plan of action to support changes in ridership and a changing environment as well as their [5-Year Capital Plan](#) to fund improvements.

Borough of Keyport: Complete Streets Policy and Implementation Plan

The NJTPA is in the early stages of a consultant-supported study with the Borough of Keyport to develop a Complete Streets Policy and Implementation Plan for the Borough. The primary goal of this study is to develop a plan and ordinance that will institutionalize and streamline the integration of complete streets elements into future municipal transportation planning and land use decisions. The study process includes a thorough public engagement element that will seek input from local stakeholders, residents and community members to foster consensus and support for context-sensitive complete streets designs, including conducting a walkability workshop and implementing a high-profile complete streets demonstration project. This NJTPA-funded effort is one of two projects in this year's Planning for Emerging Centers Program, which is a competitive program that provides technical assistance to municipalities in advancing sustainable transportation and land use planning at the local level.

Summer Driving Tips

At long last the warm weather is finally here, but with it comes some travel challenges. Heavy rainstorms, high temperatures, and changes in travel patterns are all part of driving in the summertime. Additionally, Monmouth County's beach communities attract visitors who may be unfamiliar with the area, and drive, bike, and walk in ways and places residents may not be expecting.

[The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration offers the following tips for staying safe on the road this summer.](#)

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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