

Monmouth County Transportation Council Quarterly Newsletter



Issue Fifteen - Winter 2021

Motor Vehicle Commission Agencies and COVID-19

[Motor Vehicle Commission \(MVC\) Agencies will no longer accept walk-ins.](#) The majority of MVC services are now available online and an appointment is required for the few services that still require a visit to an MVC Agency. Anyone who visits an MVC Agency for a service that is offered online or requires an appointment will be turned away. The MVC has developed [a Cheat Sheet](#) to help you make appointments, and complete online transactions.

In addition, many Motor Vehicle Commission Agencies have been forced to temporarily close due to COVID-19 concerns, and with growing infection rates, more agencies will most likely experience closings as well. [Check your MVC Agency's status by visiting the NJMVC webpage.](#)



NJ TRANSIT App's New "My Active Trip" Feature

[Their "My Active Trip" feature](#) allows a user to set your desired destination station and sends push notifications to alert the user when they are approaching their stop. If you are a regular commuter who tends to read, get distracted or even nap on your commute, then this feature will keep you from missing your stop.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- [MCTC Meeting January 12, 7p.m.](#) to be held online

Did you know?

[A 2019 survey of seven cities revealed](#) 45% of shared micromobility users (bikes and scooters) said if micromobility had not been available they would have used a car or rideshare to complete their trip. Another 9% stated they would have used transit, 28% would have walked, and 18% percent would have used another mode or not made the trip at all.

Electric Vehicle Resources for Local Government

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection has released an [Electric Vehicle Resources Flyer for Local Governments](#) and activists interested in electrifying their local

The NJ TRANSIT app is available for Android and IOS and can be found in your app store.

Electric Vehicle Purchasers Will Now Save Thousands in Rebates and Tax Credits

[New Electric Vehicle \(EV\) Legislation in New Jersey sets aggressive goals](#) for EV sales, and a Statewide charging network. New Jersey plans to achieve these goals by providing grants for public vehicle chargers and [a new rebate program for electric vehicle purchases of up to \\$5,000](#). That rebate, coupled with a \$7,500 federal income tax credit and zero state sales tax, adds up to a saving of thousands of dollars.



New Penn Station Waiting Room Available to NJ TRANSIT Customers

[AMTRAK has completed refurbishing a New York Penn Station waiting room](#) near the main concourse that provides new furniture with electrical and USB outlets to charge devices, two passenger information display system boards, a new information desk and a new entrance close to NJ TRANSIT's Seventh Avenue Concourse. This waiting area is available to all NJ TRANSIT and AMTRAK customers who have purchased a train ticket.

[Those traveling to Newark Penn Station will also be seeing improvements](#) such as upgraded restrooms, new seating, various quality of life improvements as well as

transportation network. Find ways to replace municipal fleets and old heavy duty diesel vehicles to electric vehicles, fund electric vehicle chargers, and incentivize residents and developers to adopt electric vehicles.

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.

The Regional Plan Association Recommends Investing in our Bus Network

Recent data shows the majority of NJ TRANSIT customers base utilize their bus services rather than rail services. Because of this, The Regional Plan Association recommends New Jersey [increase funding for new buses, new bus infrastructure such as dedicated bus lanes, give buses priority at signaled intersections and more.](#)

Monmouth County Bridge and Road Projects

Monmouth County is working hard to maintain and update key

added dining and shopping.

Existing Hudson Rail Tunnels May Be Repaired Before New Tunnels are Built



Some believe [crews working overnight and on weekends may be able to repair the existing rail tunnels under the Hudson River](#) and avoid waiting for Gateway Project funding. [Others feel this may cause the construction of the new Gateway rail tunnels to be delayed.](#) Both viewpoints agree the tunnels are in serious need of rehabilitation due to concerns of the century old rail tunnels succumbing to existing damage caused by Super Storm Sandy.

Extension of New York Penn Station to be Completed in January

[AMTRAK's new Moynihan Train Hall will be opening in January 2021.](#) Adaptively re-purposing the former Farley Post Office Building (built 1913) that stood across 8th Avenue from the original Pennsylvania Railroad station (built 1910, demolished 1963), New York City will finally restore a modern world-class rail travel space designed to serve AMTRAK's regional and long-distance passenger train customers. [Review a list of amenities and renderings of the new Moynihan Train Hall](#) or [watch a virtual fly through of the station itself.](#)

NJ TRANSIT's Meets Positive Train Control (PTC) Deadline

After being deemed the only rail operator in danger of missing the December 31, 2020 Deadline by Federal regulators [NJ TRANSIT has successfully completed the installation of Positive Train Control.](#)

roadway and bridge infrastructure throughout the County. Learn what projects are under construction, review, or consideration as well as how to get involved on the [Monmouth County Webpage.](#)

We Are Hiring

The Monmouth County Division of Planning is hiring a Planner Trainee for their Transportation Unit. If you or someone you know is interested and would like more information, please review the posted [job description and requirements.](#)

Grant money available for Senior and Disabled Transportation

The Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Grant Program provides financial support for programs that meet the needs of seniors and disabled citizens. Interested organizations and municipalities can find more information on [the NJ TRANSIT webpage.](#)



Get Involved With the Monmouth Within Reach Study

Whether you live here year-round or visit for the world class beaches and entertainment, Monmouth County is the place you want to be. Monmouth Within Reach is a federally funded study to develop strategies and best practices to reduce congestion related to tourism and events by using the resources we have to more effectively manage the demands on our transportation network.

A study like this needs your input, so please help us help you by visiting the MonmouthWithinReach.com, taking our survey, and signing up for study and online event updates. We want to hear about your experience travelling in the County on heavy travel days.

Winter Driving Tips

Winter has just arrived in Monmouth County and whether or not there is snow on the ground, getting around in the cold has its own unique challenges. AAA.com has published a good set of tips for how to stay safe driving through the winter season.

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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