

MIDDLESEX COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COORDINATING COMMITTEE (T.C.C.)

**Paul Larrousse, Chairman
Richard Zipp, Vice Chairman**

REVISED AGENDA

**Tuesday, November 25, 2014
Middlesex County Planning Board
First Floor Meeting Center
40 Livingston Avenue
New Brunswick, New Jersey
7:00 P.M**

I. Call To Order

- Statement on Open Public Meetings Act
- Pledge of Allegiance

II. Approval of September 23, 2014 Minutes
Distribution of October 28, 2014 Minutes

III. A. Welcome / Chairman's Remarks
B. Sign in Reminder
C. Correspondence
D. Freeholder Comments

IV. Special Items:

- Route 18 Bridge Over Route 1, New Brunswick, Project Scope
Denise Peck, NJDOT, Government and Community Relations
Clare Larson, NJDOT, Office Engineer
Samir Shah, Irfan Ahmad, Niranjana Patel, NJDOT, Project Management
Steven Manera, Geoff Frick, HNTB, Consultant for NJDOT
Keith Haarman, Anselmi & Cicco, Inc., Contractor

V. Staff Reports

- A. New Jersey Department of Transportation – Denise Peck
- B. New Jersey Transit – Tom Clark
- C. North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority – Keith Hamas
- D. New Jersey Turnpike Authority –
- E. Rutgers, The State University – Jennifer Stuart, Dorothy Kieu Le
- F. Keep Middlesex Moving, Inc. – William Neary, Morteza Ansari
- G. Middlesex County Department of Community Services – Laila Caune
- H. Middlesex County Engineering Office / Traffic Safety – Richard Wallner
- I. Middlesex County Department of Social Services – Nancy Nicola
- J. County Bikeways/Pedestrian Activities – Guy Gaspari
- K. Middlesex County Improvement Authority – Denise Nickel
- L. East Coast Greenway Alliance – Mike and Anne Kruimer
- M. TCC - Transit Subcommittee – Paul Larrousse, Chairman
- N. Academy Bus Co. – Chuck Kassinger
- O. Suburban Transit /Coach USA – Ron Kohn
- P. Middlesex County Department of Business Development and Education – Kathaleen Shaw
- Q. CR 529 Corridor Study Update – Tony Gambilonghi
- R. Transportation Report / News Update – Bruce McCracken
- S. Staff Activities – George M. Ververides

VII. A. TCC Member Comments
B. Public Comments

VIII. Adjournment

There will be no meeting in December. The next meeting of the TCC is scheduled for
Tuesday, January 27, 2015 at 7:00 PM, Middlesex County Planning Board Meeting Center.



Ronald G. Rios
Freeholder Director

Carol Barrett Bellante
Deputy Director

Kenneth Armwood
Charles Kenny
H. James Polos
Charles E. Tomaro
Blanquita B. Valenti
Freeholders

**COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX
DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE MANAGEMENT**

Office of Planning

Transportation Coordinating Committee

Charles E. Tomaro
*Chairperson, Infrastructure
Management Committee*

John A. Pulomena
County Administrator

Richard Zipp
Vice-Chairman

Danielle A. Britton
Secretary

George M. Ververides, P.P., A.I.C.P.
Director

Anthony Gambilonghi, P.P., A.I.C.P.
Division Supervisor

November 10, 2014

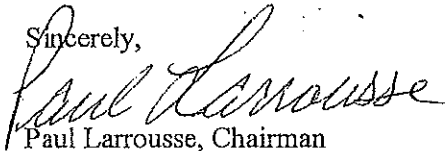
TO: All Members of the Middlesex County Transportation
Coordinating Committee (TCC):

The next meeting of the TCC will be held on **Tuesday, November 25, 2014 at 7:00 pm at the Middlesex County Planning Board Meeting Center, First Floor, 40 Livingston Avenue, New Brunswick, New Jersey.** Enclosed you will find the agenda for this meeting. Our special presentation will include a discussion of the Route 18 Bridge over Route 1 project in New Brunswick by representatives from the New Jersey Department of Transportation, its project consultant and contractor.

Please be advised that because of other meetings in the Elks building that may be held at the same time, parking in the Elks parking lot is often limited and available on a first come first serve basis. Temporary parking permits can be obtained at the meeting for anyone that may need one. Those unable to find parking in the Elks lot will need to seek on street parking or park at the Morris Street Parking Deck with entrances on Morris Street and New Street. The Deck is located a block away within walking distance.

Please contact Danielle Britton at 732-745-3835, danielle.britton@co.middlesex.nj.us, if you have questions, and to confirm your attendance. We look forward to your attendance and as always, we will have light refreshments!

Sincerely,


Paul Larrousse, Chairman

Middlesex County Transportation Coordinating Committee

AG/db

Enclosure: As noted above.

APPROVED
MIDDLESEX COUNTY
TRANSPORTATION COORDINATING COMMITTEE

MINUTES – September 23, 2014

Attendance Officers

Mr. Paul Larrousse, Chairman
Mr. Richard Zipp, Vice-Chairman

Municipal Representatives

Mr. Sanford Gardner, East Brunswick Township
Lt. Gary Panichella, Highland Park Borough
Mr. Thomas Valenti, New Brunswick City
Mr. Rizwan Baig, South Brunswick Township
Ms. Cynthia A. Urbanik, South River Borough
Mr. Thomas Cornell, Woodbridge Township

Others

Mr. Richard Lowe, 12th Legislative District
Mr. Brian Tobin, 14th Legislative District
Mr. Daniel Lebar, Esq., 18th Legislative District
Mr. Donald Newton, 19th Legislative District
Mr. Jesse Buerk, Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission
Mr. Michael Kruimer, East Coast Greenway
Mr. Morteza Ansari, Keep Middlesex Moving
Mr. William Neary, Keep Middlesex Moving
Ms. Carla Cefalo, Middlesex County Department of Business and Education
Ms. Laila Caune, Middlesex County Office of Aging and Disabled Services
Mr. Phil Sheridan, Middlesex County Office of Aging and Disabled Services
Ms. Denise Peck, New Jersey Department of Transportation – Govt. & Community
Mr. Thomas Clark, New Jersey Transit
Mr. Keith Hamas, North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority
Ms. Jennifer Stuart, Rutgers University – Department of Transportation Services
Ms. Leigh Ann Kimber, Rutgers University – Department of Transportation Services
Ms. Karen Alexander, Rutgers University – NJ Travel Independence Program

Staff

Mr. George Ververides, Director, Office of Planning
Mr. Anthony Gambilonghi, Supervisor, Transportation Division
Mr. Bruce McCracken, Principal Planner, Transportation Division

Total in Attendance – 28

I.

Call to Order

- **Statement an Open Public Meetings Act**
- **Pledge Allegiance**

II.

Minutes

June 24, 2014 Minutes were distributed for approval at the next meeting.

Motion to approve the April 22, 2014 Minutes was made by Vice-Chairman Zipp, seconded by Mr. Sanford Gardner, motion carried unanimously.

III.

- A. Welcome/ Chairman's Remarks** –Chairman Larrousse called the meeting to order in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act. He welcomed all that were in attendance at the meeting and called for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Larrousse expressed gratitude on his appointed position, and enthusiasm for the upcoming year. He discussed ways to move the TCC forward; one idea is to invite municipalities to give presentations on transportation matters of concern.

- B. Sign in Reminder** – Members were reminded to sign the attendance sheet.

- C. Correspondence** – Mr. Gambilonghi stated the Office of Planning received a request from Mr. Rizwan Baig, South Brunswick Township in regards to restriping Cranbury Road – South River Road (CR 535) between Davidson and Mill Road due to faded lines. We have been informed by the County Office of Public Works that this work has been completed as part of the County's Resurfacing Program.

- D. Comments** – None

IV. Introduction of TCC Members –

Mr. Paul Larrousse introduced himself as Chairman of the Transportation Coordinating Committee. All persons and members in attendance of the meeting introduced themselves and what organization(s) they represented.

V. Special Item: Planning and Smart Growth Activities in the Central New Jersey Region.

Presented by Mr. Bill Neary, Chairman, Central Jersey Transportation Forum, and Executive Director of Keep Middlesex Moving, and Mr. Jesse Buerk, Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission

Mr. Buerk provided a statistics overview of Central New Jersey, in particular, its high level of congestion in the region during peak hours. He provided an analysis of the region's economic structure, including employment types labor force characteristics, and inputs and outputs.

Mr. Neary discussed the role of the Central Jersey Transportation Forum and the Route 1 Regional Growth Strategy Action Team. Key items the organization addresses are ways to improve transportation and improve mobility of people in Central New Jersey through regional land use and transportation planning. The New Jersey Department of Transportation in partnership with local municipalities and counties in the corridor, and other stakeholders have devised a regional strategy that is sustainable and consistent with Smart Growth outcomes.

The Route 1 Regional Growth Strategy will provide a shared vision for sustainable economic development and land use that can support a balanced program of multi-modal transportation investments. A specific set of actions will be identified by attaining sustainable smart growth objectives in the region, in coordination with land use and transportation systems.

Mr. Neary discussed smart transportation principles that municipalities' can look at to improve network connectivity, build for transit and promote system efficiency. Municipalities are encouraged to adopt a Smart Growth Resolution. There was discussion on smart growth, multimodal transportation options, sustainable land use, and economic vitality. Benefits of these strategies include:

- a. more housing closer to projected jobs;
- b. sustainable economic development and good jobs;
- c. better transit means less reliance on cars;
- d. pedestrian and bicyclist-friendly communities; and
- e. less congestion and pollution.

At the conclusion of the presentation, Mr. Buerk responded to questions from the committee.

In answer to a question regarding who is involved within Middlesex County, Mr. Neary stated Mr. George Ververides is involved along with several mayors in the County.

Staff Reports

A. New Jersey Department of Transportation – Denise Peck

Ms. Peck provided copies of the public information notice regarding the Route 18 Bridge over Route 1 project in the City of New Brunswick. The meeting was held on Tuesday, August 5, 2014 from 4pm-7pm. Ms. Peck provided additional details on project activity.

Mr. Kruimer questioned the reason why the bicycle/pedestrian community was not informed of the August 5th public information center meeting to discuss design concerns of the Route 18 Bridge project. Mr. Kruimer asserted that there is no way a bicycle or pedestrians can safely travel through the Route 18 and Route 1 crossing.

Ms. Peck responded that a great deal of effort was made by NJDOT to communicate the time and place of the public meeting to a large number of people within the affected area of the project.

Chairman Larrousse suggested a presentation to the TCC from NJDOT on the project in effort to address concerns and provide detail information to the public. Ms. Peck indicated that she would seek to coordinate such a presentation at a future meeting of the TCC.

B. New Jersey Transit – Thomas Clark

Mr. Clark reported that NJ Transit received federal funding under the Hurricane Sandy Relief Program. Projects that were funded in the region include the North Jersey Coast Line Bridge across the Raritan Bay to replace and raise the structure; and also the creation of the Delco Lead on the Northeast Corridor southbound side. The County Yard will be expanded in case of a need to move equipment to dry land.

Mr. Baig, South Brunswick, asked when construction of the North Brunswick Transit Station would be completed. Mr. Clark stated the project is in the design phase. Once funding has been set, construction would be completed over the next seven years. The Delco Lead and the County yard will support the function of the new train station.

C. North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority (NJTPA) – Keith Hamas

Mr. Hamas notified the Committee on the continued Street Smart Pedestrian Program in Woodbridge Township.

D. New Jersey Turnpike Authority – Richard Brundage

Absent.

E. Rutgers – The State University – Jennifer Stuart

Ms. Stuart introduced Ms. Leigh Ann Kimbo, Transportation Planner, as a new addition to the Office, and that she will also attend TCC meetings.

Ms. Kimbo described the status of the bicycle lockers. Forty new lockers are in at currently at Cook and Busch campus.

F. KMM – Keep Middlesex Moving - Morteza Ansari –

Mr. Ansari made mention and distributed the current KMM newsletter.

G. Middlesex County Department of Community Services – Laila Caune

Ms. Caune introduced Mr. Phil Sheridan as the new Division Manager for Transportation.

Mr. Sheridan discussed the effect the casino industry has had on transit service in Middlesex County and funding in the region.

H. Middlesex County Engineering Office / Traffic Safety – Richard Wallner
Absent.

I. Middlesex County Transportation, Board of Social Services – Nancy Nicola
Absent.

J. TCC Bikeways – Pedestrian Task Force – Guy Gaspari
Absent.

K. Middlesex County Improvement Authority – Denise Nickel
Absent.

L. East Coast Greenway Alliance (ECGA) – Mike and Ann Kruimer
Mr. Kruimer reported on upcoming events:

9/28	Bicycle Tour of Woodbridge
10/5	ECGA's Annual Hudson Loop Ride. 20 miles starting at Hudson River Ferry. 34 th Street Bike and Roll over GWB and down the Hudson River Waterfront Walkway.
10/12	Cyclovia in New Brunswick, NJ.
11/7-11/8	ECGA Annual Meeting in Charleston, SC.
2/21/15	New Jersey Bike Summit.
3/10 – 3/14/15	National Bike Summit in Washington, DC.

M. TCC Transit Subcommittee – Paul Larrousse, Chairman
Mr. Larrousse discussed his overseas transportation experiences in Australia and how smart cars were utilized in Europe.

N. Academy Bus Co – Chuck Kassinger
Absent.

O. Suburban Transit / Coach USA – Ron Kohn
Absent.

P. Business Development and Education – Carla Cefalo
Ms. Cefalo reported the department has created a Geographic Information System (GIS) portal to improve and recruit business investments in the County. The dynamic search engine provides access to data with respect to commercial properties and incentives, business analysis, traffic reports, marketplace and demographic profiles, and properties and space for sale/rent.

Q. Transportation News Update – Bruce McCracken

Mr. McCracken highlighted the following news articles that were distributed in the packet for information:

Port Terminal catching up with the times	Pg. 1
Legislators demand a new bus terminal	Pg. 2
Perth Amboy: NJ Transit sets aside \$9.6M to improve train station	Pg. 3
House forces Senate's hand in highway bill	Pg. 4
Port of NY and NJ reports record volume	Pg. 5
Getting from Trenton to New Brunswick at 160mph: officials highlight high speed rail project	Pg. 6
Electric cars glide to 200 mile range	Pg. 7
Editorial: A Failed Experiment – red light camera program must die	Pg. 8
Christie announces Fox to return as NJ Transportation Commissioner	Pg. 9

Mr. Bruce McCracken also highlighted a number of projects and activities from the County's FY 2014 Annual Report on Transportation that was distributed. Items discussed included:

- Rail and Bus Statistics;
- Traffic Safety Initiatives;
- NJ Turnpike Exit 8a, 9, 10 ;
- Ernston Road CSX Overpass;
- Amtrak Northeast Corridor catenary upgrades; and
- Route 27 Bridge over the Middlesex Greenway.

R. Staff Activities – George Ververides –

Mr. Ververides congratulated Chairman Larrousse on his newly appointed position and reminded all persons to sign the attendance sheet. He then expressed appreciation to Vice-Chairman Zipp for his role as acting Chairman and Vice Chair after the passing away of Mr. Hogan; furthermore, Ververides welcomed back to the TCC Mr. Clark from New Jersey Transit following his medical leave.

Mr. Ververides stated that funding for transportation infrastructure continues to endure challenging times according to new NJ Transportation Commissioner Jamie Fox. There has been conversation in regard to consolidating NJ Department of Transportation, NJ Transit, NJ Turnpike Authority, Garden State Parkway, and Atlantic City Expressway to improve operational efficiencies.

If the gasoline tax was raised by 10 cents under the current cost of gasoline, the state would bring in a vast amount of revenue. North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority gave a presentation, and it was suggested that if 1 cent was added to the federal gasoline tax could generate about a billion dollars in revenue in one year.

Furthermore, Mr. Ververides recommended that MCAT buses provide better signage so riders can identify bus route and destination points, as opposed to current signs that only read "Middlesex County – MCAT." This could help in making MCAT services more visible to new riders and help generate new revenues. MCAT staff has indicated that destination signs on MCAT buses are being improved and will be displayed.

VI.

A. TCC Member Comments- Mr. Lebar commented that NJ DOT has not been maintaining roads in Metuchen Borough to the standards from years ago. Ms. Peck stated that the DOT website is available to report maintenance problems and is in operation within a workable response time.

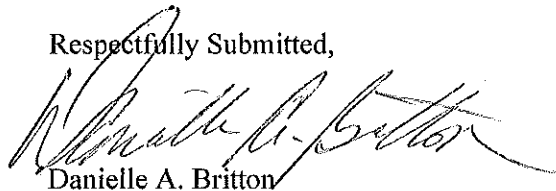
B. Public Comments - None

VIII.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. George Ververides, seconded by Mr. Michael Kruimer, motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Danielle A. Britton".

Danielle A. Britton

Middlesex County Transportation Coordinating Committee