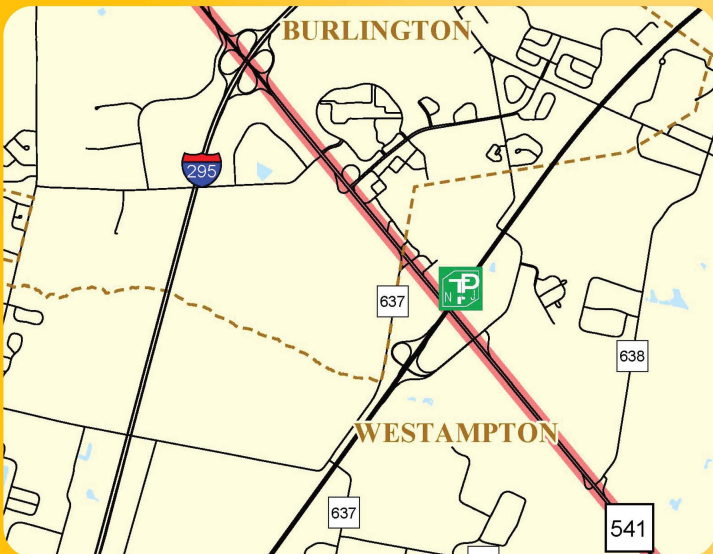


# Can We Reduce Congestion in New Jersey?

## Focus: CR 541 Corridor



## The Answer is Yes!

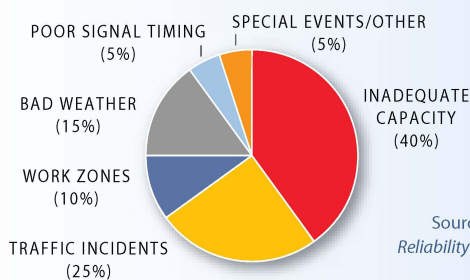
**T**ogether we can make your community and the region a better place to live and work. The Congestion Management Process (CMP) helps people and goods get to where they need to go. It uses all modes of transportation in coordination with land use planning to move the region toward a better future.

CR 541 is the focus of a Corridor Safety Study by DVRPC. The area of CR 541 between I-295 and the New Jersey Turnpike has an especially high number of crashes (see map on the inside of this brochure). High crash areas can lead to congestion from nonrecurring delay, which is delay caused by unexpected events. This type of unexpected congestion can be especially frustrating. The CR 541 Corridor Safety Study will help identify cost-effective strategies to improve safety in this corridor. Reducing the number of crashes will improve the reliability of CR 541.

## What Can I Do as a Citizen?

- ▶ Combine trips when you can, take transit, carpool, or join a local ridesharing program.
- ▶ Take advantage of local shopping and recreational opportunities, especially when accessible by transit, walking, or biking.
- ▶ Educate and express yourself when it comes to planning at all levels – public comment periods and DVRPC's Regional Citizens Committee meetings are great ways to get involved. To request a DVRPC Citizen's Guide and learn how to get involved, call Jane Meconi, Public Involvement Manager at 215.238.2871.

## Sources of Congestion



Source: FHWA, *Traffic Congestion and Reliability: Trends and Advanced Strategies for Congestion Mitigation*, 2005.

## What Can I Do as a Municipal Official or Staff Person?

- ▶ Be aware of the long- and short-term opportunities to shape your locale.
- ▶ Review your community's master plan, zoning, and regulations to ensure they reinforce each other and work toward common goals – DVRPC can help.
- ▶ Coordinate with surrounding municipalities and county studies.
- ▶ Communicate with your county representatives on the DVRPC Board (see "About Us" at [www.dvrpc.org](http://www.dvrpc.org) to find the name of your representative).
- ▶ There may be more ways to fund transportation and land use improvements than you realize. The DVRPC *Municipal Resource Guide* (Publication #09061) and DVRPC's *Options for Filling the Region's Transportation Funding Gap* (Publication #07045) are great sources of information. To request a copy of either publication, call 215.592.1800.

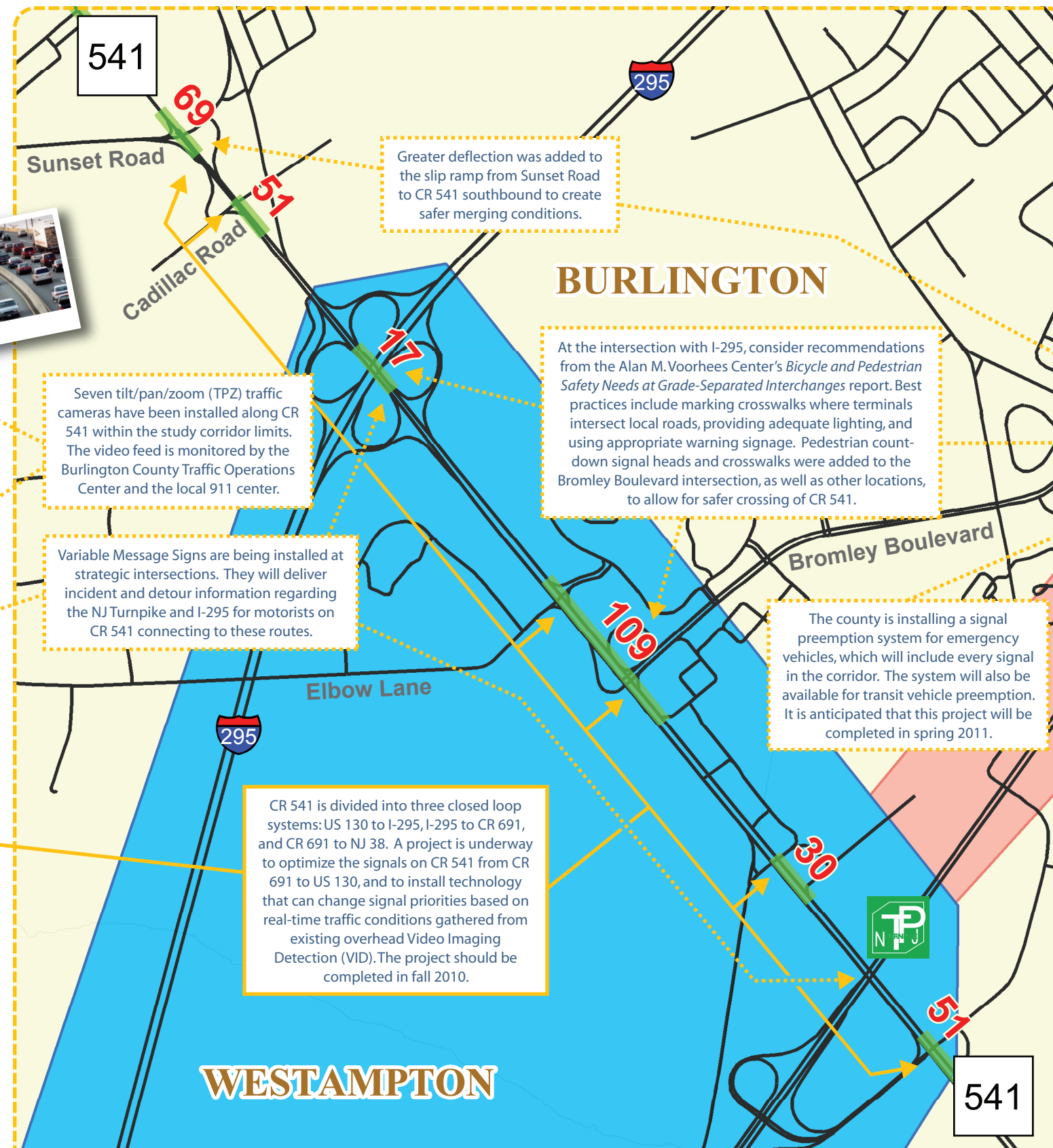
# Potential Strategies for this Congested Corridor

## Very Appropriate Strategies

- ▶ **Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) / Integrated Corridor Management (ICM) for Freeways**  
ITS includes a broad range of technologies that can relieve congestion, improve safety, and disseminate real-time travel information to the public. Building on ITS technologies, ICM is the coordination of individual network operations between parallel facilities to create an interconnected system.
- ▶ **Incident Management**  
This strategy includes programs to reduce incident duration by decreasing the time for incident detection/verification, response, and clearance.
- ▶ **Traveler Information Services**
- ▶ **Park-and-Ride Lots**
- ▶ **Major Reconstruction with Minor Capacity Increase**  
This strategy focuses on the basic use of a roadway, but may increase capacity, safety, and access for other modes.

## Secondary Strategies

- ▶ **Closed Loop Computerized Traffic Signals**  
This strategy includes linked traffic signal coordination responsive to traffic conditions. Using detectors, a centralized computer periodically samples traffic flow and determines the most appropriate timing plan and signal phasing.
- ▶ **Commercial Vehicle Operations (CVO)**
- ▶ **Maintenance Management**
- ▶ **Enhanced Transit Amenities and Safety**
- ▶ **Expanded Parking / Improved Access to Stations (all modes)**
- ▶ **Transit Oriented Development (TOD)**
- ▶ **Express Transit Routes**
- ▶ **More Frequent Hours or More Hours of Service**
- ▶ **Frontage or Service Roads**
- ▶ **Transportation Services for Specific Populations**

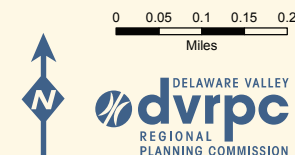


### NJ CMP Corridors

- 1 – I-295, NJ Turnpike (N)
- 2 – I-295, NJ Turnpike (S)

- CR 541 Crash Clusters
- ## Number of Crashes

Source: DVRPC, NJDOT Crash Data (2005-2007)



# NJ 2010



## Inexpensive Strategies that Help Almost Everywhere

(Definitions of these strategies and dozens more are in the CMP Report - Publication #09028B)

- ▶ **Safety Improvements and Programs**
- ▶ **Signage**
- ▶ **Improvements for Pedestrians and Bicyclists**
- ▶ **Basic Upgrading of Traffic Signals**
- ▶ **Signal Prioritization for Emergency Vehicles**
- ▶ **Intersection Improvements of a Limited Scale**
- ▶ **Bottleneck Improvements of a Limited Scale, Vehicle or Rail**
- ▶ **Accessibility and Environmental Justice**
- ▶ **Access Management (both engineering and policy strategies)**
- ▶ **Marketing / Outreach for Transit and TDM Services**  
(including carpool, vanpool, and ridesharing programs, alternate work hours, telecommuting, emergency ride home, TransitChek, carsharing, and one-less-car programs)
- ▶ **Revision of Existing Land Use / Transportation Regulations**
- ▶ **Growth Management and Smart Growth**

## What Does the Map Show?

- ▶ Congested corridors are broken into smaller sections, where a similar range of strategies is appropriate. The set of Very Appropriate strategies and a sample of Secondary strategies for the subcorridor are shown to the left of the map. The order of strategies reflects the priorities in DVRPC's Perspective on Transportation Planning, first adopted in the 2006 CMP Report and readopted in 2009. Listed above are general strategies that can apply almost everywhere.
- ▶ For much more about the CMP, visit our website at [www.dvrpc.org/CongestionManagement](http://www.dvrpc.org/CongestionManagement). There, you will find detailed information about each subcorridor, including interactive maps that allow viewers to zoom to specific locations, choose viewable layers, and see strategies and TIP projects for the subcorridor.

# Quick Introductions:

## Congestion Management Process (CMP)

A CMP is a systematic process for managing congestion. It provides information on transportation system performance and a range of strategies to minimize congestion and to help people and goods reach their destinations. The CMP advances the goals of DVRPC's Long-Range Plan and strengthens the connection between the Plan, the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), and other Commission efforts.

## Long-Range Plan

*Connections 2035 – The Regional Plan for a Sustainable Future* (Publication #09047) was adopted by the DVRPC Board on July 23, 2009 as the long-range plan for the Greater Philadelphia region. The Connections Plan puts a strong emphasis on creating livable communities, managing growth and protecting resources, building an energy-efficient economy, and creating a modern multimodal transportation system. Metropolitan planning organizations like DVRPC are key actors in regions across the country, responsible for coordinated, comprehensive, and continuing transportation planning. For more information, visit [www.dvrpc.org/Connections](http://www.dvrpc.org/Connections).

## Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

The TIP is the regionally agreed-upon list of priority projects, as required by federal law. The TIP must list all projects that intend to use federal funds, along with non-federally funded projects that are regionally significant. Projects address highway, transit, bicyclist, pedestrian, and freight-related needs. For more information, visit [www.dvrpc.org/TIP](http://www.dvrpc.org/TIP).

## CR 541 Corridor Study

Corridor planning is a critical part of the implementation of DVRPC's Long-Range Plan. Corridor plans are guided by and then provide transportation agencies, local governments, landowners, developers, and residents along the corridor with an overall vision and specific details on what future investments may be required. CR 541 was recently the subject of DVRPC's corridor safety planning efforts (see Publication #09019). For more information, contact Kevin Murphy, Principal Transportation Planner, Office of Transportation Safety and Congestion Management, at 215.238.2864 or [kmurphy@dvrpc.org](mailto:kmurphy@dvrpc.org).



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**Abstract** The CMP newsletter series focuses on congested subcorridors in the Delaware Valley, alternating between New Jersey and Pennsylvania. This edition highlights the CR 541 corridor in New Jersey. For more information about any of these programs, please visit [www.dvrpc.org](http://www.dvrpc.org).



## LET US KNOW what YOU think!

*This newsletter is part of a series which focuses on a selected subcorridor in the Delaware Valley. This is the second to focus on a subcorridor in New Jersey. The series includes an introduction to the Congestion Management Process (Publication #NL09007). Help make this a useful resource for other communities by sending any comments to Zoe Neaderland, Manager, Office of Transportation Safety and Congestion Management at 215.238.2839 or [zneaderland@dvrpc.org](mailto:zneaderland@dvrpc.org).*



The Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission is dedicated to uniting the region's elected officials, planning

professionals and the public with the common vision of making a great region even greater. Shaping the way we live, work and play, DVRPC builds consensus on improving transportation, promoting smart growth, protecting the environment, and enhancing the economy. We serve a diverse region of nine counties: Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery and Philadelphia in Pennsylvania; and Burlington, Camden, Gloucester and Mercer in New Jersey. DVRPC is the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Greater Philadelphia Region — leading the way to a better future.

DVRPC fully complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related statutes and regulations in all programs and activities. DVRPC documents and publications can be translated into alternate formats or languages, if requested. **For more information, visit the DVRPC website at [www.dvrpc.org](http://www.dvrpc.org) or call 215.238.2871.**