

Metropolitan Planning Organizations and Transportation Management Associations

Sustainable Jersey Celebrates a Decade of Impact: To celebrate Sustainable Jersey's tenth anniversary, we are spotlighting the people, organizations, businesses and agencies that have been a part of our evolution. Sustainable Jersey is thankful for our valuable partners at the Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) and the New Jersey Transportation Management Associations (TMAs) and would like to acknowledge the role the talented staff at these organizations have on Sustainable Jersey Task Forces. They contribute their time and expertise to help New Jersey municipalities and schools achieve their sustainability goals. For the past ten years, these organizations have provided data, completed research, offered expert policy advice and partnered with Sustainable Jersey and Sustainable Jersey for Schools on important initiatives, events and project to make New Jersey more sustainable.

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATIONS are federally mandated and funded transportation planning agencies made up of representatives from local government and key transportation agencies. Sustainable Jersey works closely with the staff from the three New Jersey MPOs: the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority (NJTPA), the South Jersey Transportation Planning Organization and the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Corporation (DVRPC). In addition, Sustainable Jersey coordinates with the Alan M. Voorhees Transportation Center located within the Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy at Rutgers University.

North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority (NJTPA) is the federally authorized MPO for 6.7 million people in the 13-county northern New Jersey region (Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Hunterdon, Middlesex, Monmouth, Morris, Ocean, Passaic, Somerset, Sussex, Union and Warren). Each year, the NJTPA oversees over \$2 billion in transportation improvement projects and provides a forum for interagency cooperation and public input. The organization also sponsors and conducts studies, assists county planning agencies and monitors compliance with national air quality goals. Ultimately, all projects that use federal transportation dollars must be planned and approved through the NJTPA. NJTPA staff serve on Sustainable Jersey Task Forces, assist with policy questions and speak at events. Sustainable Jersey partners with NJTPA on the Complete Streets Technical Assistance Program. The towns selected to receive technical assistance get valuable hands-on guidance to move their projects forward. This important work contributes to our mission to create a more sustainable New Jersey. Sustainable Jersey has been fortunate to work with Jeff Perlman, the NJTPA Director of Environmental and Sustainability Planning; Douglas Greenfeld, the NJTPA Manager of Sustainability and Plan Development; Jennifer Fogliano, a NJTPA Principal Planner for Environmental Planning and Mary Ameen, the NJTPA Executive Director. In addition, Zenobia Fields was an early contributor to the Sustainable Jersey program when she was the NJTPA Department Director of Planning. [Website](#) [Facebook](#)



South Jersey Transportation Planning Organization (SJTPO) is the MPO covering Atlantic, Cape May, Cumberland and Salem counties in southern New Jersey. SJTPO serves as a technical resource, provides access to funding and works to provide a regional approach to address transportation planning and engineering issues. SJTPO coordinates the

planning activities of participating agencies and gives a forum for cooperative decision-making among state and local officials, transit operators and the public. In addition, the SJTPO adopts long-range plans to guide transportation investment decisions and maintains the eligibility of its member agencies to receive state and federal transportation funds for planning, capital improvements and operations. SJTPO staff serve on Sustainable Jersey task forces, assist with policy questions and speak at events. Sustainable Jersey partners with SJTPO on the Complete Streets Technical Assistance Program. Alan Huff, the program manager for SJTPO Safety Initiatives and Public Outreach serves on the Sustainable Jersey Land Use and Transportation Task Force and Jennifer Marandino, P.E., SJTPO's Executive Director manages the partnership with Sustainable Jersey on Complete Streets. [Website](#) [Facebook](#)



Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC) is the federally designated MPO for a diverse nine-county region in two states (Burlington, Camden, Gloucester and Mercer in New Jersey; and Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery and Philadelphia in Pennsylvania). As an MPO, DVRPC is responsible for planning and approving all projects that use federal transportation dollars by providing forums for cooperative decision-making among its member governments. In addition, as a regional planning commission, DVRPC provides environmental, community and economic development planning for its constituents, and is a resource for regional data. DVRPC regularly convenes a diverse array of partners to increase mobility choices, protect and preserve natural resources and build sustainable, equitable and livable communities that foster greater opportunities for all. DVRPC also provides subsidized professional planning services to New Jersey municipalities, completing dozens of environmental resource inventories, open space plans, farmland preservation plans and other environmental plans in communities across South Jersey. DVRPC staff serve on multiple Sustainable Jersey task forces, assist with policy questions and speak at events. Sustainable Jersey benefits from its collaboration with Chris Linn, AICP, Manager of the Office of Environmental Planning and Rob Graff, Manager of the Office of Energy and Climate Change Initiatives, who helped establish and continue to serve on the Sustainable Jersey Climate Adaptation Task Force. [Website](#) [Facebook](#)



Alan M. Voorhees Transportation Center (VTC) is a leader in transportation research and education at the national, state and regional level and the center of transportation-related training and education, policy and research at Rutgers University. Located within the Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy, the Center brings the resources of a major research university on transportation issues of regional and national significance. Sustainable Jersey is supported by our VTC colleagues who review Sustainable Jersey actions, provide guidance on policy issues and speak at events.



Leigh Ann Von Hagen, AICP, PP is a Senior Researcher and Adjunct Professor at VTC and a founder of the Planning Healthy Communities Initiative at the Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy. Von Hagen manages the NJ Department of Transportation's Safe Routes to School Resource Center and the statewide School Crossing Guard Training program. In addition to her participation in the original development of Sustainable Jersey, Von Hagen was instrumental in launching several statewide health, safety and environmental initiatives including Planning Healthy Communities Initiative, Safe Routes to School, Mayors Wellness Campaign and Shaping NJ.

Trish Sanchez is a Public Engagement and Outreach Specialist and Project Coordinator at VTC who manages, along with the New Jersey Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Project Manager Sean Meehan, the New Jersey SRTS Resource Center. The center, in conjunction with the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT), provides services, training, coordination, research and technical assistance to the eight TMAs. Miriam Salerno, a VTC Senior Public Relations and Outreach Specialist who works

closely with Sustainable Jersey in her capacity with [Together North Jersey](#) said, “The Sustainable Jersey program is a great example of engagement, collaboration and action to advance sustainability planning at the local level. Without the participation and support of engaged citizens, like those involved in green teams throughout the region, initiatives, like Together North Jersey, could not succeed.” Charles Brown, VTC Senior Research Specialist, James Sinclair, VTC Research Manager and Lisa Citron, VTC Research Project Coordinator have been key partners with Sustainable Jersey in conducting outreach and technical assistance with the Complete Streets Technical Assistance Project. To learn more about the Complete Streets Technical Assistance Project, visit: <https://www.njtpa.org/completestreets>. [Facebook](#) [Website](#)

TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATIONS

There are eight Transportation Management Associations (TMAs) that cover New Jersey’s 21 counties by providing commute options such as carpooling, vanpooling, mass transit, biking and walking. TMAs are non-profit organizations tasked with implementing strategies and programs that address traffic congestion, economic development, air quality and livability issues. Sustainable Jersey municipalities and schools throughout the state get support from their TMA. TMAs assist by providing free programs that align with certification categories including transportation fairs, onsite bicycle and pedestrian safety programs for children and adults, anti-idling awareness campaigns and complete streets programs.

Cross County Connection TMA provides transportation-related services in New Jersey’s seven southern counties, including the counties of Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester and Salem. Cross County Connection works to provide solutions to complex transportation problems for counties, municipalities, employers and commuters. Patrick Farley, a Land Use and Transportation Specialist at Cross County Connection is helping to revise the Sustainable Jersey “[Complete Streets Policy actions](#)” and oversees the Sustainable Jersey bicycle and pedestrian program updates. Eric Derer, an Associate Transportation Specialist for Cross County Connection, has provided research on ordinances for complete streets to contribute to the development of the action updates. Jason Simmons, a Transportation Specialist at Cross County Connection is the Sustainable Jersey liaison for municipalities and schools that request assistance with the Sustainable Jersey certification application. Cross County Connection has a [Sustainable Jersey website page](#) that outlines the ways staff can help municipalities and schools with their Sustainable Jersey actions. [Website](#) [Facebook](#)



goHunterdon promotes sustainable transportation in Hunterdon County by working with commuters, employers and communities. For over 20 years, Tara Shepherd has served as the Executive Director and has supported the work of Sustainable Jersey for the past ten years. goHunterdon provides, through its [Sustainable Hunterdon](#) initiative, assistance to municipalities and schools in Hunterdon County in completing various Sustainable Jersey actions. The free assistance includes facilitation of green teams, identification of appropriate action items, implementation, certification submission review and help with grant applications. Nathan Charron, the goHunterdon Environmental Education Coordinator, said, “The Sustainable Jersey program provides the perfect framework for our assistance. A lot of what we do dovetails with the program and creates an entry point for meeting and then assisting towns and schools with these important environmental actions.” Charron is on the Sustainable Jersey Land Use and Transportation Task Force and has worked with many municipalities to document Safe Routes to School efforts to help them gain Sustainable Jersey points toward certification. This includes providing copies of school travel plans and documenting bicycle and pedestrian events and educational presentations and programs. [Website](#) [Facebook](#)



TransOptions delivers programs and services that improve mobility, the environment and overall quality of life in northwestern New Jersey, specifically Morris, Sussex, Warren and western portions of Passaic and Essex counties. In addition to helping people find alternative commute options, the organization also offers programs in bicycle, pedestrian and teen driver safety as well as

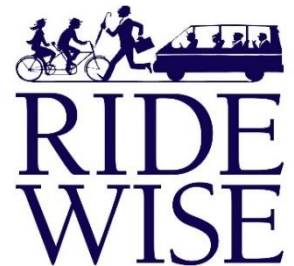


environmental education and sustainability. Dan Callas, President of TransOptions, said, “As a non-profit transportation management association, we at TransOptions have had the opportunity to work with Sustainable Jersey on key mobility and accessibility issues. Through our collaborative efforts with local municipalities and the Sustainable Jersey Land Use and Transportation Task Force, we have seen first-hand both the dedication of those working on the program and the benefits that all Sustainable Jersey actions have on our communities.” Lisa Leoni, the Safe Routes to School Coordinator for TransOptions serves on the Sustainable Jersey Land Use and Transportation Task Force and has helped support the New Jersey [Safe Routes to Schools](#) program with Sustainable Jersey for Schools. The TransOptions [web page](#) specific to Sustainable Jersey outlines all of the applicable Safe Routes to Schools actions that provide certification points with Sustainable Jersey and Sustainable Jersey for Schools. [Website](#) [Facebook](#)

Keep Middlesex Moving is a non-profit TMA that provides commuter services to those who work and live in Middlesex County. Led by KMM Executive Director Bill Neary, the KMM staff work with businesses, commuters, elected officials, community groups and other partners to implement programs that reduce congestion, increase safety and improve air quality. Christopher Gonda, the KMM Safe Routes to School Coordinator, assists schools in preparing the documentation needed for the Safe Routes to School program in order to achieve Sustainable Jersey for Schools certification. [Website](#) [Facebook](#)



RideWise is a non-profit organization serving Somerset County, dedicated to promoting and advocating for transportation choices that are efficient, safe and sustainable. Under the leadership of Donna Allison, the RideWise Executive Director, the organization engages with large and small employers, local government, state agencies, school districts and other nonprofits to advocate for travel options that are good for business, good for the environment and good for communities. RideWise promotes efficient and sustainable travel options like public transit, ridesharing, biking and walking. RideWise can help municipalities in Somerset County earn points towards Sustainable Jersey certification by assisting with actions related to transportation with actions that are listed on the organization’s [Sustainable Jersey page](#). [Website](#) [Facebook](#)



Hudson Transportation Management Association is a division of the [Hudson County Improvement Authority](#) (HCIA), an autonomous public agency with broad responsibilities in solid waste management, recycling, affordable housing and transportation management in Hudson County. Under the leadership of Hudson TMA Director Jay DiDomenico, the Hudson TMA can, at no cost, help municipalities achieve Sustainable Jersey certification by providing alternate transportation and bike/walk workshops under the “Green Challenges and Community Programs” category; anti-idling education and Safe Routes to School Programs under the “Health and Wellness” category; green fairs under the “Green Fair” category; and complete streets under the “Land Use and Transportation” category; visit the [Hudson TMA Sustainable Jersey webpage](#). [Website](#) [Facebook](#)



Greater Mercer Transportation Management Association is a nonprofit, public private partnership dedicated to promoting and providing transportation choices that are designed to reduce congestion, improve mobility, increase safety and further sustainability in Mercer County, Montgomery Township (Somerset County) and Ocean County. The association consists of large and small employers, local governments, authorities and state agencies who share a commitment to providing transportation choices that are good for commuters, good for business and good for the environment. Jerry Foster, the Greater Mercer TMA (GMTMA) Biking and Walking Specialist and one of the Safe Routes to School coordinators, can assist communities in completing some Sustainable Jersey and Sustainable Jersey for Schools actions. Foster serves on the Sustainable Jersey Land Use and Transportation Task Force. The organization has established programs that can be a basis



for actions such as Anti-Idling Education and Enforcement Programs, Safe Routes to School, sustainability-oriented lesson plans and activities for all grade levels, pedestrian and bike programs and assistance with complete streets; visit the [GMTMA Sustainable Jersey page](#). [Website](#) [Facebook](#)

EZ Ride manages New Jersey’s largest carpool, vanpool and shuttle services for businesses, colleges, universities and municipalities. EZ Ride operates a mixed fleet of minibuses, vans and sedans that provide more than 700,000 passenger trips each year serving Bergen County and western portions of Hudson County, eastern portions of Passaic, Union and Essex and Monmouth Counties. The organization partners with government agencies, foundations and businesses to provide a reliable, affordable “missing link” to public transit. Lisa Lee, the EZ Ride Manager of Bike and Pedestrian Programs, and Eric Angeles, the Assistant Coordinator, have actively supported Sustainable Jersey by working on the Complete Streets Technical Assistance project and contributing to promotion of the events. [Website](#) [Facebook](#)

