



JOHN W. BARTLETT, CHAIR

Board Meeting Minutes

March 14, 2022

A. Open Public Meetings Act Compliance

Chair John W. Bartlett, Passaic County called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. Beverly Morris, Central Staff, reported that, in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L.1975, adequate notice of this meeting had been forwarded to the *Star Ledger*, the *Asbury Park Press*, the *Courier News*, the *Daily Record*, the *Home News Tribune*, the *Jersey Journal*, *New Jersey Herald*, and *The Record*.

B. Roll Call

Beverly Morris called the roll. Nineteen voting members were present. (Attachment 1).

C. Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the January 10, 2022 meeting was made by Ocean County, seconded by Morris County and carried unanimously.

D. Chair's Remarks

Chair Bartlett said he is honored to lead the Board and thanked the trustees for entrusting him with the position of Chair. He recognized the Board members who agreed to serve as the NJTPA's new standing committee chairs and vice chairs, beginning in April:

- Planning and Economic Development Committee: Middlesex County Commissioner Charles Kenny, Chair; and Hunterdon County Commissioner Susan Soloway, Vice Chair.
- Project Prioritization Committee: Ocean County Commissioner Jack Kelly, Chair; and Union County Commissioner Bette Jane Kowalski, Vice Chair.
- Freight Initiatives Committee: Warren County Commissioner Jason Sarnoski, Chair; and Somerset County Commissioner Sara Sooy, Vice Chair.

Chair Bartlett said the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) makes it an exciting time for transportation in North Jersey with billions of dollars in new federal infrastructure funding coming to the region. He said there is a great deal of interest coming from county and municipal officials, which he saw last month when he participated in a webinar with Congresswoman Mikie Sherrill on federal transportation funding opportunities for local governments. During the webinar, he spoke about how the NJTPA can work with local leaders as they apply for competitive grants by helping with data, coordinating regional projects, and writing letters of support. The Chair said tying local projects to larger regional needs, as identified in the NJTPA's long-range transportation plan, Plan 2050, will make for stronger applications. He noted that staff will share updates about funding opportunities and related information on the new NJTPA IIJA web page at NJTPA.org/IIJA.

Chair Bartlett said Plan 2050 emphasizes how transportation connects people to opportunity. He said transportation does more than get people from one place to another; it creates economic opportunity by helping the region attract and retain employers and move goods in and around the region and state. Employing new technologies like alternate fuels and greener building practices, he said, helps create a healthier environment.

The Chair said that, even at this moment of funding opportunity with the IIJA, the context remains resource scarcity, and the Board should never shy away from vigorous debate over whether they are allocating these funds in the right ways. He said the region's investments should safeguard infrastructure against extreme weather and ensure the transportation network is safe for all travelers, regardless of their age, income, physical ability, or choice of mode. The Chair said all these themes from Plan 2050 are aligned with the updated federal planning emphasis areas announced earlier this year.

The Chair said the NJTPA has been a leader in public engagement, and he hopes it can continue to build on these efforts, including better explaining the agency's role to residents and engaging them in NJTPA projects and programs. He said he is particularly excited about the pilot Outreach Liaisons Program, under which the NJTPA has recruited a diverse group of community members who will conduct outreach on the agency's behalf to better reach underserved populations. The Chair said he met with them on March 9 during a virtual meeting that featured a discussion of several upcoming NJTPA projects that the agency hopes the group can help with.

Chair Bartlett highlighted the Fiscal Year 2023 Local Concept Development Program studies. He said the Board would vote on \$3.8 million for four studies in Monmouth, Morris, Ocean, and Somerset counties. The program is the first step in the Local Capital Project Delivery Program, which guides projects from initial concepts to construction. He said it is a great program that he has been able to experience firsthand through the Main Avenue Concept Development Study in the City of Passaic. The Chair noted that, even though that study began in 2020 at the height of the pandemic, there was great public involvement, which informed the development of options for improving safety, access to transit, and traffic flow along the busy urban corridor.

Chair Bartlett said he is excited about all that the NJTPA will be able to accomplish together.

E. Executive Director's Report

NJTPA Executive Director Mary D. Ameen said the latest Board of Trustees handbook had been distributed electronically and posted on the NJTPA website. The handbook includes an updated roster of committee members, chairs, and vice chairs and summarizes NJTPA's responsibilities and programs. The handbook includes a contact list of Board members and alternates, the NJTPA by-laws, an organizational chart, and other essential information.

Ms. Ameen said the Board's action that day to approve the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) is the culmination of months of work in cooperation with NJTPA partners and subregions. She said the UPWP guides the work of Central Staff, the subregions, and the Transportation Management Associations in Fiscal Year 2023, which begins July 1. She thanked all who reviewed and commented on the draft. Ms. Ameen said the coming fiscal year will see many new and expanded activities, including making greater use of performance measures to guide investments, an investigation into freight and logistics workforce accessibility, continued work on the Regional Active Transportation Plan, and more.

Ms. Ameen said the partnership with the subregions and local governments will continue with four new subregional studies, the four Local Concept Development studies on the agenda for Board approval, and funding for another round of Planning for Emerging Centers projects. Also, Central Staff will engage in helping the region take advantage of new federal funding opportunities. She said staff members will be keeping an eye out for Notices of Funding Opportunities (NOFOs), post links to them on the [IIJA resource webpage](#) as they are issued, and assist county and local governments in the applications process by providing data, letters of support, and coordination across the region.

Ms. Ameen said applications were under review for Complete Streets Technical Assistance, a joint program with Rutgers Voorhees Transportation Center and Sustainable Jersey. She said June 1 is the extended deadline for applications for the successful Local Safety and High Risk Rural Roads programs, which fund strategic improvements at high crash locations and corridors. Ms. Ameen said the April annual TransAction conference has returned to being an in-person event in Atlantic City, and NJTPA Board members and staff will take an active role as speakers and panelists. She noted that a meeting of the Morris Canal Working Group is being planned for the spring. Updates and details are available at morriscanalgreenway.org. Ms. Ameen said that the group's vision of a walking and biking trail spanning the region and connecting to other trails fits with the multi-modal vision approach of Plan 2050, as well as the priorities of the new federal legislation.

Ms. Ameen said every four years the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration conduct a certification review of the NJTPA's metropolitan planning process to assess and certify compliance with all federal requirements. The current certification is valid until May 1, 2023, and the overall review process, including timelines, topics and dates for onsite review will begin shortly. Ms. Ameen said she and key members of Central Staff will join the federal partners the next week for a kickoff meeting to further discuss the Certification Review.

F. Presentation

Robert Clark, New Jersey Division Administrator of the Federal Highway Administration, provided an overview of funding opportunities under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), also known as the IIJA. He said the bill funds over \$350 billion over five years for highway programs focusing on safety, bridges, climate change, resilience, and project delivery. He said the bill offers more funding opportunities for state and local governments and other nontraditional entities to access new funding.

Mr. Clark highlighted and detailed several new formula-based and discretionary programs that address bridge investment, charging infrastructure, resilience improvements, congestion relief, equity, freight, local and regional project assistance, and more. He noted that the FHWA New Jersey Division looks forward to helping Metropolitan Planning Organizations and local jurisdictions to understand upcoming Notices of Funding Opportunity and provide information on the types of projects the Administration is looking for. An expanded, 73-slide version of Mr. Clark's presentation is available on the NJTPA IIJA website [here](#).

G. Committee Reports/Action Items

Project Prioritization – Commissioner John W. Bartlett, Chair

Commissioner Jason Sarnoski, Warren County, reported on the activities of the Project Prioritization Committee at the joint committee meeting in February. He said the Committee considered nine items. First, the Committee approved four minor amendments to the current Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The first adds \$770,000 in federal funds for utility work in Fiscal Year 2022 for the Route 27, Dehart Place to Route 21 Project in Union County, as requested by the New Jersey Department of Transportation. The second minor amendment adds \$4.4 million in federal funds for the Forest Resource Education Center Access Road, Bridge over Toms River in Ocean County. The New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) requested the addition of this project to the current TIP for construction in Fiscal Year 2022. The third minor amendment adds \$23.5 million in federal funds to the current TIP for the Route 9, Indian Head Road to Central Avenue/Hurley Avenue Pavement Project in Ocean County as Requested by NJDOT. The funds cover the current project cost estimate for construction in Fiscal Year 2022. The fourth minor amendment adds \$20.5 in federal funds to the Route 18, East Brunswick, Drainage and Pavement Rehabilitation Project in Middlesex County as requested by the NJDOT. The funding for these four minor amendments is available from unobligated prior year balances.

Commissioner Sarnoski said the Committee also considered approval of studies for the Local Concept Development Phase of the Local Capital Project Delivery Program. He said six applications were received, and a Technical Review Committee comprised of Central Staff, NJDOT Bureau of Environmental Program Resources, and the NJDOT Local Aid Offices reviewed the applications, conducted site visits, and scored the projects. The review committee recommended four projects totaling \$3.8 million for the Fiscal Year 2023 Program. The studies are as follows:

- County Route 3 Corridor Improvements from Devon Drive to Kensington Drive in Manalapan Township, Monmouth County
- Lenape Island Road Bridge over Indian Lake in Denville Township, Morris County
- Kennedy Boulevard & County Line Road in Lakewood Township, Ocean County; and
- Easton Avenue Safety Improvements in Franklin Township, Somerset County.

Commissioner Sarnoski said the Committee also considered a set of modifications to the current TIP to add federal funds to two local projects, as requested by NJDOT. For the East Anderson Street/Cedar Lane Bridge over the Hackensack River project, \$1.9 million was added for Design in 2024 and the right-of-way phase in 2025. For the Kingsland Avenue Bridge over the Passaic River project, \$1.5 million was added for Preliminary Engineering in Fiscal Year 2022. The additional funding for both projects is available in the NJTPA Future Projects program line item. The Commissioner said the Committee approved the modifications, and no further action is needed.

The Commissioner said the Committee also considered three project financial plan annual updates. These updates are required for major projects with total costs from \$100 million to \$500 million in federal funding. The updated financial plan for the Route 72, Manahawkin Bay Bridges Project in Ocean County reflects a nearly \$14 million increase because of updated actual costs on all contracts. The updated financial plan for the Route 3/Route 46, Valley Road and Notch/Rifle Camp Road Interchange project in Passaic County reflects a decrease of approximately \$2.3 million since 2020, due to reduced costs for utilities and construction. The updated financial plan for the Route 206 Project in Somerset County reflects an increase of \$1 million, due to additional costs for design support, utilities and construction. Commissioner Sarnoski said the Committee approved these financial plan updates, and no further action is needed.

Action Item 1: Minor Amendment to the FY 2022 – FY 2025 Transportation Improvement Program to Add the Route 27, Dehart Place to Route 21 Project in Union County as Requested by the New Jersey Department of Transportation (Attachment 2)

A motion to approve the resolution was made by Union County, seconded by NJDOT and carried unanimously.

Action Item 2: Minor Amendment to the FY 2022 – FY 2025 Transportation Improvement Program to Add the Forest Resource Education Center Access Road, Bridge over Toms River Project in Ocean County as Requested by the New Jersey Department of Transportation (Attachment 3)

A motion to approve the resolution was made by Ocean County, seconded by NJDOT and carried unanimously.

Action Item 3: Minor Amendment to the FY 2022 - 2025 Transportation Improvement Program to Add Federal Funds to the Route 9, Indian Head Road to Central Avenue/Hurley Avenue Pavement Project in Ocean County as Requested by the New Jersey Department of Transportation (Attachment 4)

A motion to approve the resolution was made by Ocean County, seconded by NJDOT and carried unanimously.

Action Item 4: Minor Amendment to the FY 2022 - 2025 Transportation Improvement Program to Add Federal Funds to the Route 18, East Brunswick, Drainage and Pavement Rehabilitation Project in Middlesex County as Requested by the New Jersey Department of Transportation (Attachment 5)

A motion to approve the resolution was made by Middlesex County, seconded by NJDOT and carried unanimously.

Action Item 5: FY 2023 NJTPA Local Concept Development Phase Studies (Attachment 6)

A motion to approve the resolution was made by the Port Authority of New York & New Jersey (PANYNJ), seconded by Hunterdon County and carried unanimously.

Planning and Economic Development – Commissioner John P. Kelly, Chair

Commissioner Kelly said the Committee considered one action item at the February joint meeting, approval of the Fiscal Year 2023 UPWP. He said the document describes all regional transportation planning and related work being done by Central Staff, the subregions, and the Transportation Management Associations during the upcoming state fiscal year, which begins July 1. The Commissioner said drafts of the UPWP and budget were distributed to the Board, RTAC, NJDOT, NJ TRANSIT, and the federal partners in December for review and comment. The Commissioner said, in addition to providing helpful suggestions for enhancing or clarifying work tasks, NJDOT commended the NJTPA for the use of reprogrammed funds from prior authorizations and the development of a Connected and Autonomous Vehicle Readiness study for the region. He noted that NJDOT commended Cross County Connection TMA for its excellent Journey to Work and Commuter Flow analysis. NJDOT also commended goHunterdon TMA for using crash data to demonstrate the need for safety education. Ridewise TMA was commended for their use of demographic information.

Commissioner Kelly said, also at the meeting, Central Staff provided an update on the IJA, particularly the many funding opportunities available to county and local governments.

Action Item 6: Approval of FY 2023 Unified Planning Work Program (Attachment 7)

A motion to approve the resolution was made by Hudson County, seconded by Somerset County and carried unanimously.

Freight Initiatives – Commissioner Charles Kenny, Chair

Commissioner Kenny said the Committee heard the annual freight rail update at the February meeting. He said the first speaker was Ryan Hill, Conrail Chief Engineer, who reported that Conrail is completing the final signal work on its regionally significant Waverly Loop project, which is allowing northbound trains to bypass the Oak Island Rail Yard. That project is expected to be completed in April and will benefit operations at Port Newark. Also, a new siding track from Hackensack to Kearny was completed in October to add capacity and operational flexibility to train movements in the area. Mr. Hill said Conrail has requested proposals to begin replacement of the Point-No-Point Bridge, which is used by freight trains travelling over the Passaic River between Newark and Kearney.

Commissioner Kenny said the next speaker, Cory Wyatt, Manager, Intermodal Rail Development, Port Authority of New York & New Jersey, informed the Committee about another major freight rail project taking shape that would create a southerly connection from the ExpressRail facility in Port Elizabeth to the national rail system. The project is a partnership between Conrail and the Port Authority.

The Commissioner said the Committee then heard from Chris Lamm, Cambridge Systematics, who is leading the consultant team for NJTPA's update to the 2008 Freight Rail Grade Crossing Assessment Study. The update will document conditions and operations of at-grade crossings along the region's major freight rail lines and develop recommendations for addressing issues at the top 10 crossings. The study is scheduled for completion in 2023.

Commissioner Kenny said the final speaker, Scott Parker, Jacobs Engineering, briefed the Committee on the current NJTPA Freight Concept Development Program, which advances freight infrastructure projects that may not be eligible for funding under other programs. Two potential projects were selected for study this round: the Port Reading Secondary South Main Street Grade Crossing Elimination Project in Somerset County and the Berkshire Valley Road Truck Circulation Study in Morris County.

The Commissioner said, among the Committee member reports, NJDOT noted that the 2022 update of the FHWA-required State Freight Plan is underway with participation by NJTPA and other stakeholders.

H) Public Participation

Neile Weissman, Complete George, recommended a report by the Urban Institute on a final mile program, a three-year \$11.3 million collaboration between People for Bikes, the Wend Collective and five cities, Austin, Denver, New Orleans Pittsburg and Providence, to test whether philanthropic assistance for municipal biking projects could accelerate investment. He said the report's final recommendations are to accelerate implementation by including meetings with mayors and their staffs to ensure buy-in; employ resident polling to make the case that their endorsements reflect citywide views; identify an ambitious program to expand bike infrastructure; make the case that these networks will make a dramatic impact in people's lives; ensure network goals include metrics to increase equity with expanded outreach to low-income

populations and communities of color; provide engineering support when local governments face limitations; and experiment with approaches to dilute the power of NIMBYism.

I) Other

- Sutapa Bandyopadhyay announced another federal funding opportunity – the National Scenic Byways Program. She said the Notice of Funding Opportunity would be issued soon and recommended that entities interested in applying register with Grants.gov and SAM.gov as soon as possible. She said potential applicants can email her for help with eligibility and other issues.
- Chair Bartlett said Ms. Ameen has announced that she plans to retire by the end of the fiscal year in June. He noted that nearly half her time at the helm has been during a pandemic that brought once-in-a-lifetime challenges for all, and she did a remarkable job in striking the balance between keeping things going and protecting the health and safety of staff and members. He said her knowledge and management skills will be hard to replace, and he will be working with New Jersey Institute of Technology (the NJTPA’s host agency) and the Board’s Executive Committee to advertise the position and begin the process of finding a new Executive Director. He said there will be updates throughout the process.

J) Time and Place of Next Meeting

Chair Bartlett announced that the next virtual meeting of the NJTPA will be held on Monday, May 9, 2022 at 10:30 a.m.

K) Adjournment

At 11:55 a.m., motion to adjourn was made by Morris County, seconded by Monmouth County and carried unanimously.

Attachment 1

NORTH JERSEY TRANSPORTATION PLANNING AUTHORITY, INC.
Meeting of the Board of Trustees
Attendance Record: March 14, 2022

Subregion/Agency	Voting Members/Alternates	Staff & Others
Bergen County		Joseph Baladi
Essex County	David Antonio	
Hudson County	Byron Nicholas	
Hunterdon County	Carrie Fellows	Katherine Fullerton
Jersey City	Barkha Patel	Elias Guseman
Middlesex County	Hon. Charles Kenny Doug Greenfeld	Mike Dannemiller
Monmouth County	Teri O'Connor	Joseph Ettore Inkyung Englehart Shilpa Bhojappa
Morris County	Hon. Kathy DeFillippo John Hayes	Dede Murray
Newark	Phillip Scott	Trevor Howard
Ocean County	Hon. John Kelly	Mark Jehnke
Passaic County	Hon. John W. Bartlett	Andras Holzmann
Somerset County	Hon. Susan Sooy Walt Lane	Ken Wedeen Paul Drake
Sussex County	Hon. Chris Carney	Bill Koppenaal
Union County	Hon. Bette Jane Kowalski	Liza Betz
Warren County	Hon. Jason Sarnoski David Dech	Ryan Conklin
Office of the Governor	Jeffry Nielsen	
NJDOT	Andy Swords	Jim Vari Eric Powers
NJ TRANSIT	Jeremy Colangelo-Bryan	
Port Authority of NY & NJ	Jay Shuffield	
Citizen's Representative	Jared Rodriguez	

Other Attendees	
Ryan Williams	Bike JC
Ryan	Bike Weehawken
John Jahr	Bright View Engineering
Neile Weissman	Complete George
Robert Clark	FHWA

Sutapa Bandyopadhyay	FHWA
Raymond Tomczak	Federal Transit Administration (FTA)
Ayla Schermer	FTA
Tara Shepherd	goHunterdon TMA
Bob Werkmeister	GPI
Bakari Lee, Esq.	McManimon, Scotland & Baumann, LLC
Richard Hammer	Mott MacDonald
Various members of Central Staff	NJTPA
Steve Pylypchuk	YU Associates
Mark Hrywna	
Emanuelle Morgen	
Kris Melchers	

**DRAFT RESOLUTION: MINOR AMENDMENT TO THE FY 2022 – 2025
TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM TO
ADD THE ROUTE 27, DEHART PLACE TO ROUTE 21
PROJECT IN UNION COUNTY AS REQUESTED BY THE
NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

WHEREAS, the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority, Inc. (NJTPA) has been designated by the Governor of New Jersey as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the northern New Jersey region; and

WHEREAS, the NJTPA formally adopted the FY 2022 – 2025 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) on September 13, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the NJTPA on September 24, 2012 approved a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) among the NJTPA, the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT), and NJ TRANSIT on procedures to amend and modify the State Transportation Improvement Program and the NJTPA TIP; and

WHEREAS, the TIP may be revised any time; and

WHEREAS, according to the MOU when federal funds above a specified threshold are added to a project, when a project programmed with federal funds is added to the TIP, when federal funds are deleted from a project or when the construction phase of work is moved out of the constrained years of the TIP and a new air quality conformity determination is not required, this constitutes a minor amendment; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Transportation has requested the addition of the Route 27, Dehart Place to the Route 21 project (DB# 15371) in Union County for the Utility phase of work; and

WHEREAS, this minor amendment is exempt from an air quality conformity determination and does not impact the current conformity determination; and

WHEREAS, Congestion Management Process requirements do not apply to this action; and

WHEREAS, the FY 2022 TIP conforms to the MAP-21/FAST Act and Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act performance-based planning requirements; and

WHEREAS, consistent with NJTPA public participation procedures, the NJTPA has provided opportunities for review of these actions; and

Approved March 14, 2022

WHEREAS, no action authorized by the NJTPA shall have force or effect until ten (10) days, Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays excepted, after a copy of the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Trustees has been delivered to the Governor for review, unless prior to expiration of the review period the Governor shall approve same, in which case the action shall become effective upon such approval.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority hereby approves the specified amendment to the FY 2022 – 2025 Transportation Improvement Program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution is forwarded to the New Jersey Department of Transportation for submission to the Federal Highway Administration.

**DRAFT RESOLUTION: MINOR AMENDMENT TO THE FY 2022 – 2025
TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM TO
ADD THE FOREST RESOURCE EDUCATION CENTER
ACCESS ROAD, BRIDGE OVER TOMS RIVER PROJECT
IN OCEAN COUNTY AS REQUESTED BY THE NEW
JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

WHEREAS, the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority, Inc. (NJTPA) has been designated by the Governor of New Jersey as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the northern New Jersey region; and

WHEREAS, the NJTPA formally adopted the FY 2022 – 2025 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) on September 13, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the NJTPA on September 24, 2012 approved a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) among the NJTPA, the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT), and NJ TRANSIT on procedures to amend and modify the State Transportation Improvement Program and the NJTPA TIP; and

WHEREAS, the TIP may be revised any time; and

WHEREAS, according to the MOU when federal funds above a specified threshold are added to a project, when a project programmed with federal funds is added to the TIP, when federal funds are deleted from a project or when the construction phase of work is moved out of the constrained years of the TIP and a new air quality conformity determination is not required, this constitutes a minor amendment; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Transportation has requested the addition of the Forest Resource Education Center (F.R.E.C.) Access Road, Bridge over Toms River project (DB# 15323) in Ocean County; and

WHEREAS, this minor amendment is exempt from an air quality conformity determination and does not impact the current conformity determination; and

WHEREAS, Congestion Management Process requirements do not apply to this action; and

WHEREAS, the FY 2022 TIP conforms to the MAP-21/FAST Act and Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act performance-based planning requirements; and

WHEREAS, consistent with NJTPA public participation procedures, the NJTPA has provided opportunities for review of these actions; and

Approved March 14, 2022

WHEREAS, no action authorized by the NJTPA shall have force or effect until ten (10) days, Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays excepted, after a copy of the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Trustees has been delivered to the Governor for review, unless prior to expiration of the review period the Governor shall approve same, in which case the action shall become effective upon such approval.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority hereby approves the specified amendment to the FY 2022 – 2025 Transportation Improvement Program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution is forwarded to the New Jersey Department of Transportation for submission to the Federal Highway Administration.

**DRAFT RESOLUTION: MINOR AMENDMENT TO THE FY 2022 – 2025
TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM TO
ADD FEDERAL FUNDS TO THE ROUTE 9, INDIAN HEAD
ROAD TO CENTRAL AVENUE/HURLEY AVENUE
PAVEMENT PROJECT IN OCEAN COUNTY AS
REQUESTED BY THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION**

WHEREAS, the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority, Inc. (NJTPA) has been designated by the Governor of New Jersey as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the northern New Jersey region; and

WHEREAS, the NJTPA formally adopted the FY 2022 – 2025 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) on September 13, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the NJTPA on September 24, 2012 approved a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) among the NJTPA, the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT), and NJ TRANSIT on procedures to amend and modify the State Transportation Improvement Program and the NJTPA TIP; and

WHEREAS, the TIP may be revised any time; and

WHEREAS, according to the MOU when federal funds above a specified threshold are added to a project, when a project programmed with federal funds is added to the TIP, when federal funds are deleted from a project or when the construction phase of work is moved out of the constrained years of the TIP and a new air quality conformity determination is not required, this constitutes a minor amendment; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Transportation has requested the addition of federal funds to the Route 9, Indian Head Road to Central Avenue/Hurley Avenue Pavement Project (DB# 11418) in Ocean County for the Construction phase of work; and

WHEREAS, this minor amendment is exempt from an air quality conformity determination and does not impact the current conformity determination; and

WHEREAS, Congestion Management Process requirements do not apply to this action;
and

WHEREAS, the FY 2022 TIP conforms to the MAP-21/FAST Act and Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act performance-based planning requirements; and

WHEREAS, consistent with NJTPA public participation procedures, the NJTPA has provided opportunities for review of these actions; and

Approved March 14, 2022

WHEREAS, no action authorized by the NJTPA shall have force or effect until ten (10) days, Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays excepted, after a copy of the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Trustees has been delivered to the Governor for review, unless prior to expiration of the review period the Governor shall approve same, in which case the action shall become effective upon such approval.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority hereby approves the specified amendment to the FY 2022 – 2025 Transportation Improvement Program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution is forwarded to the New Jersey Department of Transportation for submission to the Federal Highway Administration.

**DRAFT RESOLUTION: MINOR AMENDMENT TO THE FY 2022 – 2025
TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM TO
ADD FEDERAL FUNDS TO THE ROUTE 18, EAST
BRUNSWICK, DRAINAGE AND PAVEMENT
REHABILITATION PROJECT IN MIDDLESEX COUNTY
AS REQUESTED BY THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT
OF TRANSPORTATION**

WHEREAS, the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority, Inc. (NJTPA) has been designated by the Governor of New Jersey as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the northern New Jersey region; and

WHEREAS, the NJTPA formally adopted the FY 2022 – 2025 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) on September 13, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the NJTPA on September 24, 2012 approved a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) among the NJTPA, the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT), and NJ TRANSIT on procedures to amend and modify the State Transportation Improvement Program and the NJTPA TIP; and

WHEREAS, the TIP may be revised any time; and

WHEREAS, according to the MOU when federal funds above a specified threshold are added to a project, when a project programmed with federal funds is added to the TIP, when federal funds are deleted from a project or when the construction phase of work is moved out of the constrained years of the TIP and a new air quality conformity determination is not required, this constitutes a minor amendment; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Transportation has requested the addition of federal funds to the Route 18, East Brunswick, Drainage and Pavement Rehabilitation Project (DB# 10354) in Middlesex County for the Construction phase of work; and

WHEREAS, this minor amendment is exempt from an air quality conformity determination and does not impact the current conformity determination; and

WHEREAS, Congestion Management Process requirements do not apply to this action;
and

WHEREAS, the FY 2022 TIP conforms to the MAP-21/FAST Act and Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act performance-based planning requirements; and

WHEREAS, consistent with NJTPA public participation procedures, the NJTPA has provided opportunities for review of these actions; and

Approved March 14, 2022

WHEREAS, no action authorized by the NJTPA shall have force or effect until ten (10) days, Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays excepted, after a copy of the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Trustees has been delivered to the Governor for review, unless prior to expiration of the review period the Governor shall approve same, in which case the action shall become effective upon such approval.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority hereby approves the specified amendment to the FY 2022 – 2025 Transportation Improvement Program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution is forwarded to the New Jersey Department of Transportation for submission to the Federal Highway Administration.

DRAFT RESOLUTION: APPROVAL OF THE FY 2023 NJTPA LOCAL CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT PHASE STUDIES

WHEREAS, the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority (NJTPA), Inc. is the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) responsible for updating the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for the northern part of New Jersey as required by 23 CFR 450; and

WHEREAS, Local Capital Project Delivery (LCPD) Program is a competitive program which provides funding to NJTPA Subregions—the 15 city and county members of the NJTPA—to prepare proposed transportation projects for eventual construction with federal and/or state funding; and

WHEREAS, this preparation involves completing the multi-step Capital Project Delivery Process which was developed by the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT); and

WHEREAS, this process is designed to streamline project development and provide a common and consistent framework for federally funded projects at the local, regional and State level; and

WHEREAS, the LCPD Program will provide subregions the opportunity to prepare proposed local transportation projects for eventual construction with federal funding; and

WHEREAS, all 15 subregions received a solicitation notification in July 2021 inviting them to submit applications for the FY 2023 program; and

WHEREAS, the NJTPA received six Local Concept Development (LCD) applications from the NJTPA member subregions; and

WHEREAS, sponsors will identify and compare reasonable alternatives and strategies that address the purpose and need statement and select a preliminary preferred alternative (PPA); and

WHEREAS, once a concept development report is completed, the Interagency Review Committee (IRC) will determine whether the project can be advanced to the Preliminary Engineering phase; and

WHEREAS, the NJTPA and the selected subregion will jointly manage the consultant contract; and

WHEREAS, a Technical Review Committee comprised of Central Staff, NJDOT Bureau of Environmental Program Resources and the NJDOT Local Aid Offices reviewed all applications and recommended the attached list of projects based on the established criteria and field visits; and

Approved March 14, 2022

WHEREAS, no action authorized by the NJTPA shall have force or effect until ten (10) days, Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays excepted, after a copy of the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Trustees has been delivered to the Governor for review unless prior to expiration of the review period the Governor shall approve same, in which case the action shall become effective upon such approval.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority hereby approves the attached list of Local Concept Development Program studies to be funded for FY 2023.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be forwarded to the New Jersey Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration and to the subregions of the selected applicants.

Approved March 14, 2022

**Recommended Studies for the FY 2023 Local Concept Development Phase
of the Local Capital Project Delivery Program (LCPD)**

1. Monmouth County – County Route 3 Corridor improvements from Devon Drive to Kensington Drive – Manalapan Township

This study will identify and compare conceptual alternatives to determine a preliminary preferred alternative for the County Route 3 Corridor from Devon Drive to Kensington Drive. For most of the length, CR 3 contains one lane in each direction with minimal or no shoulders.

Funding recommendation: \$1,000,000

2. Morris County – Lenape Island Road Bridge over Indian Lake – Denville Township

This study will identify and compare conceptual alternatives to determine a preliminary preferred alternative for the existing structurally deficient structure. The bridge was built in 1966 and has a sufficiency rating of 37.7.

Funding recommendation: \$800,000

3. Ocean County – Kennedy Boulevard (CR 6) & County Line Road (CR 526) Congestion Mitigation – Lakewood Township

This study will identify and compare conceptual alternatives to determine a preliminary preferred alternative for the Kennedy Boulevard and County Line Road. The parallel corridors experience heavy congestion particularly during the AM and PM peak hours. The heavy volumes of vehicular, pedestrian and bicycle traffic create unsafe conditions along these corridors.

Funding recommendation: \$1,000,000

4. Somerset County – Easton Avenue (CR 527) Safety Improvements – Franklin Township

This study will identify and compare conceptual alternatives to determine a preliminary preferred alternative for the Easton Avenue Safety Improvements. The corridor ranked number one within Somerset County on the NJTPA's Network Screening list for Roadway Corridors.

Funding recommendation: \$1,000,000

RECOMMENDED LOCAL CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT PHASE TOTAL: \$ 3,800,000

DRAFT RESOLUTION: APPROVAL OF THE FY 2023 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority, Inc. (NJTPA) has been designated by the Governor of New Jersey as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the northern New Jersey region; and

WHEREAS, the NJTPA, pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 104 (f) et. seq. and 49 U.S.C. 1607 et. seq., is responsible for the development of the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) to guide the transportation planning process in northern New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the Fiscal Year 2023 UPWP (July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023) describes all urban transportation and transportation-related planning activities to be undertaken by the NJTPA Central Staff, New Jersey Department of Transportation, NJ TRANSIT, NJTPA subregions, Transportation Management Associations, and other planning agencies in the region; and

WHEREAS, the FY 2023 UPWP is fully consistent with the U.S. Department of Transportation Metropolitan Transportation Planning Regulations (23 CFR part 450) which became effective May 27, 2016, as well as the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA); and

WHEREAS, any FY 2023 Compensation Plan and salary parameters will be subject to the NJTPA Executive Committee approval and New Jersey Institute of Technology confirmation; and

WHEREAS, no action authorized by the NJTPA shall have force or effect until ten (10) days, Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays excepted, after a copy of the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Trustees has been delivered to the Governor for review, unless prior to expiration of the review period the Governor shall approve same, in which case the action shall become effective upon such approval.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority hereby approves the FY 2023 Unified Planning Work Program for the region.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution is forwarded to the New Jersey Department of Transportation for submission to the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration.