

Freight Planning at NJTPA

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Delaware Valley Goods Movement Task Force

DVRPC, July 15, 2009



Outline

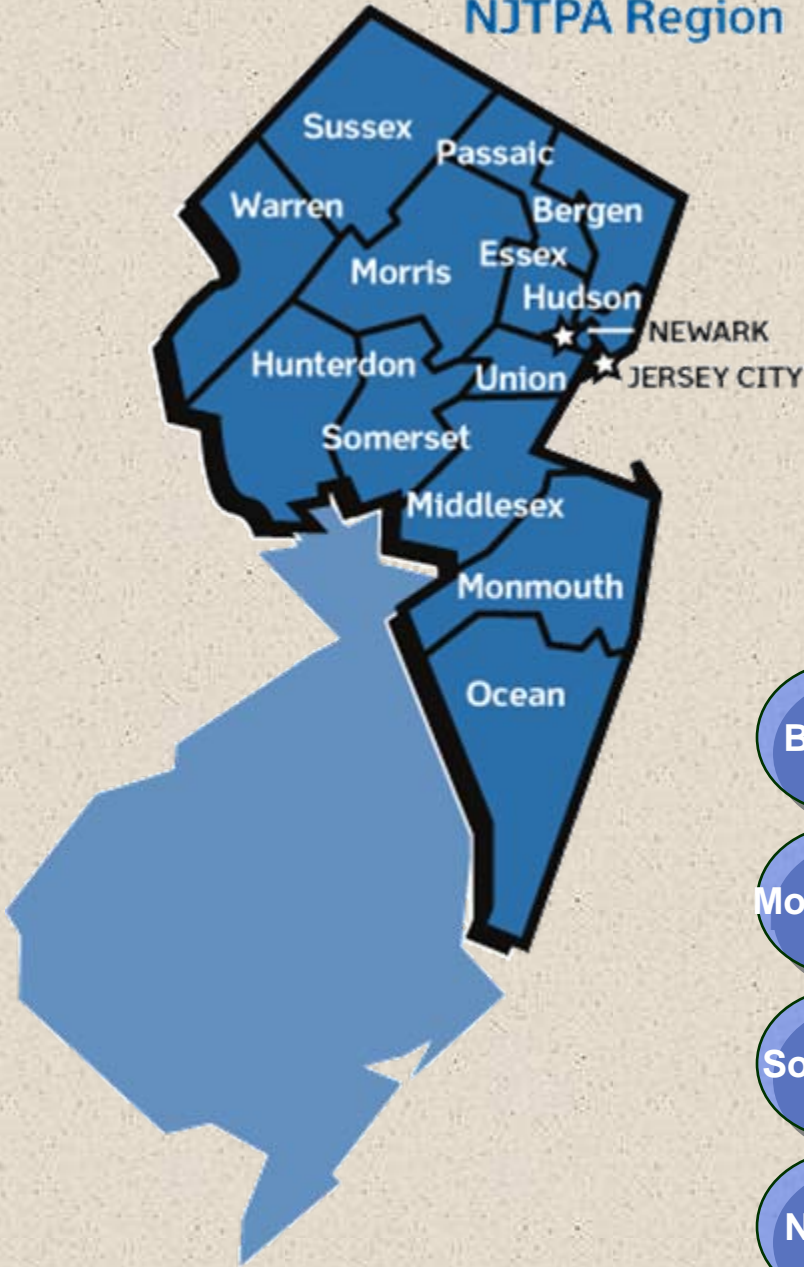
- NJTPA Overview
- Freight Initiatives Committee
- Current Initiatives
- Upcoming Initiatives
- Collaboration with DVRPC

An aerial photograph of the New Jersey Tri-County Planning Area (NJTPA) region. The region is outlined in a bright cyan color. It covers a large area of the state, including the northern and central parts, and extends to the coast. The terrain is a mix of green fields, brownish-grey urban and suburban areas, and blue water bodies. The Atlantic Ocean is visible on the right side of the image.

NJTPA Region

- > 6.5 million people, or 75% of the New Jersey population
- > 3.6 million jobs, 75% of the New Jersey employment base

NJTPA Region



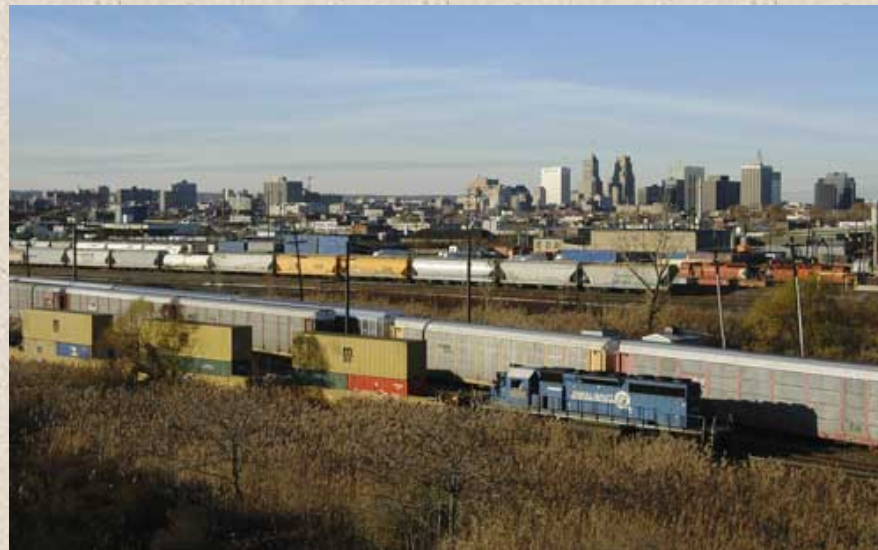
North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority

The Metropolitan Planning
Organization
for Northern New Jersey

Board of Trustees
20 Members



Freight Activity in the NJTPA Region



Freight Initiatives Committee

- Serves as a forum for discussion of regional freight issues.
- Makes recommendations on action items to be considered by the full NJTPA Board of Trustees.
- The committee meets bimonthly. Its meetings are open to the public.
- Over 350 stakeholders including representatives from the private sector, other public agencies including DVRPC, the general public as well as some elected officials.

Freight Roundtable



**NJTPA Regional
Transportation**

**PLAN
2035**



Current Initiatives – Grade Crossing Study

- Impacts of increases in freight rail traffic on at-grade crossings in terms of delays, safety and quality of life.
- 64 crossings on the Lehigh, West Trenton, Chemical Coast, Port Reading Secondary and River rail lines.
- Crossings were prioritized and problem statements developed for top 15 crossings.



Current Initiatives – Truck Parking Study

- Quantify the extent of the truck parking problem in the NJTPA region.
- Identify potential sites for new or expanded truck parking facilities to meet regional demand.
- Coordination with DVRPC, NYMTC and ConnDOT.



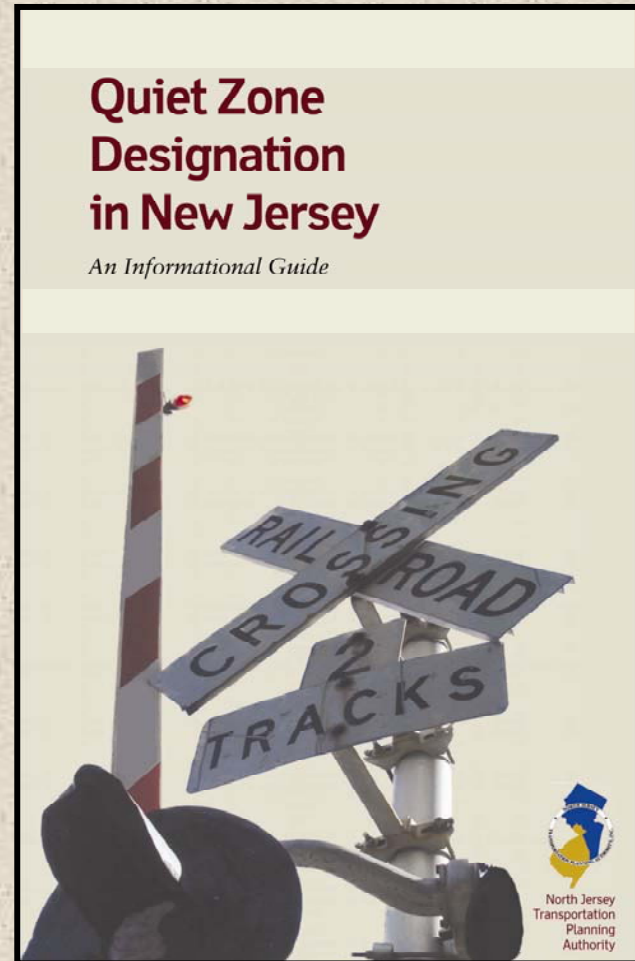
Current Initiatives – GENSET Locomotives

- Retrofitting a pair of switch yard locomotives at Port Newark/Port Elizabeth with cleaner, more efficient GENSET engines.
- The equipment is being purchased and installed through a public-private partnership between the NJTPA (CMAQ Funds), the Port Authority of New York & New Jersey, and Conrail.



Current Initiatives – Quiet Zone Brochure

- Federal requirement that train horns be sounded at every grade crossing.
- Number of questions on establishing quiet zones.
- Prepared an informational brochure as a guide to communities throughout the state.



Current Initiatives – MARAD Submission

- USDOT Maritime Administration Marine Highway Program established late in 2008
- Submitted comments on the federal rule
- Submitted an application to designate waterways in the NJTPA region as Marine Highway Corridors



Current Initiatives – 286K

- Conducted a 286K survey of freight rail companies including all shortlines.
- Coordinating with NJDOT, NJ Transit, DVRPC, AMTRAK and the private companies on next steps.



Photo Credit: Conrail

Upcoming Initiatives

- **Extended Hours of Operation**
 - Examine the impacts of overnight loading and unloading.
- **Freight Forecasting**
 - Develop updated freight industry forecasts for the NJTPA region.
 - Explore opportunities for development of waterborne services.

Collaboration with DVRPC

- Marine Highway Program
- 286K Initiative
- Regional Truck Parking Needs
- Freight Corridor Planning Initiatives that span the two regions (e.g., Roadway – Route 1, Rail – Northeast Corridor)

Thank You

Please visit our website:

www.njtpa.org/Plan/Element/Freight/default.aspx