The Transporter

Mobility Updates for Community Leaders

ezride Mobility Managers

Issue 140 – November 2026

In Memoriam: Richard T. Roberts



It is with deep sadness that we share the passing of our beloved trustee and EZ Ride co-founder, Richard T. Roberts. Rich helped establish our organization alongside Rich Fritzky, whom we also lost in October 2025. Rich served as Chairman of the Board for two years, from 1996 to 1998, and remained an active Board member until his retirement. Even after retiring from his professional career, he remained an active and dedicated champion of EZ Ride until his passing, generously sharing his knowledge, experience, and guidance.

A lifelong love of trains inspired Rich's career in transportation engineering. Early in his career, he served the newly formed New Jersey Meadowlands Commission, beginning more than two decades of advocacy for what became the Meadowlands Rail Station. His career included roles at the Port Authority of New York & New Jersey, Edwards and Kelcey, and Amtrak, as well as service as Chief Planner for NJ TRANSIT in Newark.

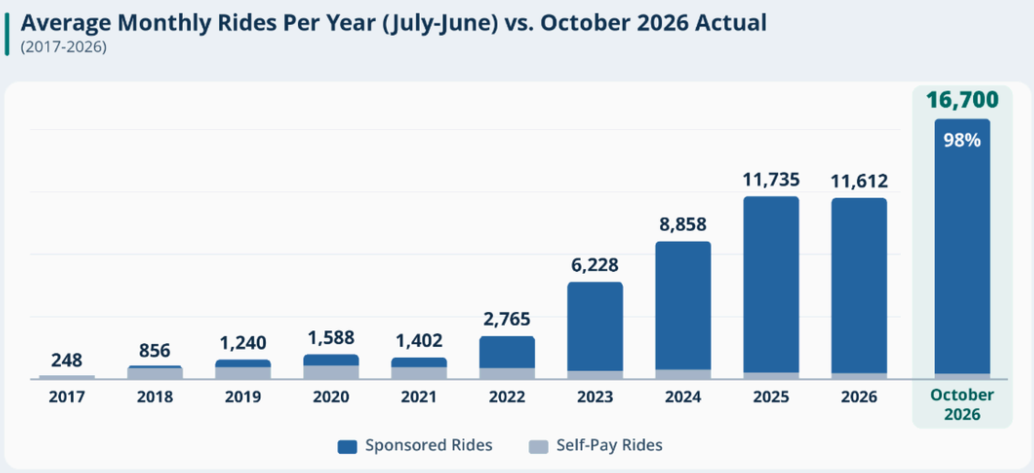
Above all, Rich was devoted to his family. Guided by his Catholic faith, he lived with generosity and compassion, always willing to help those in need. We will remember him with gratitude for his leadership, kindness, and lasting contributions to EZ Ride and the communities we serve.

With heartfelt sympathy, we extend our condolences to Rich's family, friends, and colleagues. He will be deeply missed and fondly remembered.



Krishna Murthy
President & CEO | EZ Ride

EZ Ryde4Life Surpasses 16,700 Rides in October - A Growing Success Story Built on Partnerships



EZ Ryde4Life reached a new milestone in October 2026, providing more than 16,700 rides in a single month. This achievement reflects the program's growing role in helping New Jersey residents, particularly older adults, access healthcare, shopping, employment, and other essential services.

Since its launch in 2017, EZ Ryde4Life has grown from approximately 200+ rides monthly to more than 11,000 rides monthly in 2025 and 2026. Currently more than 5,000 older adults participate in the program.

Partnerships are central to the program's success. Today, 98% of rides are paid for in full or in part by sponsoring organizations, including government agencies, nonprofits, and businesses. These partnerships help reduce transportation costs for riders while enabling sponsoring organizations to better serve their communities.

We are grateful to our funding partners, including Bergen, Essex, Monmouth, and Passaic counties; Asbury Park and Montclair; NJ TRANSIT; the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority (NJTPA); the New Jersey Department of Human Services (NJDHS), Affordable Housing Alliance; O.C.E.A.N., Inc., Somerset Community Action Program; The Center in Asbury Park; Community Health Center; Visiting Nurse Association of Central Jersey; Clinilabs and RPM Development Group. We also recognize our transportation partners, Uber Health and Lyft, and our technology partner, QRyde by HBSS, for their contributions to the program's success.

Looking ahead, EZ Ride is focused on expanding transportation options, including wheelchair-accessible services, strengthening existing partnerships, and engaging new sponsors. Sustainable funding remains essential to making affordable transportation available to more residents.

Transportation is more than a ride. It is a connection to healthcare, independence, and opportunity. By working together, we can help more people overcome transportation barriers and remain connected to their communities.

Could your community benefit from expanded transportation options? Learn how EZ Ryde4Life can complement your existing services. Call Kinga Skora at (201) 939-4242, ext. 131 or email kskora@ezride.org org.



Avnish Gupta
COO & General Counsel | EZ Ride

Bridging the Last Mile: How EZ Ride Shuttles Connect People, Places, and Opportunities



Access to public transportation can influence where people choose to work, live, and do business. Yet, even when a train or bus station is nearby, reaching the final destination can be a challenge.

EZ Ride bridges this gap with customized shuttle services connecting workplaces, residential communities, and commercial properties to public transit.

For employers, reliable shuttle connections expand recruitment opportunities, improve commutes, and reduce parking demand. For residential developers, convenient transit access makes properties more attractive to prospective tenants. For commercial property owners, shuttle services enhance accessibility and provide a valuable amenity for businesses and employees.

Making Shuttle Services More Affordable and Reliable
Operating a dedicated shuttle can be costly. EZ Ride offers a practical alternative through shared shuttle services that allow multiple organizations to share operating costs while benefiting from reliable transportation.

As a nonprofit with extensive experience working with public agencies, EZ Ride also helps clients identify and pursue government funding opportunities to offset operating expenses. Combining public funding with private contributions can make shuttle services more affordable and sustainable.

EZ Ride provides turnkey management, including route planning, scheduling, vehicles, drivers, maintenance, and operational oversight. Clients benefit from professionally managed transportation without the responsibilities of operating their own fleets.

Success Story: The Monarch Shuttle – Connecting Residents to Secaucus Junction
For more than 10 years, EZ Ride has partnered with ***The Monarch*** in East Rutherford to connect residents with Secaucus Junction.

Operating during morning and evening commuting hours, the shuttle makes it easier for residents to access NJ TRANSIT rail services without driving to the station or worrying about parking.

The bus also carries the Monarch's identity throughout the surrounding area. Wrapped in advertising promoting the property, it serves as a moving billboard while making the shuttle easy for residents to recognize among the buses at Secaucus Junction.

For residents, the service offers a convenient, cost-effective commuting option. For BNE, it provides a valuable amenity that enhances the property's appeal to prospective tenants and helps distinguish The Monarch in a competitive residential market.

The partnership demonstrates how a professionally managed shuttle can improve the residential experience while creating value for property owners.

Your Transportation Partner
"EZ Ride provides a turnkey transportation solution that makes public transit easily accessible to our residents. The Monarch Shuttle is more than a convenience; it's a valuable amenity that helps us market our community and attract prospective tenants."
- Seth Cohen, VP, BNE Real Estate Group.

Whether serving an office complex, residential development, or employment center, EZ Ride can design a ***transportation solution*** tailored to your needs and budget. To explore a customized shuttle solution, call Kinga Skora at (201) 939-4242 ext. 131 or email kskora@ezride.org.



Kinga Skora
Director, Marketing & Sales | EZ Ride

Matawan-Aberdeen Takes Important Steps Toward Safer Streets and Stronger Communities



Aberdeen Township, Matawan Borough, and the ***Matawan-Aberdeen Regional School*** District are working together to make walking and bicycling safer for students, families, and residents. In partnership with EZ Ride, they are combining education, safety assessments, and long-term planning to create safer, more walkable communities.

A Districtwide Commitment to Safety
In August 2026, the Matawan-Aberdeen Regional Board of Education adopted a Safe Routes to School (SRTS) District Policy, establishing consistent expectations for safe walking and bicycling, including street crossings, helmet use, and bicycle safety. EZ Ride supported the district by sharing sample policies and School Travel Plans from other New Jersey communities.

Building on this commitment, EZ Ride conducted bicycle and pedestrian safety presentations at four elementary schools and one middle school in September and October,

reaching approximately 2,330 students. The presentations provided practical guidance to help students walk and bike safely.

Working Together to Create Safer Routes
EZ Ride also coordinated a road safety audit around Matawan Regional High School and four other district schools. Participants included students, school administrators, Board of Education members, Aberdeen's mayor, police officers, public works staff, parent representatives, and county and municipal officials.

The audit identified opportunities to improve walking and bicycling conditions. EZ Ride is preparing a School Travel Plan documenting safety concerns and recommended improvements, which will help the district and municipalities pursue funding for future projects.

"Keeping our students safe is a shared responsibility that extends beyond our school buildings. We want every child to feel safe not only at school, but also as they travel to and from school each day. Through our partnership with EZ Ride, we are gaining valuable insight into pedestrian and bicycle safety, identifying areas for improvement, and strengthening our approach to safe routes to school. Our partnerships with parents and families play an essential role in identifying concerns, sharing perspectives, and developing meaningful solutions. We appreciate the collaboration of EZ Ride, our families, and municipal leaders as we work together to create safer, more connected school communities for all our students." - Michael J. Liebmann, Assistant Superintendent of Schools and District Safety Specialist, Matawan-Aberdeen Regional School District

Building on Progress
The community's safety efforts extend beyond school grounds. EZ Ride has encouraged Aberdeen Township and Matawan Borough to adopt Complete and Green Streets policies, which promote safer, more accessible streets for pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, and people with disabilities.

EZ Ride attended council meetings in both municipalities and provided sample policies and resources to support local discussions. Adoption of these policies would help ensure that future roadway improvements consider the needs of all users.

A Model for Other Communities
EZ Ride congratulates Aberdeen Township, Matawan Borough, and the Matawan-Aberdeen Regional School District for their leadership and commitment to safer streets. Their partnership demonstrates how education, community engagement, and thoughtful planning can create lasting improvements for students and residents alike.

Other municipalities and school districts can follow their example. EZ Ride offers safety education, road safety audits, School Travel Plans, and policy guidance to help communities improve walking and bicycling safety.

To learn more, contact Michael Johnson at (201) 939-4242, ext. 130, or email bikeped@ezride.org.



Michael Johnson
Manager, Bike & Pedestrian Program | EZ Ride

Wheels & Watts: Helping New Jersey Communities Charge Ahead



As more New Jersey communities explore electric vehicles (EVs) and charging infrastructure, municipal leaders face important questions: Where should chargers be installed? What funding is available? How can municipalities transition their fleets to electric vehicles? And what policies are needed to support long-term success?

EZ Ride's *Wheels & Watts* webinar series helps answer these questions by connecting local officials with industry experts and communities that have firsthand experience implementing EV charging projects.

Launched in April 2025 in partnership with Plug In America, Lynkwell, Bryan Electric, and EV Noire, the series has hosted more than 15 webinars. Initially national in scope, the program now focuses on the needs and opportunities of New Jersey communities.

Learning from Real-World Experience
The webinars go beyond technical presentations to highlight practical lessons from municipalities and organizations that are putting EV plans into action.

Speakers from across New Jersey have shared their firsthand experiences with EV charging initiatives, including representatives from:

- Counties: Atlantic, Hudson, Mercer and Passaic
- Municipalities: Atlantic Highlands, Madison, Princeton, Red Bank and Westfield

Representatives from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Sustainable Jersey, and other organizations have provided practical guidance on funding opportunities, charging policies, and infrastructure planning.

Topics range from installing workplace and public charging stations to electrifying municipal fleets, including police vehicles, waste collection trucks, and other government vehicles.

By learning from the experiences of others, municipal officials can better understand the opportunities, challenges, and steps involved in launching their own projects.

From Education to Implementation
Beyond the webinars, EZ Ride helps municipalities navigate the transition to cleaner transportation through technical assistance, information about funding opportunities, and guidance on EV charging initiatives.

EZ Ride also supports organizations seeking recognition through the national Electric Vehicle Adoption Leadership (EVAL) program, helping communities demonstrate their commitment to sustainable transportation.

Red Bank Councilwoman Nancy Facey-Blackwood highlighted the value of the series: "*EZ Ride's Wheels & Watts webinars provide practical guidance on every step of the process, from securing grants and planning charging infrastructure to developing charging policies. It is one of the best one-hour investments municipal officials can make as they prepare to bring clean transportation infrastructure to their communities*."

Join Our Next Webinar
Whether your municipality is just beginning to explore EV charging or is ready to move forward with a project, Wheels & Watts offers valuable information and connections to help you succeed.

Join us Wednesday, December 16, 2026, at 3 p.m. ***Register for the webinar***

Slides and recordings from previous webinars are available upon request.
For more information or technical assistance, contact Lisa Lee, Senior Director of Sustainability Programs, at (201) 939-4242, ext. 123 or email LLee@ezride.org.



Lisa Lee
Senior Director, Sustainability Programs | EZ Ride

News From Our Partners

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Learn more & register for the webinars

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SUSTAINABLE JERSEY GRANTS PROGRAM

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Sustainable Jersey Grants Program Cycle

Informational Webinar – December 10 @1pm



About EZ Ride



As a nonprofit public-private partnership, EZ Ride helps organizations reduce the cost and complexity of planning and providing transportation while making travel easier and safer for the people they serve.

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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