

Freight Planning at NJTPA

Ted Matthews

Director, NJTPA Freight Planning

Morris County Freight Rail Advisory Committee

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Outline

- NJTPA Overview
- Freight Initiatives Committee
- Recent Initiatives
- Current Initiatives
- Upcoming Initiatives

NJTPA Region

Bergen

Essex

Hudson

Hunterdon

Jersey City

Middlesex

Monmouth

Morris

Newark

Ocean

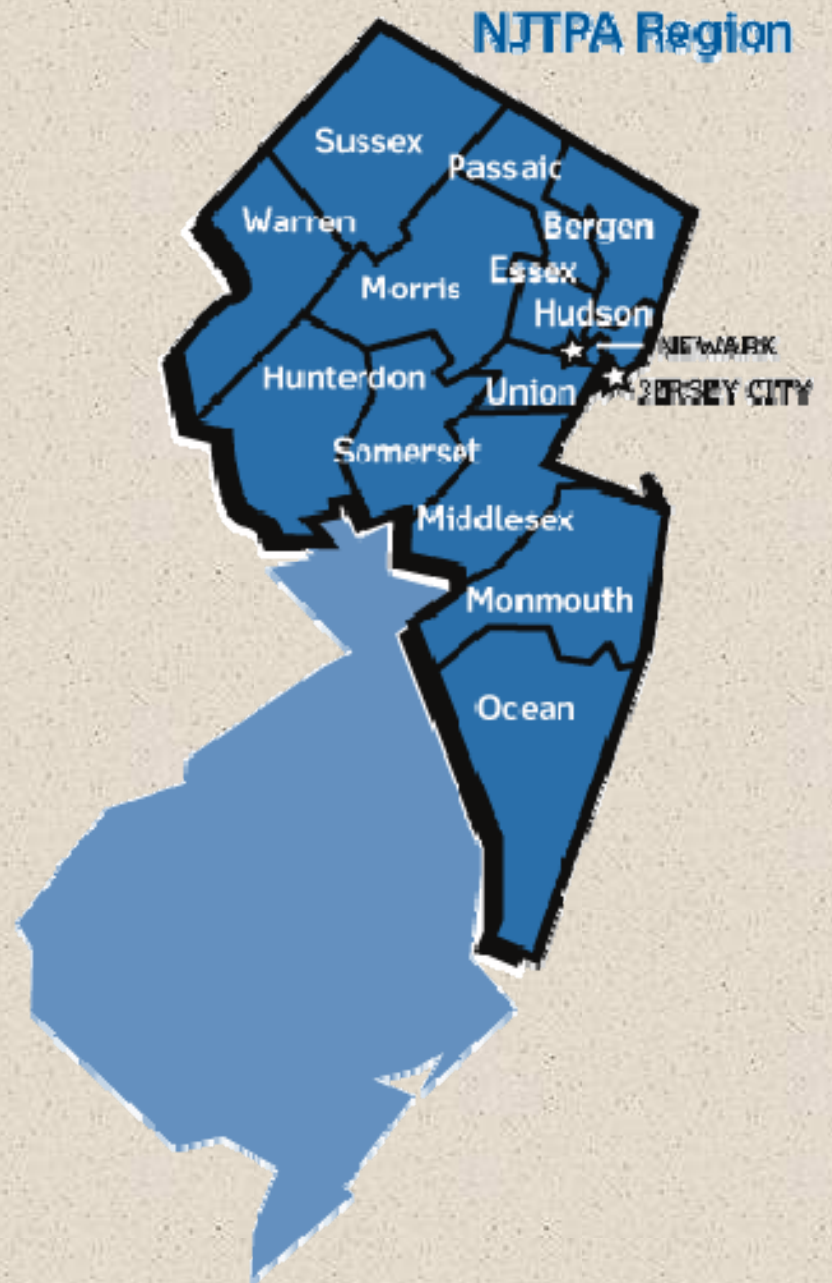
Passaic

Somerset

Sussex

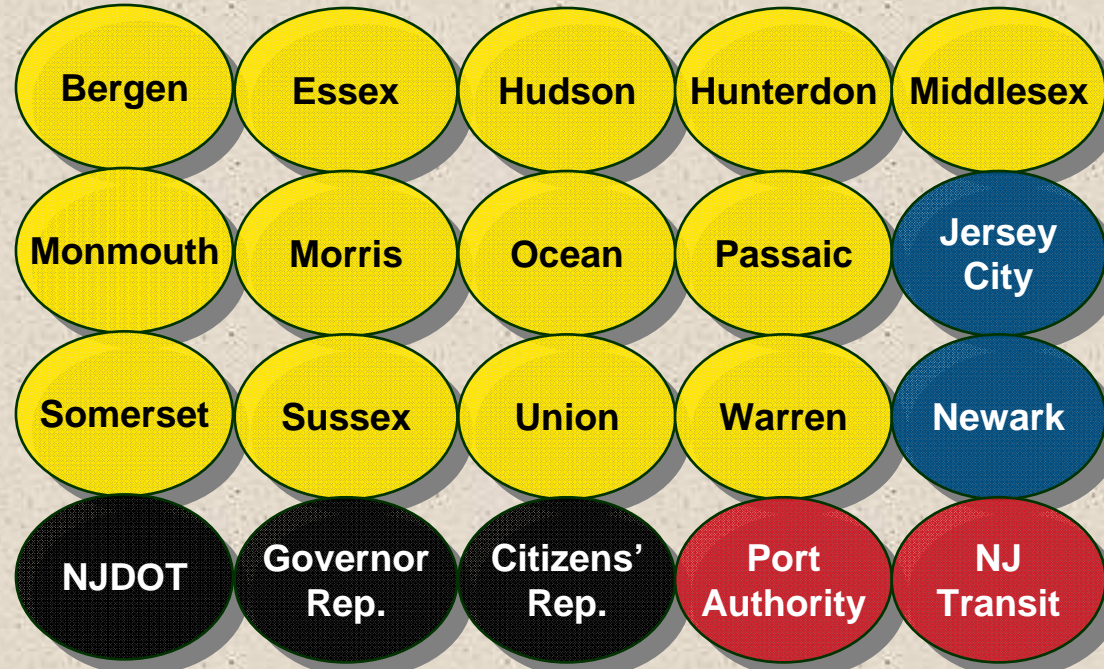
Union

Warren



North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority

The Metropolitan Planning Organization for Northern New Jersey



STANDING COMMITTEES

Planning & Economic Development Committee

Project Prioritization Committee

Freight Initiatives Committee

Regional Transportation Advisory Committee

NJTPA Executive Committee



Pictured Above: Hunterdon County Freeholder Matthew Holt, Third Vice Chairman; Essex County Executive Joseph DiVincenzo, Secretary; Bergen County Executive Dennis McNerney, Chairman; Morris County Freeholder Director Gene Feyl, First Vice Chair; Hudson County Executive Thomas DeGise, Second Vice Chair

**Bergen County Executive
Dennis McNerney, Chairman;**

**Morris County Freeholder Director
Gene Feyl, First Vice Chair;**

**Hudson County Executive
Thomas DeGise, Second Vice Chair;**

**Hunterdon County Freeholder
Matthew Holt, Third Vice Chair;**

**Essex County Executive
Joseph DiVincenzo, Secretary**

Freight Initiatives Committee

- Serves as a forum for discussion of regional freight issues.
- Makes recommendations on action items to be considered by the full NJTPA Board of Trustees.
- The committee meets bimonthly. Its meetings are open to the public.
- Over 380 stakeholders including representatives from the private sector, other public agencies, the general public as well as some elected officials.

Freight Activity in the NJTPA Region



Freight Roundtable



**NJTPA Regional
Transportation**

PLAN

2035



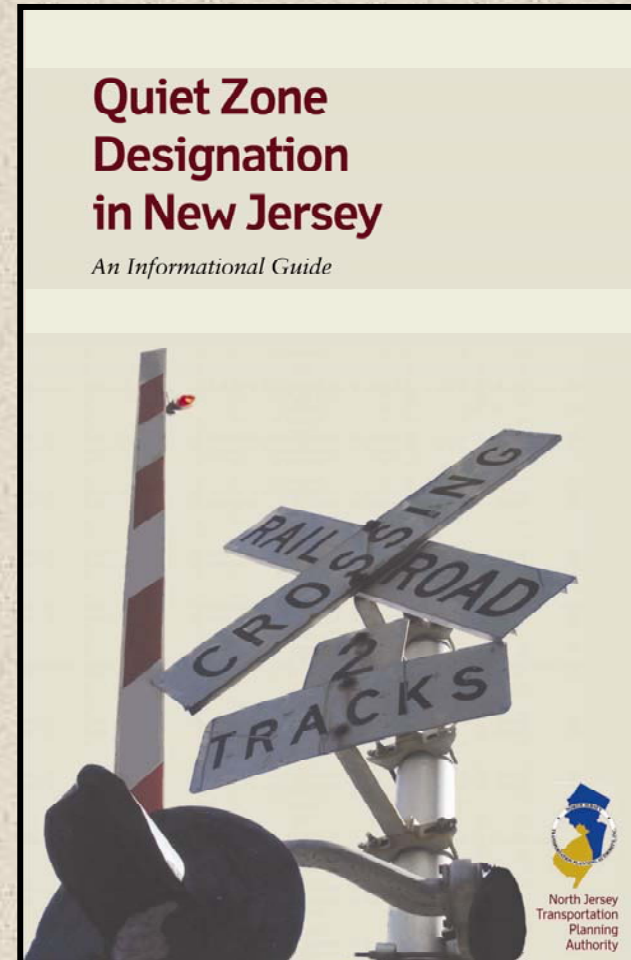
Recent Initiatives – Grade Crossing Study

- Impacts of increases in freight rail traffic on at-grade crossings in terms of delays, safety and quality of life.
- 64 crossings on the Lehigh, West Trenton, Chemical Coast, Port Reading Secondary and River rail lines.
-
- Crossings were prioritized and problem statements developed for top 15 crossings.
-
- 2010 FHWA / FTA / APA Transportation Planning Excellence Award for Freight Planning



Recent Initiatives – Quiet Zone Brochure

- Federal requirement that train horns be sounded at every grade crossing.
- Number of questions on establishing quiet zones.
- Prepared an informational brochure as a guide to communities throughout the state.



Recent Initiatives – Truck Parking Study

- Quantify the extent of the truck parking problem in the NJTPA region.
- Identify potential sites for new or expanded truck parking facilities to meet regional demand.
- Coordination with DVRPC, NYMTC and ConnDOT.



Current Initiatives – GENSET Locomotives

- Retrofitting a pair of switch yard locomotives at Port Newark/Port Elizabeth with cleaner, more efficient GENSET engines.
- The equipment is being purchased and installed through a public-private partnership between the NJTPA (CMAQ Funds), the Port Authority of New York & New Jersey, Norfolk Southern and CSX.



Current Initiatives – Marine Highways

- USDOT Maritime Administration Marine Highway Program established late in 2008
- NJTPA submitted comments on the federal rule and an application to designate waterways in the NJTPA region as Marine Highway Corridors
- Part of NJDOT led New Jersey Marine Highway Initiative recently selected by MARAD for further development
- Working with the I-95 Corridor Coalition on a Comprehensive Coast wide Marine Highway Planning Initiative



Current Initiatives – 286K

- Conducted a 286K survey of freight rail companies including all shortlines.
- Coordinating with NJDOT, NJ Transit, DVRPC, AMTRAK and the private companies on next steps.



Photo Credit: Conrail

Current Initiatives – 2040 Freight Forecasts

- Collection, review and validation of freight data.
- Analysis and documentation of primary drivers of freight activity, and preparation of activity summaries for each county as well as Newark and Jersey City.
- Review of critical trends impacting the movement of goods.
- Industry-level freight activity forecasts, reflecting trends as well as a range of future transportation and economic scenarios for the region, the nation, and the world.
- Evaluation of regional highway network impacts.

Upcoming Initiatives – Freight Rail Corridor Analysis

- Examine the NJTPA region's integrated freight rail network that includes:
 - Norfolk Southern Lehigh Line,
 - CSX West Trenton,
 - CSX River Lines, as well as
 - Connecting trackage between these routes owned and/or operated by Norfolk Southern, CSX, Conrail Shared Assets Operator (CSAO) and shortline railroads.
- Evaluate both current conditions and future operating scenarios
- Determine its adequacy and identify potential upgrades and improvements needed to enable the system to meet projected future demand levels.
- Consider all current and projected future freight and passenger rail demands on route capacity

Thank You

Please visit our website:

www.njtpa.org/Plan/Element/Freight/default.aspx