



Mobility Updates for Community Leaders

Issue 128 - October 2025

In Memoriam: Richard Fritzky

Dear Friends of EZ Ride,

It is with deep sadness that we share the passing of our beloved trustee, Richard "Rich" Fritzky. Alongside his dear friend Rich Roberts, Rich co-founded our organization and served as Vice Chair of the Board for many decades.

Rich was a visionary leader and dedicated public servant whose work left a lasting impact on regional



transportation, workforce development, and community progress across New Jersey. He served as President of the Meadowlands Regional Chamber for more than 25 years and later continued to guide the Chamber and other regional organizations as a consultant.

His leadership extended to many statewide initiatives, including the New Jersey Sports & Exposition Authority's Business Advisory Committee, the New Jersey Meadowlands Commission's Master Plan Review Advisory Committee, the New Jersey State Planning Commission, and the State Employment and Training Commission. He also served as Co-Chair of the 1998 New Jersey Task Force on Adult Literacy and as the first Chair of the York Street Project in Jersey City.

A proud Seton Hall University alumnus, Rich earned both his Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Political Science and American Civilization. He later shared his love of learning as an adjunct professor at Seton Hall and Fairleigh Dickinson University, inspiring countless students to lead with compassion and integrity.

Beyond his professional achievements, Rich was a devoted husband, father, and grandfather. After overcoming a life-threatening illness and tremendous physical challenges, he became a powerful voice for perseverance, gratitude, and faith. He and his wife, Maggie, are the proud parents of 12 children and grandparents to 31 grandchildren.

Rich's life was a testament to faith, resilience, and service. We are deeply grateful for his friendship, leadership, and the lasting legacy he leaves behind. His spirit will continue to guide and inspire all of us at EZ Ride.

Funeral Arrangements

The wake will be held on Friday, October 24th, from 4:00–8:00 p.m. at the *F. John Ramsey Funeral Home in Franklin*.

The funeral service will take place on Saturday, October 25th, at 1:00 p.m. at *St. Kateri Tekakwitha Church in Sparta*, followed by a repast from 4:00–8:00 p.m. at the *Budd Lake Firehouse in Mount Olive*.

With heartfelt sympathy,



From the Classroom to the Charging Station: Belleville Embraces EVs



EZ Ride congratulates the Belleville Public School District for taking a bold step toward a cleaner and more sustainable future. The District is installing electric vehicle (EV) chargers at all ten of its school buildings — from Preschool to High School — making workplace EV charging a reality for staff and visitors alike.

This achievement was made possible through two key funding opportunities:

- NJDEP's "It Pays to Plug In" program, which offsets the cost of EV charging equipment.
- PSE&G's EV Charging Rebate, which helps cover "make-ready" infrastructure expenses.

The District has selected an engineering firm to install the dual-port chargers. These initiatives helped Belleville earn the Silver-Level Electric *Vehicle Adoption Leadership (EVAL)* Certification, a recognition of the District's commitment to sustainable transportation.

"Technical assistance from EZ Ride was critical in our decision-making process and allowed us to plan for the deployment of EV charging at all 10 schools with minimal cost to our district," said Erick Alfonso, Superintendent of Schools, Belleville Board of Education. "This project is one of many ways we're demonstrating leadership in renewable energy and electric vehicle support for our staff and community."

Belleville's active Green Team continues to champion environmental initiatives, encouraging clean commuting options for the teachers and staff who travel from across New Jersey to educate the next generation. By investing in workplace EV charging, the District promotes affordability, accessibility, and equity—ensuring that clean transportation is within reach for all.

To learn more about EV charging opportunities for schools, join us for a free webinar, "Powering EV Charging for K-12 Schools," on Wednesday, November 12 at 2:00 PM.

□ *Register today* or contact us at ev@ezride.org or (201) 939-4242 (Option 6) for more information.



Asbury Park Enhances Road Safety for Micromobility Users



EZ Ride commends the *City of Asbury Park* for its proactive efforts to enhance street safety for everyone — especially those who bike, scoot, or skate.

With the rise of micromobility options like e-bikes and scooters, Asbury Park has prioritized safety by installing buffered and parking-protected bike lanes along Asbury Avenue (County Rt.16) from Main Street to Heck Street.

Installing bike lanes on a county road is a significant achievement and the new bike lane now creates a continuous route connecting the existing bike network from the beach area to Main Street. These lanes calm traffic, reduce speeding, and provide safer spaces for riders and drivers to share the road.

To complement this effort, EZ Ride partnered with the City to deliver road safety education for residents of all ages. The sessions teach riders about safe practices, New Jersey laws, and proper maintenance — followed by hands-on skill classes to build confidence on the road.

"Road safety is a top priority in the city of Asbury Park. No community wants to experience a crash or fatality of any road user. We want all forms of transportation vehicles to be safely utilized within our city. Best practices such as buffered bike lanes and formal education are a great opportunity for everyone to share the road safely". James Bonanno, Director of Transportation, City of Asbury Park

The use of micromobility devices is expected to grow. Infrastructure changes and continued education will benefit users of all ages, especially in communities that offer bike or scooter sharing programs.

To learn how EZ Ride can help your community improve micromobility safety, contact bikeped@ezride.org or call (201) 939-4242, Option 3.



Somerset Community Action Program Empowers Residents to Gain Independence with EZ Ryde4Life



For more than 50 years, the *Somerset Community Action Program (SCAP)* has been helping residents overcome barriers to economic self-sufficiency through early childhood education, youth development, family support, and community services. Continuing this mission, SCAP has partnered with EZ Ride to expand access to reliable transportation through the *EZ Ryde4Life* program — addressing one of the community's most persistent challenges.

For many Somerset County residents, dependable transportation is the key to achieving independence, employment, and stability. Through this partnership, SCAP offers free rides for its members, enabling them to attend job training programs, medical appointments, grocery stores, pharmacies, and other essential destinations.

"EZ Ryde4Life has been a game-changer for our clients," said Natalia Rodriguez, Case Worker at SCAP. "Transportation is often one of the biggest barriers they face, and this program provides the freedom and reliability they need to access work, medical care, and other essential services. It directly supports our mission of helping individuals achieve greater stability and independence."

While most trips occur within Somerset County, EZ Ryde4Life's flexibility allows riders to travel across New Jersey — a vital benefit for those who need specialized care or opportunities beyond their local area.

Operating statewide, *EZ Ryde4Life* can be customized to meet the transportation needs of low-income individuals, families, and seniors in communities throughout New Jersey. The partnership between SCAP and EZ Ride demonstrates how equitable, affordable mobility can transform lives and strengthen community well-being.

For more information on how EZ Ryde4Life can support your organization or clients, contact Kinga Skora at kskora@ezride.org or call (201) 939-4242 Ext. 131.



News From Our Partners



2025-2026 NJEA Grant Cycle Application Deadline: October 31, 2025







New Jersey's Funding One Stop Shop





What if your driving habits changed someone's life forever?

A message from NJDOT Commissioner Fran O'Connor

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 over 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.

Whatever your mobility needs, EZ Ride is here to help Download Our Capabilities

(201) 939-4242 | info@ezride.org | www.ezride.org













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