

Morris County Board of Transportation Meeting
Tuesday, July 13, 2010
Morris County Department of Planning & Development
30 Schuyler Place, 4th Floor Conference Room
Morristown, NJ

In Attendance:

Board Members	Other Attendees	Staff
Freeholder Director Feyl	Karen Jean Feury, Northern NJ Safe Kids/Safe Communities	Gerald Rohsler
Ilene Dorf Manahan, Chairperson		Deena Cybulski
Art Valand, Vice Chairperson		
Dudley Woodbridge, Secretary		
Milverne Cooke		
Judith Schleicher		
Roman Zabihach, Alternate #1		
Joe Wells, Alternate #2		

- I. Call to Order:** Chairperson Ilene Dorf Manahan called the meeting to order at 7:15 PM.
- II. Open Public Meeting Statement:** Chairperson Manahan read the Open Public Meetings Act compliance statement.
- III. Roll Call:** Deena Cybulski read the roll call. Seven voting members were present during roll call.
- IV. Approval of Minutes:** Approval of the April 13, 2010 minutes was moved by Mr. Woodbridge and seconded by Ms. Cooke and the minutes were unanimously approved.
- V. Presentation:**
 - 1. Northern New Jersey Safe Kids/Safe Communities, Karen Jean Feury, RN APN, C:** Ms. Feury provided an overview of Northern New Jersey Safe Kids/Safe Communities. She is the injury prevention coordinator for the three county region of Morris, Sussex, and Warren. The mission of the organization is to reduce fatalities, injuries and property damage due to unintentional injuries on the road, at home and at play. She shared detailed trauma data with the board and highlighted trends. She went on to highlight many of the programs that the organization promotes, including Sports Injury Prevention, Walk This Way, Safe Routes to School, Water Safety, and Child Passenger Safety.

Joe Wells asked about the type of injuries typically seen in the trauma centers. Ms. Feury explained that blunt trauma was typical, and that fortunately stab wounds and gun shot wounds are seen much less.

There was some discussion about the controversial new graduated driver license law. The law put forth new guidelines for drivers under the age of 21, which include excluding driving privileges between the hours of 11:01 p.m. and 5 a.m. and limiting the number of passengers in the vehicle. The part of the new law that has received the most negative attention is the decal that must be displayed on the front and rear license plates identifying the driver as under 21. Many legislators are currently attempting to change the law, so as not to alert predators to the age of the driver.

VI. Staff Reports

1. Morris Street/Morris Avenue, Morristown

Ms. Cybulski explained that the division is working in coordination with our Engineering Division to improve the safety of Morris Street and Morris Avenue in Morristown. The Engineering Division funded the installation of temporary striping that decreased the number of lanes from three to two one-way lanes and added shoulders. The Morristown Council will decide whether to advance the lane reduction permanently when the roadway is repaved in August at their council meeting on July 20, 2010.

2. Chester Branch Railroad Rehabilitation

Mr. Rohsler reported that the contractor has begun work and the project is expected to be completed in October of this year. He showed pictures from the project site of the progress.

3. Department of Energy Grant Transit Awareness Postcard

Ms. Cybulski explained that Morris County has received a Department of Energy Grant and that part of the grant is a transit awareness campaign. The Division will be designing, printing, and mailing approximately 100,000 postcards to residents within close proximity to rail stations and bus stops. The concept has not been finalized, but it is expected that the postcards will announce changes to the bus system and direct residents to www.MorrisDOT.org. This opportunity is extremely well timed given the changes to the remaining bus system, which are scheduled to take place in October of this year.

4. Freight Railroad Advisory Committee

Mr. Rohsler announced that the Freight Railroad Advisory Committee had met earlier in the day. They received a presentation from a representative from the Federal Railroad Administration. He also stated that the FRAC had discussed the realignment of the Dover and Rockaway Branch past McWilliams Forge. This relocation would eliminate the eleven grade crossings in Dover. Both the FRAC and the Board expressed the desire to move forward with this project.

VII. Old Business:

1. Termination of the Rural Routes

Ms. Cybulski explained that, as expected, service along the rural routes was terminated. The last bus ran on July 2, 2010. Thus far, two emails of concern were received by the Freeholder's Office. Freeholder Director Gene Feyl will respond to the emails. Ms. Cybulski explained that there are plans in place to transport residents who reside in rural areas using the MAPS services. The Department of Human Services is working with NJ Transit to make this happen by the end of the summer.

VIII. New Business:

1. Summer Board Trip

Ms. Cybulski announced that a summer board trip was being planned to Fosterfields Living Historical Farm on August 18, 2010. She said that more details would follow shortly.

2. Budapest Automated Parking Garage

Board member Art Valand had shared a YouTube video with the division that showcased an automated parking garage in Budapest. The video was shared with members. There was much discussion about costs and delays during peak periods.

IX. Public Comments: None

X. Next Regular Meeting: October 12, 2010

XI. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Notes prepared by Deena Cybulski