Issue 99 - February 2022





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

EZ Ride Provides Transportation for Bergen County Residents Displaced by Hurricane Ida



Recently Bergen County needed assistance with supplementing the transportation for its residents who were displaced from their apartment building flooded by Hurricane Ida, and they reached out to EZ Ride.

About 150 people were displaced due to the flooding in Englewood. EZ Ride provides a shuttle for a group of those residents who were relocated and are now living in the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Englewood to transport them to the local supermarket. The service started on January 25 and is available every Tuesday from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Additionally, Bergen County uses the *EZ Ryde4Life program* that uses Lyft and Uber to provide rides to further augment the shuttle service.

For more information about our Shuttle Program, contact Kinga Skora at (201) 939-4242 ext.131 or kskora@ezride.org.

EZ Ride Shuttle Program

Livingston Expands Transportation Options with EZ Ryde4Life Program



Livingston is piloting the *EZ Ryde4Life* program with the help of a few selected senior citizen residents.

This program will offer free transportation to the participants. Apart from trips within Livingston, the participants can go to three other neighboring communities: West Orange, East Hanover and Roseland. The riders call *EZ Ryde4Life* coordinators at (201) 939-4242 ext. 4 and request a ride to and from their home to a destination in one of the four towns. Our coordinator will dispatch a Lyft or Uber to provide the ride.

Pilot programs can help a town or county check the *EZ Ryde4Life* program at a low cost and without any long-term commitment to see if it is a good fit. The program can then be expanded based on the findings of the pilot program.

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

EZ Ryde4Life Program

Clifton Partners with EZ Ride to Improve Pedestrian Safety



As part of a neighborhood safety campaign, EZ Ride is working with the City of Clifton to make their community more bike and pedestrian-friendly by offering safety education in Clifton Schools. The city plans to improve its' infrastructure, including adding streetlights and crosswalks and conducting walk and bike audits. The campaign dubbed "Look, Cross, Live Clifton," is funded by the Partners for Health Foundation in conjunction with the Clifton Health Department. The Health Department conducted a survey and found that the top three concerns identified by residents were: roads, community safety and pedestrian safety. In response to the survey, they plan to post over 180 Street Smart signs to help change resident and driver behavior.

"We are pleased to work with the City of Clifton to improve bike and pedestrian safety," said Lisa Lee, EZ Ride's Deputy Director of the Bike & Pedestrian Program. "One of our goals is to make our communities safer for all, including all pedestrians and cyclists. EZ Ride will help Clifton by conducting walk and bike audits near schools and prepare a travel plan report which the city can use to apply for NJDOT grants to make improvements such as pedestrian lighting and better crosswalks. Information about the "Look, Cross, Live Clifton" campaign is available in the *City of Clifton Health Improvement Plan*.

For information on EZ Ride's bike & pedestrian program, contact Lisa Lee at (201) 939-4242 ext. 123 or llee@ezride.org.

Bike & Pedestrian Program

Holmdel, Washington Township & Bradley Beach Adopt Complete Streets Policies



EZ Ride assisted several communities in adopting policies that will improve the quality of life and make them eligible for grant opportunities. Our efforts recently delivered in three communities, two in Monmouth County (Holmdel and Bradley Beach) and one in Bergen County (Washington Township). The new policies will require any new developments to consider the needs of pedestrians, cyclists and the disabled as well as address storm water. Holmdel recently adopted a Complete Streets Policy, while Washington Township and Bradley Beach adopted *Complete and Green Streets policies*.

Complete Streets help improve community safety, reduce vehicle speeds and enhance connectivity. Green Streets policy helps beautify a community, retain rainwater, and protect local water quality. They are streets designed or redesigned for all users and all modes of transportation to improve community safety, reduce vehicle speeds and enhance connectivity. Green Streets could include but are not limited to street trees, permeable pavement, bio-retention areas, and vegetated swales. All new developments in these communities will need to meet specific criteria such as adequate lighting, sidewalks, and crosswalks.

For more information on Complete Streets Policy, contact Lisa Lee at (201) 939-4242 ext.123 or llee@ezride.org.

Complete Streets & Green Streets Policy Guide

EZ Ride Assists 150+ Schools and Municipalities to Qualify for Safe Routes to School Awards



Safe Routes to School

We are pleased that our Bike & Pedestrian Team assisted more than 150 schools and towns with their applications for the Safe Routes to School Recognition Awards, a 50 percent increase over last year. The award notifications will be announced by the NJDOT

in May, and all awardees will be honored at EZ Ride's annual event and awards ceremony, to be scheduled later this year.

The awardees receive bonus points that make them more competitive to receive grants from Sustainable New Jersey and the New Jersey Department of Transportation for infrastructure improvements.

For more information on how your school or town can apply for the Safe Routes to School Recognition Award, contact Mike Johnson at (201) 939-4242 ext. 130 or mjohnson@ezride.org.

Safe Routes to School Awards

Funding Opportunities for EV Programs



NJDEP Call for Electrification Projects, Energy Master Plan, Funding

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) is offering another round of funding to replace diesel vehicles with electric as part of its continuing effort to reduce diesel emissions and mitigate climate change. The program is open to local government vehicles and

privately owned school buses under contract with a public school district. Project proposals are due March 4. Please submit proposals and questions to **stopthesoot@njdep.nj.gov**. Between 12 and 16 projects will receive funding, according to the NJDEP. For information, visit **www.nj.gov/dep/stopthesoot/**.

NJBPU Opens Application Window for Multi-Unit Dwelling Electric Vehicle Charging Program

The New Jersey Board of Public Utilities has opened applications for its Multi-unit Dwelling Electric Vehicle Charger Incentive Program. This program aims to improve New Jersey's air quality and meet the state's transportation



electrification goals with the purchase and installation of electric charging vehicle equipment. Awards will be presented on a rolling basis as applications are received, reviewed, and approved through May 2 at 5 p.m. For information, visit **www.nj.gov/bpu** and **www.njcleanenergy.com**.



NJDEP Offers \$4M for Publicly Accessible High Speed Charging Stations within Communities

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) will accept applications for \$4 million in grants for publicly accessible electric vehicle fast-charging stations within communities beginning March 14. Grants of up to \$200,000 will be available. Potential applicants may attend webinars on the process February 23, 1-3 p.m.

and 7-9 p.m. and February 24, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., which will also be available online. To register for a webinar, send an email to *Monica.Miranda@dep.nj.gov* indicating the webinar you plan to attend along with your name and affiliation. In the email subject

line, write "Webinar for DCFC Solicitation." For questions, contact *drivegreen@dep.nj.gov*.

Community Energy Grant Program to Reduce Emissions

The New Jersey Board of Public Utilities has created a Community Energy Plan Grant (CEPG) program for all New Jersey municipalities to

develop a community energy plan to meet the state's *Energy Master Plan* goals. The plan's goal is to achieve 100 percent clean energy by 2050. New Jersey municipalities can apply for a \$10,000 grant and overburdened municipalities for a \$25,000 grant. The application deadline is March 18.

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Grant Application

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.

