

MONMOUTH COUNTY PLANNING BOARD TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL

JAMES GIANNELL
Planning Board Chairperson



ANTHONY GARAGUSO
Council Chairperson

Minutes for the Meeting of the
Monmouth County Transportation Council
Tuesday, September 12, 2023
Monmouth County Planning Board
1 E. Main Street
Hall of Records Annex
Freehold, New Jersey 07728

I. CALL TO ORDER - 7:13 p.m.

II. ATTENDANCE – ROLL CALL

Members Present

Garaguso, Anthony – Chair
Vernick, Jeff – Vice Chair
Barrett, Betsy
Gregory, Allison
Nelson, Eric
Ponzio, Nicholas
Van Nortwick, Peter

Staff Present

Furmanec, Victor
Popovech, Michael
Nei, Michael
Christianson, Sidney

Members Unexcused

Lucarelli, Benjamin

III. REVIEW OF MINUTES

Approval of the Council's May 9, 2023, meeting minutes was sought by Mr. Garaguso. Ms. Gregory motioned to accept the minutes, seconded by Mr. Ponzio, and then accepted unanimously by the Council, with the exception of Mr. Vernick who abstained.

IV. PRESENTATION

- NJDOT Proposed Urban Areas Boundary Update, Sidney Christianson, Monmouth County Planning

Mr. Christianson gave a presentation on areas in Monmouth County that the NJDOT would like to define as urban , and Monmouth County's response to the proposed change in the urban/rural designation of three particular areas. The County Planning staff has recommended to NJTPA that these three areas, located in Upper Freehold, Manalapan, and Freehold Township, should remain as rural areas according to their prevailing development character. Mr. Popovech, Mr. Furmanec, and Mr. Nei clarified that the purpose of the analysis was to respond to NJTPA collaboration with its counties and other planning organizations for comment on NJDOT's proposed changes to the mapping of urban and rural areas. The way these areas are designated impacts the continuity of rules and regulations in the region, as well as the eligibility of traffic and transit projects for federal and state funding sources.

V. NEW BUSINESS

None

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VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Kradjel had a question regarding what the funding designated for urban areas can be used for. Mr. Kradjel acknowledged the funding being available for roadway projects and improvement, but also questioned if the funding will be used for other transportation related projects such as public transit or other sources of transportation. Mr. Furmanec responded that the Council will work on getting a response for next meeting.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Popovech updated the Council that staff is actively looking for presenters and has reached out to organizations about attending/presenting at a meeting. Also, material from the Planning Board staff will be available to share at future meetings in the coming months. Mr. Garaguso commented on the Engineering Department's presentation at the May meeting and discussed the possibility of an updated version on recently completed projects in the County.

Mr. Vernick asked about the timeline for the Fall newsletter. Mr. Popovech replied that efforts had not yet begun but staff is open to receiving articles and other material from different sources. He noted that the timeline for the release of the next newsletter is the first week of October.

VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Garaguso announced the next meeting of the MCTC will be held on Tuesday, October 10, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. The meeting will be held in person with a virtual option using WebEx.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Following a motion by Mr. Nelson to adjourn the meeting, and seconded by Ms. Gregory, the meeting was adjourned at 7:44 p.m.