

## Rutherford-Lyndhurst Shuttle: A Model for Community Mobility



For more than 16 years, the [Rutherford-Lyndhurst Shuttle](#) has helped residents of both communities connect to public transportation through the Rutherford and Lyndhurst train stations, providing access to jobs, regional transit, and New York City without relying on a car. The Rutherford train station serves as a critical transit hub, offering rail connections to Secaucus and Hoboken, as well as and high-frequency bus service to Newark, Hackensack, Paterson and New York City.

Launched in 2008 with seed funding from the former New Jersey Meadowlands Commission, now part of the New Jersey Sports and Exposition Authority, the shuttle has grown into a successful public-private partnership. Today, the program is funded in part through NJ TRANSIT's Job Access and Reverse Commute (NJ-JARC) program and cost-sharing agreements with participating apartment communities, including Vermella Lyndhurst, Sofi Lyndhurst, The Winston, and The Station at Lyndhurst.

While the shuttle primarily serves residents of these communities, it is also open to the public for a small fee. Operating Monday through Friday during peak commuting hours, the service provides nearly 1,000 passenger trips each month.

The Rutherford-Lyndhurst Shuttle demonstrates how public and private partnerships can improve mobility, strengthen communities and reduce congestion on local roads while offering a convenient and affordable commuting option.

*“Access to public transit is essential, but not everyone can live right next to a train or bus station,”* said Karolina Bator, Multi Site Manager for The Station & The Winston at Lyndhurst. *“The shuttle provides our residents with a reliable connection to transit without requiring us to manage day-to-day operations ourselves. By partnering with EZ Ride and sharing costs with other participating communities, the service remains both cost-effective and sustainable. We are proud to offer this essential amenity to our residents.”*

As demand grows for walkable, transit-connected communities, services like the Rutherford-Lyndhurst Shuttle are becoming increasingly important to local mobility and economic development. For more information about implementing a shuttle service for your organization or community, please contact Kinga Skora at (201) 939-4242 ext. 131 or email [kskora@ezride.org](mailto:kskora@ezride.org).



**Kinga Skora**  
Deputy Director, Marketing & Sales | EZ Ride

## Rides that Change Lives: EZ Ryde4Life Comes to Passaic County



EZ Ride is pleased to partner with the [Passaic County Department of Human Services](#) (DHS) to launch a new [EZ Ryde4Life pilot program](#), to provide on-demand transportation to residents working toward employment and self-sufficiency.

For individuals receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and Post-TANF benefits, something as simple as getting to a job interview or training program can be a major challenge due to the lack of transportation. [This program](#) removes that obstacle, opening the door to jobs, skills training, and brighter futures.

With EZ Ryde4Life, eligible participants can quickly and easily request rides in real time—no reservations, no smartphone required. Powered by Uber and Lyft, the program ensures that riders have access to transportation to attend job interviews, career fairs, vocational training, One-Stop Career Centers, and critical social service appointments.

*"Reliable transportation is the key to accessing job opportunities and essential services," said Passaic County Commissioner Director Lazzara. "The Board is happy to support this initiative, which removes one of the biggest barriers our clients face and empowers them to move forward."*

Designed for convenience and flexibility, the service operates Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM, and Saturdays from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

This is more than a ride. It's a pathway to independence. By working together, EZ Ride and Passaic County are creating real, measurable impact, helping residents access opportunities, secure employment, and transform their lives.

Passaic County now joins Bergen, Essex, and Monmouth counties in contract with EZ Ride for these services. More than 5,000 riders participate in the program and EZ Ride provides more than 500 rides on a typical day. The service is available in all 21 counties.

### Ready to Make an Impact in Your Community?

Bring **EZ Ryde4Life** to your community and help remove transportation barriers for those who need it most. Contact Kinga Skora at [kskora@ezride.org](mailto:kskora@ezride.org) or call 201-939-4242 ext. 131 to launch a customized program today.



**Avnish Gupta**  
COO & General Counsel | EZ Ride

## Belleville Board of Education Charges Ahead with Districtwide EV Leadership



Congratulations to the Belleville Board of Education (BOE) for completing the installation of EV chargers at all 10 district schools, working to adopt a districtwide EV charging policy, and earning EV Adoption Leadership recognition.

According to Dr. Erick Alfonso, Superintendent of Schools for the Belleville Board of Education, the initiative supports several important district goals: providing charging access for staff who drive electric vehicles, encouraging broader EV adoption, modernizing district infrastructure, and reinforcing the district's commitment to sustainability, innovation, and a healthier school environment.

*"As community institutions, public schools have an opportunity to lead by example,"* said Dr. Alfonso. *"Visible sustainability initiatives create meaningful opportunities for real-world learning and conversations with students, staff, and residents."*

The district is also exploring ways to make the chargers available to local residents in the future, which could help generate revenue to offset costs while balancing operational logistics, policy considerations, and long-term sustainability goals.

Belleville BOE's commitment to clean transportation extends beyond charging infrastructure. The district has integrated electric school buses into its fleet and purchased EVs for administrative use through New Jersey's EV grant program - all while maintaining fiscal responsibility and operational efficiency.

The wind turbine at Belleville High School continues to serve as a visible symbol of the district's broader sustainability efforts and its commitment to responsible environmental stewardship.

*"We appreciate EZ Ride's EV Accelerator program," added Dr. Alfonso. "They have helped with NJ grants, EV Adoption Leadership certification, and resources to develop our new EV Charging Policy. Our Green Team considers this effort to promote emissions-free transportation crucial to making our school community healthier, benefiting students, staff, and residents."*

### **Join Our Next Wheels & Watts Virtual Meeting**

EZ Ride continues its *Wheels & Watts* virtual meeting series on Wednesday, June 17, at 2:00 p.m. The session will include practical guidance on developing EV charging policies and installing EV charging infrastructure. [Register here.](#)



**Lisa Lee**  
Director, Sustainability Programs | EZ Ride

## **Teaneck's First Bike Bus Rolls into Action**



On a foggy spring morning in Teaneck, New Jersey, something exciting was happening. On Thursday, April 23, 2026, a group of middle school students gathered outside Bryant Elementary School with their bikes, helmets, and backpacks, ready for a new kind of school commute.

Escorted by two Teaneck Police patrol vehicles and a motorcycle officer, the students rode together to Benjamin Franklin Middle School as part of Teaneck's first-ever Bike Bus.

Joining the students on the ride were Principal Williams, Vice Principal Jacobs, and three EZ Ride staff members. District Superintendent Dr. Andre Spencer and Ms. Connie Le were also there to cheer the students on at the starting line, highlighting the district's strong support for the initiative.

The students are now part of a growing movement happening across the country: the Bike Bus.

### **So, what is a Bike Bus?**

A Bike Bus is a group ride to school led by adults along a planned route with designated “stops” where additional students can join in along the way. It’s a fun, healthy, and community-centered alternative to traditional school transportation. Bike Bus programs have gained popularity in cities such as Portland, Oregon; Barcelona, Spain; and nearby New Jersey communities including Montclair and South Orange/Maplewood. Their growth reflects increasing interest in safer, more active ways for students to get to school.

*“There was a small percentage of students who struggled with getting to school on time. We didn’t want transportation to be an obstacle to a child getting an education, so we reached out to EZ Ride to see if a bike donation was possible. We are so grateful for their partnership. I also live in town and thought it would be a fun way to connect with students and build community as we ride together to school.”* — Mrs. Jahari Jacobs, Assistant Principal, Benjamin Franklin and Thomas Jefferson Middle Schools

In the week leading up to the ride, EZ Ride hosted a hands-on bicycle safety class where students learned essential riding skills, including the ABC bike check, proper helmet fitting, starting and stopping safely, hand signaling, scanning for traffic, crossing intersections, group riding techniques, New Jersey traffic laws, and the rules of the road. Two students also received donated bikes and helmets. By the time Bike Bus day arrived, everyone was ready to ride.

For the students who participated, the experience was both exciting and empowering. Riding together with support from school staff, community leaders, and local law enforcement allowed students to experience their neighborhood in a new way - one pedal at a time.

The Benjamin Franklin Middle School Bike Bus is scheduled to continue every other week, giving even more students the opportunity to participate.

The launch of the Bike Bus comes at a perfect time. Governor Mikie Sherrill has proclaimed [May as Bike Month and New Jersey Walk and Bike to School Month](#). In addition, May 6 marks [National Bike & Roll to School Day](#), and May 11–15 is recognized as Bike to Work Week - all excellent opportunities to celebrate the benefits of biking.

Through its Spokes4Students program, EZ Ride can provide Bike Bus training, new helmets, and refurbished bicycles to students in need. For more information, email [bikeped@ezride.org](mailto:bikeped@ezride.org) or call (201) 939-4242, option 3.



**Michael Johnson**  
Manager, Bike & Pedestrian Program | EZ Ride

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## **News From Our Partners**



**NJDOT World Cup 2026  
Traffic Advisory Toolkit to  
Reduce Travel Demand**



**Your Ride to the  
World's Game**  
NJ TRANSIT Reduces Ticket  
Price to \$98 for  
FIFA World Cup Matches



**FY26 SS4A Funding Opportunity**

Applications for Safe Streets and  
Roads for All are due May 26, 2026



**Can Vanpooling Offer a Cheaper  
Way to Group Commute?**



**NJ Governor Mikie Sherrill  
Proclaims May 2026 as Bike  
Month & New Jersey Walk and  
Bike to School Month**



**Sustainable Jersey-  
PSEG Partnership  
Program to Support  
Energy Efficiency in  
Our Communities**

Applications open  
until June 3, 2026

## 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.

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

(201) 939-4242 | [info@ezride.org](mailto:info@ezride.org) | [www.ezride.org](http://www.ezride.org)



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