The Transporter



Mobility Updates for Community Leaders

Honoring the Legacy of Lt. Gov. Sheila Oliver



With profound sorrow, we remember and pay tribute to the remarkable life of Lt. Gov. Sheila Oliver, whose recent passing has left a void in our hearts. Her impact and contributions have touched countless lives, and as we navigate this time of loss, we reflect upon her extraordinary journey.

Lt. Gov. Sheila Oliver will forever be remembered as a tireless champion of social justice and a true trailblazer in leadership. Her unwavering commitment to public service was evident throughout her distinguished career, which included serving as Essex County Commissioner, Assemblywoman, Speaker of the House, and Lieutenant Governor. EZ Ride was honored to experience her dedication as she served as a trustee on our board, and her presence

graced our 2021 Annual Recognition Event as our keynote speaker. Her support and advocacy for EZ Ride remained steadfast, leaving an indelible mark on our organization's mission.

In this time of mourning, our thoughts extend to the family and friends of Lt. Gov. Sheila Oliver. We remember her for her remarkable achievements and the inspiration she instilled in us all.

As we celebrate her life, we draw strength from the legacy she leaves behind and commit ourselves to ideals she fervently fought for. Her memory will remain engraved in our hearts, a testament to the remarkable impact a single individual can make.

With deepest condolences,



Krishna Murthy President & CEO | EZ Ride

Bergen County's EZ Ride4Life Program Expands from less than 700 to more than 7,000 Rides per Year



The Bergen County Division of Human Services began utilizing the *EZ Ryde4Life* program in March of 2021. In the first year, the total rides per month were less than 200. In June of 2023, the County provided more than 1,500 rides per month. The notable increase in the number of rides offered through this program stands as a testament to its effectiveness and the positive impact it has on the community.

Bergen County utilizes the *EZ Ryde4Life* program to complement its existing services, primarily catering to low-income senior residents, especially those experiencing financial hardship. This program enables the County to meet transportation needs outside of regular working hours, extend services to the outskirts of the county, and even facilitate trips beyond county borders. Furthermore, the program has effectively eliminated no-shows, as the rides are dispatched only after the rider is ready and requests it.

For more information about EZ Ryde4Life program and how your community can benefit contact Kinga Skora at (201) 939-4242 ext. 131 or kskora@ezride.org

Asbury Park Contracts with EZ Ride to Provide Rides for Seniors



City Of ASBURY PARK New Jersey

EZ Ride has recently been chosen by the township of Asbury Park to offer transportation services using the *EZ Ryde4Life* program to low-income senior residents. To minimize the financial burden for their senior residents, Asbury Park will subsidize all rides for eligible individuals, covering expenses of up to \$15 per trip. The subsidy will help seniors to access most of their local transportation needs.

The township joins several other organizations such as Affordable Housing Alliance, Bergen County, Clinilabs, Essex County, Ocean Community Economic Action Now, Inc., Somerset CAP, and Visiting Nurse Association who have partnered with EZ Ride to provide transportation for their communities. The township of Asbury Park will compile a daily list of eligible seniors that will be shared with EZ Ride, who will provide rides using Lyft or Uber. The program is set to commence soon.

For more information about *EZ Ryde4Life* program, please contact Kinga Skora at (201) 939-4242 ext. 131 or email kskora@ezride.org.



• Department of Human Services Transportation Resources: nj.gov



Kinga Skora Deputy Director, Marketing & Sales | EZ Ride

Driving Change: WOHS and Bergenfield High School win \$10,000 Grants for Traffic Safety Initiatives with EZ Ride



West Orange High School's (WOHS) Traffic Safety Youth Advisory Board and Bergenfield High School's Safe Drivers Club have been recognized for their exceptional effort in promoting safety. Both schools secured \$10,000 grants through the Champions program, an initiative managed by the BIANJ and generously funded by NJ Manufacturers Insurance. This program rewards schools that actively develop impactful campaigns on driving and pedestrian safety.

EZ Ride, a dedicated partner in this endeavor, collaborated closely with Bergenfield HS after a series of unfortunate incidents involving students being struck by left turning vehicles.

The students in collaboration with EZ Ride created a video highlighting the organization's contributions. The initiatives encompassed comprehensive safety

presentations delivered to 750 students, the installation of prominent signs cautioning drivers to yield to pedestrians, and the creation of engaging posters reminding students to activate pedestrian signals. Additionally, EZ Ride actively collaborated with Bergen County to introduce a Leading Pedestrian Interval, ensuring that students have priority in crossing the street before vehicles make their turns.

WOHS students partnered with EZ Ride to conduct a road safety audit, hosted two community safety fairs, and painted an intersection mural by Hazel Avenue School. EZ Ride prepared a Travel Plan and conducted bike and pedestrian safety presentations and bike safety classes at the fairs. EZ Ride also donated two children's bicycles to raffle and provided helmets, bike bells, and lights. The Nikhil Badlani Foundation, West Orange Pedestrian Safety Advisory Board, and West Orange's Vision Zero committee surveyed residents to gain valuable insights about safety concerns.

The achievements of West Orange High School's Traffic Safety Youth Advisory Board and Bergenfield High School's Safe Drivers Club, in partnership with EZ Ride, serve as a shining example of how dedicated individuals and organizations can drive positive change. Through their collective efforts, they have made a lasting impact on traffic safety, empowering students, and communities alike.

For more information, please contact Lisa Lee at llee@ezride.org or call (201) 939-4242 ext. 123.

Micromobility Revolution in Newark: Building Safety, Community, and Sustainability



In 2021, Newark embarked on a groundbreaking journey with the launch of its e-scooter share program, NewarkGo. This initiative quickly gained traction, boasting over a million rides and 75,000 unique riders. The program's resounding success can be attributed, in part, to the implementation of equity programs that provide affordable rides to low-income residents. As a result, Newark experienced a commendable reduction in traffic congestion and pollution.

This year EZ Ride teamed up with several local organizations, including Newark's Office of Violence Prevention and Trauma Recovery, the Police Department, Brick City Peace Collective, Bike Clubs, Newark Sports Center, Veo, and Bird. Together, they orchestrated group rides, distributed free bicycles and e-scooters to residents, and conducted safety classes. Their collective objective was to promote safety, combat violence, and foster positive relationships between the police and the community across Newark's five wards.

Newark has successfully organized two community rides with an impressive turnout of 145 participants. Before these rides, EZ Ride diligently provided comprehensive bike and e-scooter safety presentations to 70 individuals, ensuring everyone was well-prepared for the experience.

These endeavors have showcased the viability of micromobility in an urban setting and demonstrated the efficacy of riding in groups. More importantly, they have highlighted the positive interactions, and mutual respect fostered between the police, cyclists, and e-scooter riders. A vibrant community of micromobility users could form the bedrock of a safer and environmentally friendly Newark.

We invite you to join us in this transformative movement by participating in the upcoming community ride on August 16th. For more information and to reserve your spot, please email us at info@ezride.org. Together, let's shape a brighter future for Newark—a future founded on safety, community engagement, and sustainable mobility.

For more information, please contact Lisa Lee at llee@ezride.org or call (201) 939-4242 ext. 123.



- About Champion Schools: Jersey Drives
- Local Aid Infrastructure Fund: Resource Center



About EZ Ride



At EZ Ride we believe that a safe, affordable & reliable transportation system is vital to maintaining our quality of life and promoting the economic growth of the region. Transportation is a daily concern for commuters who cannot afford to drive to work, for older adults who do not drive a car, and for businesses whose employees and customers may not have easy access to public transportation.

For almost 40 years, we have helped people overcome transportation barriers by partnering with businesses and governments to implement transportation programs and services like carpools, vanpools, shuttles, biking & walking programs and even

transportation with companies like Lyft and Uber.

EZ Ride is a non-profit organization and in 2013, we were recognized for excellence in serving the needs of the community and named the *Urban Community Transportation System of the Year* by the Community Transportation Association of America.



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