

The Transporter

Transport information for business executives, elected officials, and school administrators in New Jersey

NJ Transit to Host Roundtable Meeting



NJ Transit will host a special roundtable discussion on October 28 at 2 p.m. to obtain input from businesses on their transportation needs. Many companies moved to a remote work environment during the

pandemic. As more firms reopen, some employers ask employees to return to in-person worksites while others adapt to hybrid work schedules. NJ Transit is hosting this virtual forum to gain valuable input from its customers. Are more people returning to public transit, or are they more likely to commute independently? Are they willing to carpool now that they are vaccinated? To join the discussion, please click on the link below or call in (audio only) **1 862-294-4371 94083361#** Phone Conference ID: 940 833 61#

[Join The Meeting](#)

Kearny Shuttle Ridership Increases by 40 Percent



EZ Ride restarted its Kearny Avenue shuttle this past May with a stunning 1,000 rides in the first month alone. As more people are getting vaccinated and returning to the office, ridership has increased to an impressive 1,400 rides per month. The shuttle, which is open to the public, was suspended during the pandemic for several months. It runs from the

PATH station in Harrison with stops along Ridge Road and Kearny Avenue up to Garden Terrace in North Arlington.

The shuttle is funded in part by New Jersey Job Access Reverse Commute (NJ-JARC) program. The service operates during morning and evening rush hours, from 6:20 a.m. to 9:20 a.m. and from 4:30 p.m. to 7:35 p.m. One-way fare is \$1.50. For a shuttle schedule, please visit our [website](#).

[Shuttle Schedule](#)

EZ Ride Annual Event Celebrates Our Champions



On October 19, our annual recognition event "Champions for Change" brought many people together via Zoom to share success stories of Safe Routes to School award winners and also recognized the Outstanding Transportation Programs sponsored by our partners. These champions have implemented transportation programs and services to make a difference in the quality of life in our communities. New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Assistant Commissioner Paul Baldauf shared his thoughts on transportation as the keynote speaker for the event. The virtual event featured videos of all of our winners and inspiring presentations by Michael Vieira, Essex County

Director of Special Transportation Services, O.C.E.A.N. Inc. President & C.E.O. Channell Wilkins, Paterson Superintendent Eileen Shafer and Deputy Superintendent Susana Peron, and Caldwell Police Sgt. Michael Pellegrino. For information on the event, please visit our [website](#).

Annual Event 2021

Complete Streets Promote Safety



Complete Streets Policies, which encourage the development of walkable communities, can also improve community safety by reducing pedestrian crashes, encouraging walking and biking, and reducing traffic congestion and air pollution.

Complete Streets are designed to enable the safety and support all users, including walkers and bikers. They often feature high visibility

crosswalks, bike lanes, curb extensions, and raised medians, all of which can reduce incidents of pedestrian crashes.

Walkable communities can improve the quality of life for residents by developing a sense of community and can make it easier for residents to access schools, parks, businesses, and retail locations. And we can assist with your community goals. If your community is interested in enacting a Complete Streets Policy, please contact Lisa Lee at (201) 939-4242 ext. 123 or llee@ezride.org.

Bike/Pedestrian Program

New Jersey Safe Passing Law Improves Safety for Walkers & Cyclists

Drivers must follow new guidelines on how to pass walkers, bicyclists, and scooters on the



road now that the [New Jersey Safe Passing Law](#) has been enacted.

On August 5, Gov. Phil Murphy signed the NJ Safe Passing Law, which requires drivers to slow down and approach walkers, scooters, and bicyclists with “due caution” offering plenty of space while passing them.

The New Jersey Safe Passing Law mandates the following:

- If possible, the driver must move over one lane if it's safe to do so.
- If moving over one lane isn't possible or safe, the driver should leave a reasonable, safe distance of at least four feet when approaching walkers, bicyclists, and scooters until they pass safely.
- If these options are not possible, the driver must reduce their speed to 25 mph and be prepared to stop.
- Violation of the NJ Safe Passing Law will result in a \$500 fine and 2 motor vehicle points added to their driving record.

NJ Safe Passing Law

EPA School Bus Rebate Applications Now Available



The New Jersey State Department of Environmental Protection has announced special funding as part of the EPA's 2021 School Bus Rebate Program. There are two particular school rebate programs offered for public school districts with a deadline of November 5, 2021.

The 2021 American Rescue Plan (ARP) Electric School Bus Rebates for Underserved School

Districts is a \$7 million program to exclusively fund the replacement of old diesel school buses with new electric school buses for underserved school districts, tribal schools, and private fleets serving those schools. The new program offers \$300,000 per bus for up to four electric school bus replacements for applicants selected through a lottery system. A list of eligible school districts is available on the 2021 ARP Electric School Bus Rebates website. Please check the list to see if your district qualifies for funding. For applications and information, visit the [EPA website](#).

The 2021 DERA School Bus Rebate Program has a new round of \$10 million funding available. The program provides funding to replace old diesel school buses with new electric, propane, CNG, diesel, or gasoline school buses. Regional, state, or tribal agencies, including public school districts and municipalities, tribal schools, and private fleets serving those schools are eligible for rebates through a lottery process for \$20,000 to \$65,000 per bus depending on the fuel type of the replacement bus. For applications and information, please visit the [EPA website](#).

Program Comparison Chart

Asbury Park Press Prints EZ Ride Op-ed



EZ Ride would like to thank the Asbury Park Press for printing our Op-ed on the importance of bicycle and pedestrian safety. In October, EZ Ride chose to bring attention to this critical topic for International Bike & Walk to School Month. To read the op-ed, please click below.

[Asbury Park Op-ed](#)

The Transporter is a monthly newsletter about transportation information in our region and is prepared by Meadowlands Transportation Brokerage Corporation dba EZ Ride. For any comments, corrections or suggestions, please call 201-939-4242 Ext. 131 or email info@ezride.org.

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