

NJDOT
TRANSIT VILLAGE
INITIATIVE:

2023
OUTREACH
EVENT





Meet our speakers



Andrew Swords

NJDOT | Director

Statewide Planning



Kyle Skala

NJDOT | Project Manager

State Aid Grant Programs
Division of Local Aid & Economic
Development



Megan Massey, AICP

NJ Transit | Assistant Director

Transit Friendly Planning

2023 Outreach Event



Webinar Topics:

- Opening Remarks
- **An Overview of the Transit Village Initiative**
- *Andrew Swords*
- **The Transit Village Grant Program**
- *Kyle Skala*
- **NJ Transit Resources for TOD and Overview of Transit Friendly Planning Program**
- *Megan Massey*
- **Questions and Answer/ Discussion Session**

Webinar to New Jersey municipalities to encourage interest and acquaint them with the Transit Village Initiative.

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#7850121**



Which of the following are you affiliated with?

slido



Which best describe you?

① Start presenting to display the poll results on this slide.



**Is your municipality a designated
Transit Village?**



What type of Transit asset is available in your community?

Overview of NJ's Transit Village Initiative



- NJDOT's Transit Village Initiative **helps local communities to grow through compact, mixed-use development around transit facilities.**
- Is a multi-agency smart growth partnership spearheaded by NJDOT and NJ Transit that **incentivizes the redevelopment and revitalization** of areas around existing transit facilities.
- Seeks to **reduce traffic** congestion and improve air quality by **increasing transit ridership**



What is a Designated Transit Village?



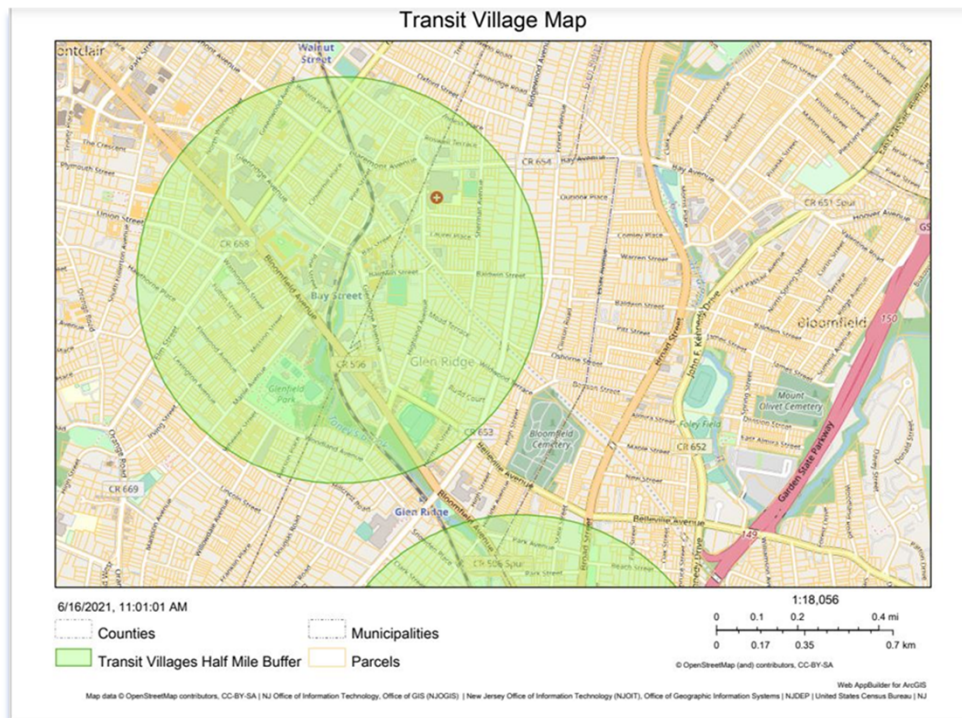
A Designated Transit Village needs to meet the following criteria:

- I. Has a transit facility with significant convergence of transit services
- II. Demonstrates a willingness to grow in a transit supportive way
- III. Adopts Transit-oriented Development (TOD) redevelopment plans or TOD zoning ordinances
- IV. Identifies and pursues TOD sites/projects within ½ mile of the transit facility
- V. Identifies both bicycle and pedestrian improvements within ½ mile of the transit facility
- VI. Identifies placemaking projects within ½ mile of the transit facility providing “Eyes on the street” making safer and cleaner environment

“Eyes on the street” is a term that refers to people and activity at street level that provide natural surveillance which results in a safe and lively environment for pedestrians



Proposed Transit Village District must be within ½ mile radius



Sample Transit Village map with ½ mile radius (Montclair).

**The half-mile radius is the national standard for pedestrian catchment around a transit facility; roughly a ten minute walk. Large cities and denser locales may choose to plan/zone for a larger transit village district, however, it is important to note that for the purposes of the Transit Village Initiative, State funding and assistance will be directed inside the half-mile radius.*

The Transit Village Initiative started in 1999 with five pilot communities...



- Pleasantville (Atlantic)
- Morristown (Morris)
- Rutherford (Bergen)
- South Orange (Essex)
- South Amboy (Middlesex)



**...and grew to comprise 35 communities located along
bus and train lines around the state**

1999

Pleasantville City (Atlantic)
Morristown Town (Morris)
Rutherford Borough (Bergen)
South Amboy City (Middlesex)
South Orange Village (Essex)

2005

New Brunswick City (Middlesex)
Jersey City-Journal Square (Hudson)
Netcong Borough (Morris)

2012

East Orange City (Essex)
Dunellen Borough (Middlesex)

2013

Summit City (Union)

2014

City of Plainfield (Union)

2015

Irvington Township (Essex)
Park Ridge Borough (Bergen)
Hackensack (Bergen)

Riverside Township (Burlington)

2001

Rahway City (Union)

2002

Metuchen Borough Middlesex
Belmar Borough (Monmouth)
Bloomfield Township (Essex)
Bound Brook Borough (Somerset)
Collingswood Borough (Camden)
Cranford Township (Union)
Matawan Borough (Monmouth)

2003

City of Orange Twp (Essex)

2009

Elizabeth City-Midtown (Union)
Burlington City (Burlington)

2007

West Windsor Township (Mercer)

2011

Montclair Township (Essex)
Somerville Borough (Somerset)
Linden City (Union)

2010

Long Branch (Monmouth)

2016

Asbury Park (Monmouth)

2017

Newark City (Essex)

2021

Atlantic City (Atlantic)

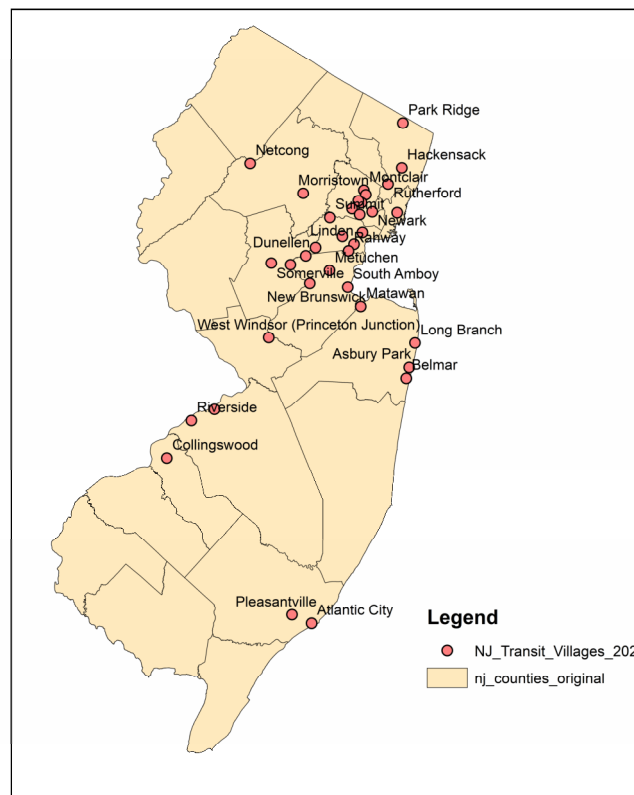
2023

06/28/2023

NJDOT TRANSIT VILLAGE INITIATIVE:
2023 OUTREACH EVENT



Map of the Designated Transit Villages in New Jersey



06/28/2023

NJDOT TRANSIT VILLAGE INITIATIVE:
2023 OUTREACH EVENT

Transit Village Task Force – Nine NJ State Agency Voting Members:

1. Department of Transportation (NJDOT)
2. NJ TRANSIT (NJT)
3. Department of Community Affairs
4. Department of Environmental Protection
5. Economic Development Authority
6. Redevelopment Authority
7. Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency
8. Office for Planning Advocacy (Dept. of State)
9. State Council on the Arts (Dept. of State)

Three NJ MPOs (DVRPC, NJTPA, SJTPO) participate on the Task Force as non-voting members





Designated Transit Villages are Eligible for:

- Coordinated **assistance** from the **Transit Village Task Force** Member Agencies
- **Priority funding** and ranking in various state agency programs
- **NJDOT Transit Village Grant Program**

Elements of a Successful Transit Village

- Sufficient reliable transit options at the focal point
- Parking does not dominate the landscape
- Willingness to grow into a compact, mixed use neighborhood
- “Sense of place” that attracts residents, jobs and visitors



Elements of a Successful Transit Village

- Ease of bicycling and walking for less reliance on motor vehicles
- Transit-supportive site and architectural design guidelines
- No overlay zoning in the Transit Village District
- No new drive-through establishments in the Transit Village District
- Adopted and Implemented Complete Streets Policy



Elements of a Successful Transit Village



Designation Process

**Contact the
NJDOT
Transit
Village
Coordinator**

**Attend the
required Pre-
Application
Meeting**

**Submit an
application
within 6
months**

**If
incomplete,
provide
additional
information
to support
designation
as requested**

**Task Force
vote on
complete
application
and once
deemed
complete**

**Task Force
recommends
designation
to
Commission
er of
Transportati
on**

**NJDOT
Commission
er announces
the Transit
Village
Designation**

Transit Village Designation Requirements

- ✓The citizens of my community have embraced a vision for transit supportive development/redevelopment
- ✓This embraced vision has come to reality through public input and stakeholder outreach
- ✓The current municipal “by-right” zoning reflects this community embraced vision
- ✓My community actively promotes transit usage by enhancing access to and improving the experience at the transit facility

06/28/2023

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Transit Village Team:



Susan Weber, Supervising Transportation Analyst, Statewide Planning

susan.weber@dot.nj.gov 609-369-2240

Jelena Lasko, Senior Planner Transportation, Statewide Planning

jelena.lasko@dot.nj.gov 609-963-2209

Helpful websites:

[Transit Village Initiative Overview, Community Programs \(state.nj.us\)](https://state.nj.us)

[NJ TRANSIT-Transit Friendly Planning Program](#)

[Transit Friendly Planning Newsletter](#)

[Transit Friendly Data Application](#)

[Rutgers Voorhees Transportation Center \(VTC\) Research](#)

Who is the next Transit Village?



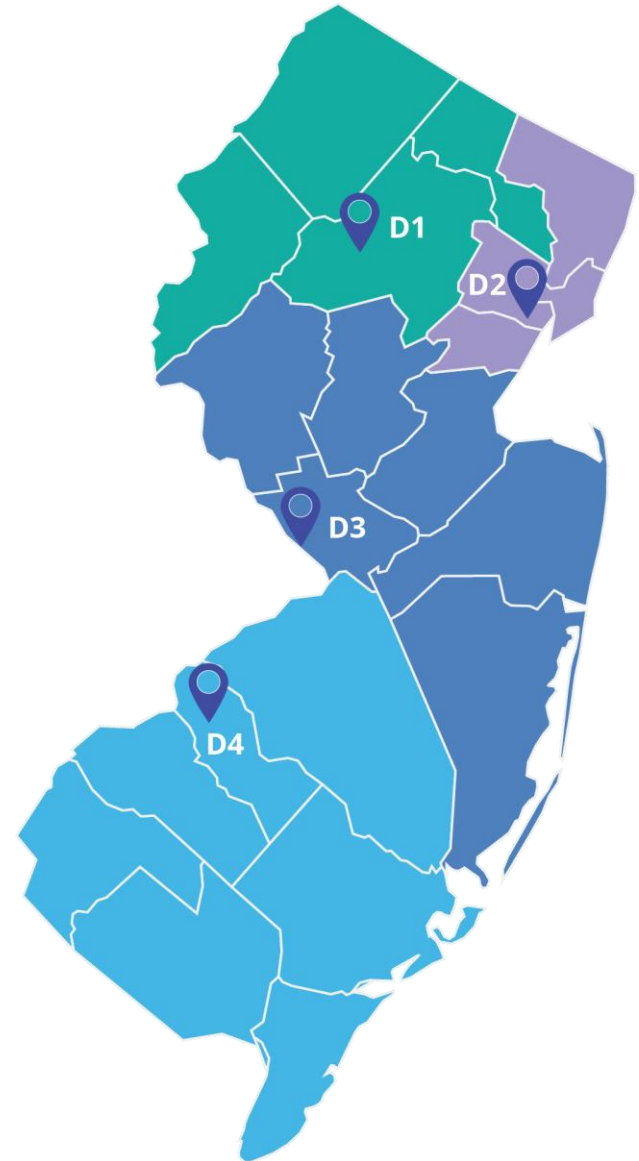


Local Aid's Transit Village Program

Kyle Skala | Project Management Specialist 3 |
Division of Local Aid and Economic Development

WHO ARE WE?

The Division of Local Aid provides grants committed to advancing projects that enhance safety, renew the aging infrastructure and support multimodal transportation opportunities on the local network.

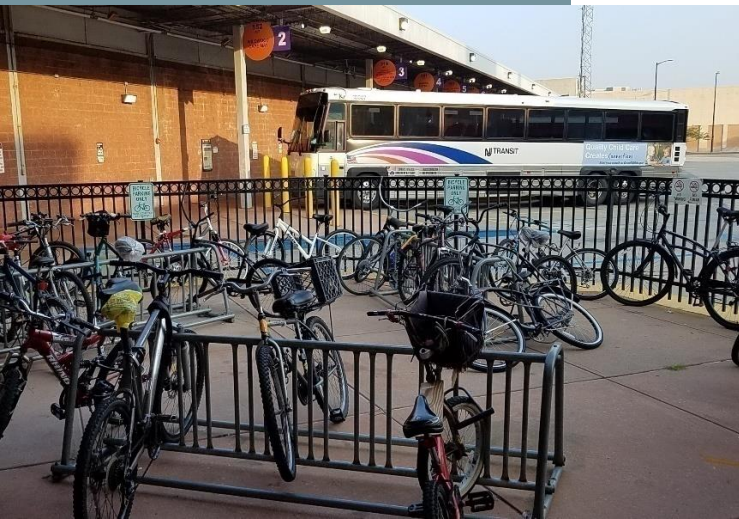


Program Overview



- ✓ TV Program Goals
- ✓ Application Process
 - ✓ System for Administering Grants Electronically (SAGE)
- ✓ Project Management
 - ✓ PMRS (Project Management Reporting System)

Eligible Projects



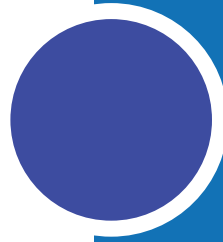
- ✓ Bicycle/pedestrian paths and lanes
- ✓ Bike route signs
- ✓ Bicycle parking and storage
- ✓ Wayfinding signage
- ✓ Information kiosks with transit information
- ✓ Sidewalk Improvements (ADA)
- ✓ Traffic calming measures

Ineligible Projects & Activities



- ✓ Planning
- ✓ Operating costs associated with any project
- ✓ Right-of-way acquisition
- ✓ Resurfacing, rehabilitation/reconstruction, or signalization
- ✓ Projects unrelated to transportation

Project Selection Criteria



- ✓ Improving pedestrian connections
- ✓ Improving bicycle access
- ✓ Enhancing the user's experience
- ✓ Project located with economic opportunity zones
- ✓ Benefits underserved communities

Hackensack Completes Main Street Two-Way Conversion

By FAITH C. BALLANTINE-ARMONAITIS
May 8, 2021 at 2:45 AM



Hackensack Mayor John Labrosse, the City Council, acting City Manager Thomas Freeman, members of the Main Street Alliance, and local business owners celebrated Main Street's return to two-way traffic.
Credits: City of Hackensack

Program Funding

Fiscal Year	Number of Grants Awarded	Total Grant Amount
2019	5	\$1,000,000.00
2020	6	\$1,000,000.00
2021	4	\$1,000,000.00
2022	14*	\$3,818,000.00
2023	10*	\$2,946,000.00

*Additional funds available for the program

THANK YOU!

NJDOT Local Aid Resource Center Contact Information



1035 Parkway Avenue, Trenton, NJ 08625



(609) 649-9395



www.njdotlocalaidrc.com



DOT-LocalAID.ResourceCenter@dot.nj.gov



NJ TRANSIT

The Transit Friendly Planning (TFP) Program was established to provide a direct partnership between NJ TRANSIT and New Jersey communities to promote planning initiatives that encourage smart growth and transit ridership.

Since its creation, the Program has played a leadership role with NJDOT in the Transit Village Initiative.



Transit Friendly
Planning

What is “transit friendly” planning?



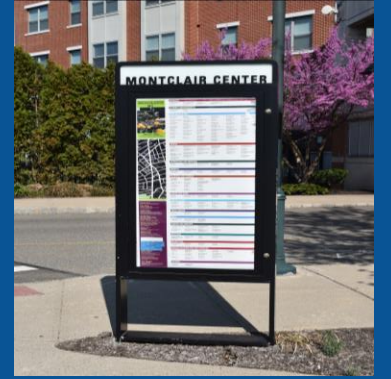
COMMUNITY PROGRAMMING



MIX OF USES NEAR TRANSIT



TRANSIT AREA DEVELOPMENT



WAYFINDING



ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



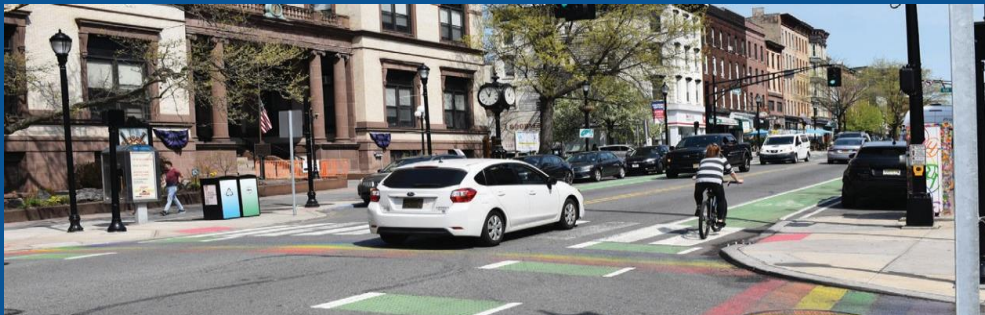
MULTI-USE TRAILS



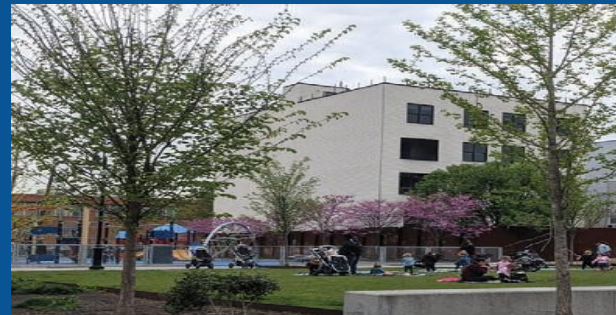
RIGHT-SIZED PARKING FACILITIES



CURBSIDE MANAGEMENT



COMPLETE STREETS



HIGH QUALITY PUBLIC SPACE



RESIDENTIAL DENSITY AND A MIX OF HOUSING

Sources: Top: Mercer Planning Associates. Middle left: NV5. Middle right: Celeste Alsina. Bottom: Mercer Planning Associates.

Sources: Top right: Mercer Planning Associates. Middle left: NJTPA. Middle center: Mercer Planning Associates. Middle right: Noah Harper. Bottom left: Mercer Planning Associates. Bottom right: Mercer Planning Associates.

2. Transit Friendly Planning Guide

TFP Guide Video

3. Implementation Tools

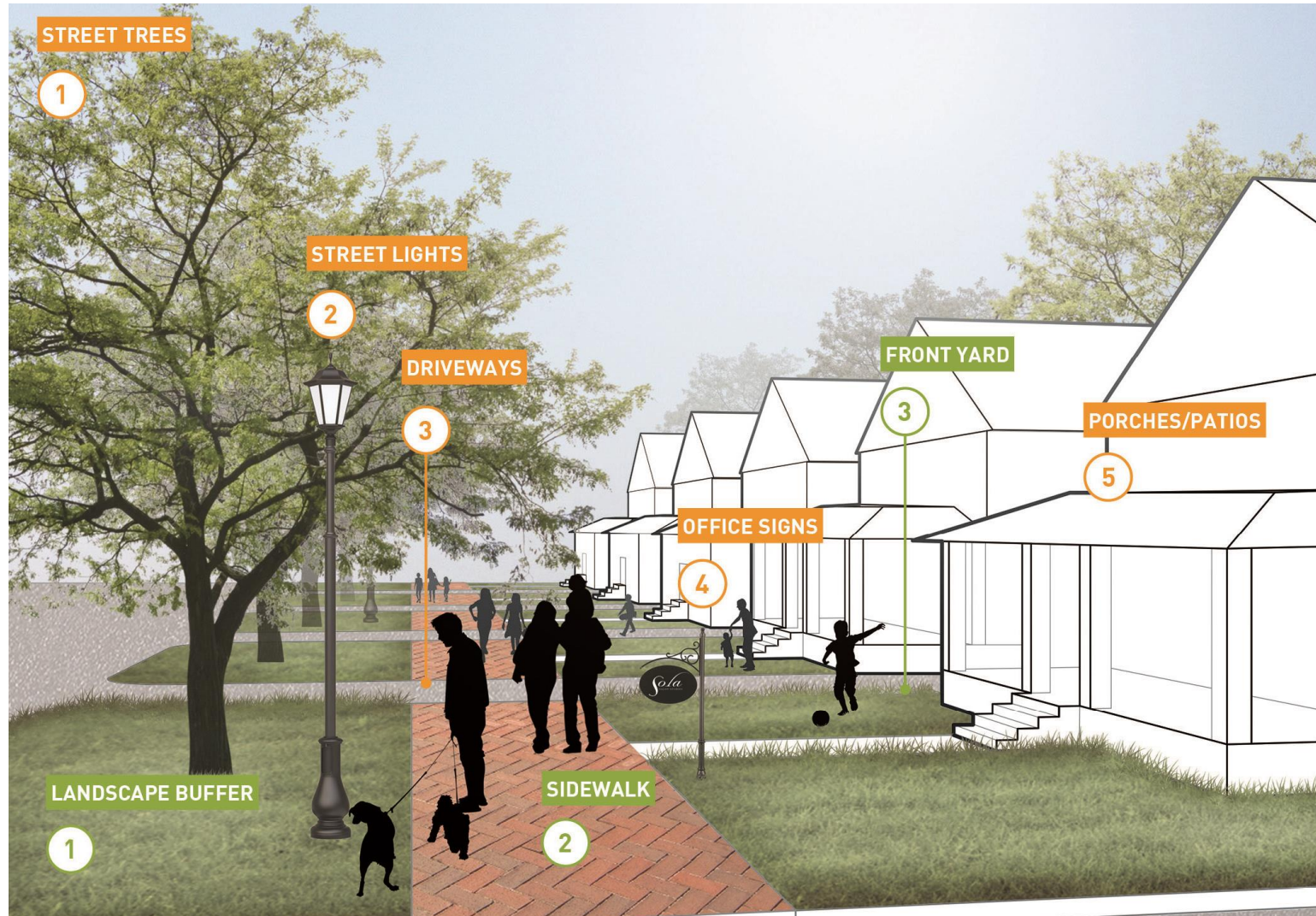
Implementation | Community Engagement



Implementation | Action



Implementation | Guidance and Regulations



Transit Friendly
Planning



Implementation | Plans

- Redevelopment Plans
- Municipal Master Plans
- Complete Streets Plans
- Active Transportation
- Bicycle Master Plans



Implementation | Keys to Success

- Engage community
- Create an equitable approach
- Build partnerships
- Cultivate political support
- Manage expectations
- Score quick/early successes



Implementation | Funding Sources



Selected Grant Programs

Program	Funding Estimate	Website	Phase	Notes
NJDOT Transit Village Grant Program	\$1M available statewide	https://www.njdotlocalaidrc.com/state-funded-programs/transit-village	Planning and Implementation	Assistance for municipalities formally designated as Transit Villages
Transportation Alternative SetAside (TA)	\$150,000-\$1M Match not required	www.njdotlocalaidrc.com/federally-funded-programs/transportation-alternatives	Implementation	Administered by NJDOT in partnership with NJTPA, DVRPC, SJTPO
Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program (CMAQ)	Varies by region	DVRPC: https://www.dvrpc.org/cmaq NJTPA: www.njtpa.org/Projects-Programs/Transportation-Management-Associations-(TMAs)/CMAQ-Program.aspx SJTPO: www.sjtpo.org/cmaq/	Implementation	Federal program administered locally by regional transportation authorities - MPOs
Local Safety Program	Varies by region	www.state.nj.us/transportation/business/localaid/localafety.shtm	Implementation	Typically addresses high priority crash locations
NJ Neighborhood Revitalization Tax Credit (NRTC)	Max \$985,000	www.nj.gov/dca/divisions/dhcr/offices/nrtc.html	Planning	Non-profits in eligible areas
NJDOT Safe Routes to School	To \$1,000,000 Match not required	www.saferoutesnj.org/safe-routes-to-school-grants/	Implementation	ADA compliant sidewalks, bike paths, lighting, signals, traffic calming



6. Online Resources

Transit Friendly Checklist

Land Use & Development

	Yes	Partly	No	N/A
Is there a mix of land uses within the transit area?*	☐	☐	☐	☐
Are higher density developments permitted near the transit area?*	☐	☐	☐	☐
Is there a diversity of spaces, unit sizes, and rental prices to allow for a range of businesses?*	☐	☐	☐	☐
Is there a diversity of housing types within the immediate transit area?*	☐	☐	☐	☐
Is there active ground-floor retail along primary streets in the transit area?*	☐	☐	☐	☐
Is the municipality eligible for, or does it already have, the NJDOT Transit Village designation at a transit facility?*	☐	☐	☐	☐
Is there a downtown BID, main street or downtown-type organization ?*	☐	☐	☐	☐
Is the municipality's highest clustering of jobs within walking distance of the transit facility? (10-15 min walk)*	☐	☐	☐	☐

Back

Next

Page 6 of 10

A line drawing illustration of a transit station platform. In the foreground, a person with dark hair tied back, wearing a light blue shirt and dark pants, stands on the platform holding a clipboard and looking towards the tracks. The platform has a low wall and a series of vertical support pillars. In the background, there are several multi-story buildings with many windows, suggesting an urban setting. The tracks run parallel to the platform, receding into the distance.

The logo for Transit Friendly Planning, featuring a stylized 'T' inside a circle with a horizontal line through it.

Transit Friendly
Planning

The logo for NJ TRANSIT, featuring a large stylized 'N' with 'TRANSIT' written below it.

15

Transit Friendly Planning Newsletter

NJTOD.org

New Jersey's Transit Friendly Planning Newsletter

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TOD News Briefs



The Week in TOD News June 3-9, 2023

NJ to use COVID Stimulus \$ for NJT bus projects • Student mural enlivens Bound Brook Station tunnel • Incentive zoning ...



The Week in TOD News May 26-June 2, 2023

Will Baltimore get its Red Line? • North Brunswick Station • Veterans' TOD • Expanding Amtrak • Canada's New ...



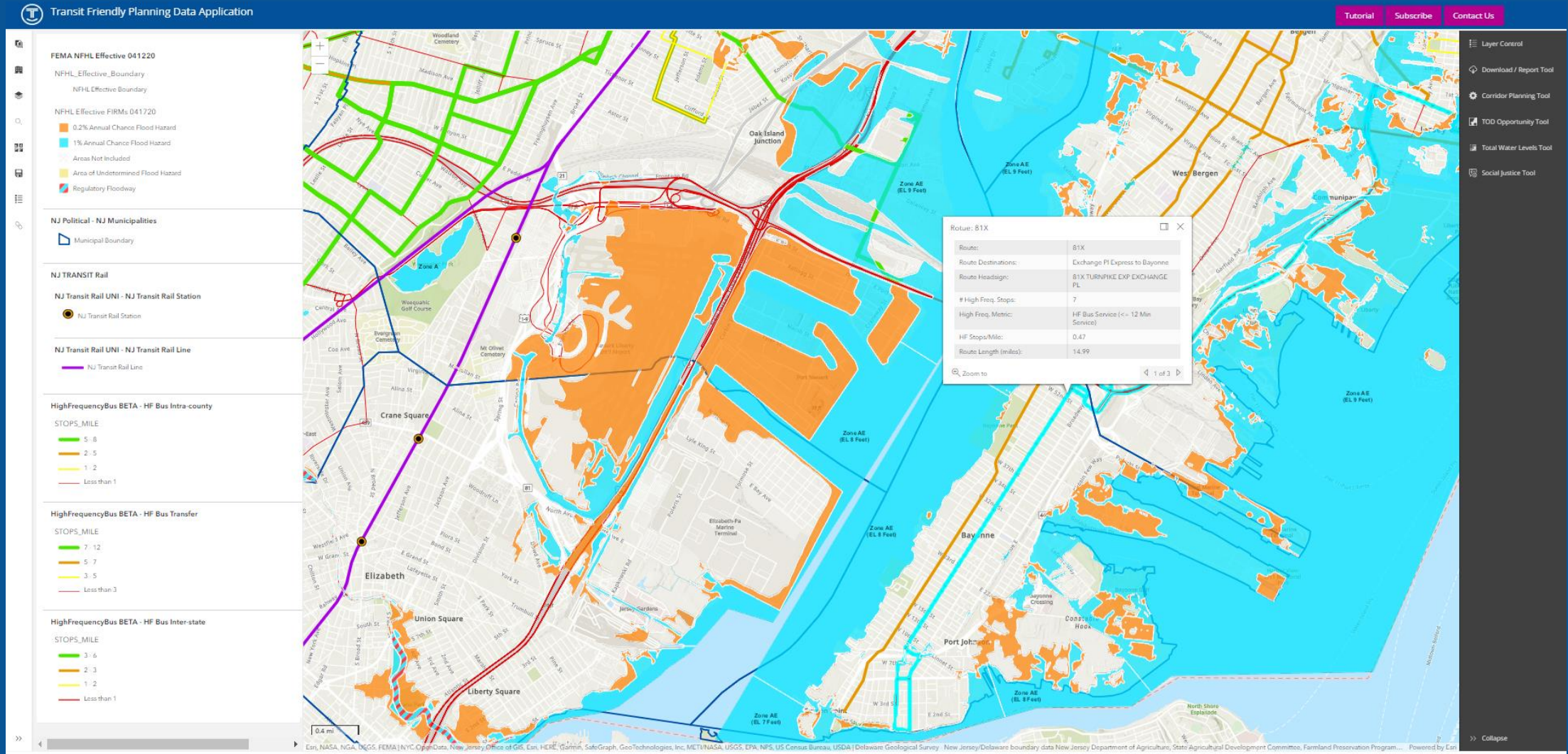
The Week in TOD News May 20-26, 2023

Designing cities for a hotter future • New Brunswick's HELIX Phase II plans • KCATA approves eTOD projects • RIPTA ...



**Transit Friendly
Planning**





Contact Us!

Email: transitfriendly@njtransit.com

Website: www.njtransit.com/transitfriendly

