

Healthy Communities Action Team: Focused Conversations
Healthy, Clean, Safe and Secure Physical Environment; Transportation Access and Mobility; Safe, Resilient and Affordable Housing

November 6, 2020 • 1:30am – 1:00pm

Attendees

First Name	Last Name	Organization	Email
Claudia	Aghahowa	EZ Ride	[Redacted]
Karen	Alexander	NJTIP @ Rutgers	[Redacted]
Jeffrey	Anthony		[Redacted]
Nat	Bottigheimer	Regional Plan Association	[Redacted]
Else	Bremer-Nei	NJDOT	[Redacted]
Kierra	Brown	Community FoodBank of New Jersey	[Redacted]
Melody	Bundy	NJTIP @ Rutgers	[Redacted]
Jennifer	Butzgy	Norwescap, Inc	[Redacted]
Adeline	Cochran	Montclair State University	[Redacted]
Beth	Conlon	College of Saint Elizabeth	[Redacted]
Zenobia	Fields	NJDOT	[Redacted]
Jimmy	Gastner	Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia	[Redacted]
Diane	Hagerman	NJHI	[Redacted]
Jeanne	Herb	Rutgers Bloustein School	[Redacted]
Charles	Hoffmann	Borough of Red Bank	[Redacted]
Cheryl	Kastrenakes	Greater Mercer TMA	[Redacted]
Loretta	Kelly	NJ Dept of Health	[Redacted]
Denise	Lanza	Morris Park Alliance	[Redacted]
Lisa	Lee	EZ Ride	[Redacted]
Toni	Lewis		[Redacted]
Eva	Mancheno	The Community Food Bank of New Jersey	[Redacted]
Kelly	McLaughlin	Southern New Jersey Perinatal Cooperative	[Redacted]

Paul	Mickiewicz	The Gateway Family YMCA	[Redacted]
Dianna	Morrison	Norwescap	[Redacted]
Veronica	Murphy	NJDOT	[Redacted]
Krishna	Murthy	Meadowlands Transportation Brokerage Corporation d/b/a EZ Ride	[Redacted]
Jennifer	North	Institute of Music for Children	[Redacted]
Rebecca	Rhoads	NJ- Department of Community Affairs	[Redacted]
Regina	Riccioni	Saint Elizabeth University	[Redacted]
Rakisha	Scott	NJ DMHAS	[Redacted]
Chris	Snyder	Montclair State University	[Redacted]
Lola	Taiwo		[Redacted]
Lynn	Tobin	Middlesex County College	[Redacted]
Ronda	Urkowitz	Cross County Connection TMA	[Redacted]
Amy	Verbofsky	DVRPC	[Redacted]
Leigh Ann	Von Hagen	Voorhees Transportation Center, Rutgers University	[Redacted]
Corey	Wu-Jung	St. Joseph Social Service Center	[Redacted]

Defining Element	Issues	Resources/Ideas
Healthy, Clean, Safe and Secure Physical Environment	Health Disparities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are significant racial/ethnic disparities in nutrition education and access to preventative health services.
	Health Data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need health data at the municipal level. Zip code level data is even better than municipal. It would be good if you could do a CHNA and CHIP at the municipal levels instead of at counties. Data sharing across healthcare utilization, re-entry and people experiencing homelessness

		and addressing barriers real or perceived to sharing data and to use it effectively to inform decision making
	Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A goal of addressing built environments to help counties achieve something like greater than 98% access to physical activity and exercise opportunities that are safe. If they aren't safe, then they won't get used. Also, there is research showing lower reports of exercise/PA in the winter vs. warmer months. How to address built environment for higher-risk areas for obesity and chronic diseases through the different seasons. Safety is big - people need to feel safe to go out to walk/bike and visit parks. • There are significant racial/ethnic disparities in physical environments with safe places to play
	Zoning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gap: how we use land in NJ? Walkability/housing has so much to do with planning /zoning, and the elected and appointed officials involved in land-use decision making. Seems like a gap in knowledge out there
Transportation Access and Mobility	State Collision Data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The state has auto collisions for the last 18 years DOT. Not a user friendly format. • Half of ped bike collisions are not georeferenced so you can't map them. We don't count who walks and who bikes.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Lack of geocoding data. A lot of actual vehicle collisions are not documented by location precisely. ● Need better reporting related to crash data. Improvement of police reporting forms to properly document and at the hospitals to be able to track and understand where serious injuries and fatalities are occurring and to whom. ● My coworkers produced a report on inequities in crash incidence in the Greater Philadelphia region, specifically looking at effects on minority communities: https://www.dvrpc.org/Products/18022/ ● https://smartgrowthamerica.org/ Great resource for video analytics on crash data and equitable traffic enforcement.
	Regional transportation plans	<p>NJTPA (North Jersey), <u>2040</u> SJTPO (South Jersey), <u>2050</u> DVRPC (Southwest Jersey), <u>2045</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● However, need to strengthen language and language related to health outcomes in long-range transportation plans. ● State Transformation Plan (link?) can include SDOH.
	Walking/Bicycling	<u>Sidewalks</u>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Need to connect transportation plans with health outcomes. We have to have an MOU with the health department to get the data at the level we need. Smaller than municipal level. For example, the Nashville Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) implemented the <u>Integrated Transport and Health Impact Model</u> which predicts and monetizes population-level health impacts of shifting the population towards active transportation modes. ● We should focus on how we're integrating cross-sector plans. How are we instituting continuity between plans so there is ongoing coordination? ● Coordinate plans of all the themes ● DOH adopt vision zero for transportation deaths.
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pedestrian Portal - we recently released our NJ sidewalk data, mapping all of the sidewalks in our region https://www.state.nj.us/transportation/refdata/countysidewalks/ ● <u>Sidewalk quality and access can decrease between town centers and outlying areas. Make a requirement for local gov to fix deteriorating sidewalks, especially in "transition" zones.</u> <p><u>TMA School Travel Plans</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Currently based on walkability audits. Plans include some public health factors, but could expand reports to incorporate other factors. Can go down to a much smaller geo area. Plans are currently shared with schools and municipalities only. Expand reports to include SDOH. Rebecca Rhoads would be interested in working with Lisa.

		<p><u>Pedestrian and Bicycle Counts</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DVRPC Pedestrian and Bicycle Counts Maps https://dvrpcgis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=3522f0101f3e44a588c6d8e13ec1bf68 Is there a reasonable way to measure the amount of walking and biking going on now? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DVRPC does some walking counts, but not comprehensive/everywhere. (See link above) MPOs doing some analysis of bike ped counts but not anything formal. Some permanent bike count equipment. Need to look at what equip is available. <p><u>Other</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create an incentive for people to walk/bike. Walking and bike paths should be extensive and connected. These areas become social connection points for people who live there. Like the "Italian piazza" model.
	Seniors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (Rutgers?) statewide study of senior mobility. As seniors and boomers age and can no longer drive, there will be more need for senior transport that is safe. There will also be a need for senior driver education and perhaps retesting for aging drivers
	Equitable Traffic Enforcement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> “Opportunity gap” to use/bring back traffic cameras, which can provide much better data, faster while eliminating the possibility of racially-biased enforcement by police officers.
	Parking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Change policies or codes for parking requirements with new construction. Different towns may not require high parking supply.

	Public Transit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Make public transit free for people. 15 minute drive to work turns into 1 hour and 15 minute transit ride.
	Transportation Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pass a state safe bicycle passing law. Require 4 feet for passing a cyclist. ● Opportunity exists to link transportation with local Community Health Improvement Plans (CHIPs) and the State Health Improvement Plan (SHIP). ● Link health data relative to walk/bike initiatives. Get DOH and DOT to work together. ● Carpooling incentives? Commuter tax incentives still exist. However, bicyclist tax incentive went away. Not well understood or used.
Safe, Resilient and Affordable Housing	The Housing and Health Connection.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Urban Institute's Housing Matters Portal (https://housingmatters.urban.org/) provides a lot of research on the intersection of health and housing. ● Data shows a need to increase lead screening rates in children ages 1 and 2 as well as children <6 years of age. ● The Philadelphia Federal Reserve has also done work on the cost estimates for home repair cost estimates which has clear implications for health outcomes. https://philadelphiafed.org/-/media/community-development/publications/special-reports/home-repair-costs-national-report.pdf ● In New Jersey, there are a lot of health and housing initiatives with leaders such as

		<p>NJHMFA, HCDNNJ, and NJHA, among other in the field</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gaps– data from the health world might be missing data from NJ Department of Community Affairs. Match data across health and housing. Also target services that are available across departments in a comprehensive way. Homeless is a circumstance of people with all other stuff going on.
	<p>Housing Racial Disparities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Black-White Homeownership Gap in New Jersey https://www.njfuture.org/2020/09/16/the-black-white-homeownership-gap-in-new-jersey/ Racial disparities indicate people of color experience homelessness as a significantly higher level than their white counterparts.
	<p>Persons with Disabilities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gaps – Accessible housing. People with disabilities have limitations with their access to housing. Walkability as well as white cane, and wheelchair users. How to center aging in place in housing and transportation systems?
	<p>Affordable Housing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The term, affordable housing, implies that everything else is unaffordable. Need a new/better vision. Must include health equity. Overlay mass transit availability to affordable housing. Also know to process and analyze that info, and translate those findings to capital investment. The State is focusing on how people are using these services, getting around, support their way of life.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● New Jersey Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency—good at advocating their initiatives and others. ● Local community development agencies ● Decrease the number of housing (households?) that is cost burdened. Quality – decrease the number of people living in substandard housing ● Increase the % of affordable housing available in all areas - the requirement for developers seems too low ● If municipalities locate affordable housing on major roadways, the developers must be required to improve facilities along and across those roadways for bicyclists and pedestrians. ● Look at racial inequities to close that gap.
	Renters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● New Jersey Federal Rental Assistance Fact Sheet https://www.cbpp.org/research/housing/federal-rental-assistance-fact-sheets#NJ ● Advocate for quality affordable housing. Vulnerable renters – how is their health impacted when evicted?
	Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pass legislation for how long housing can be empty ● Sustain things that work well, and invest in a plan for sustaining them. Make changes that are needed.

--	--	--

CHAT BOX

From Diane Hagerman to Everyone: 11:29 AM

Please share your name, organization, and city in which your organization is located here in the chat.

From Kelly McLaughlin to Everyone: 11:30 AM

Good morning. My name is Kelly McLaughlin. I work for the Southern New Jersey Perinatal Cooperative in Pennsauken as the Program Coordinator for the Southern Regional Lead and Healthy Homes Coalition.

From Karen Alexander to Everyone: 11:30 AM

Melody Bundy

From Karen Alexander to Everyone: 11:31 AM

Melody Bundy NJTIP @ Rutgers work in northern and Central NJ

From Lisa Lee to Everyone: 11:32 AM

Lisa Lee, EZ Ride, Wood-Ridge NJ. We serve Bergen, Essex, Passaic, Monmouth and Union Counties

From Beth Conlon to Everyone: 11:32 AM

Good morning! My name is Beth Conlon. I am a registered dietitian with a PhD in Epi & Population health. I currently work as an instructor at Saint Elizabeth University in the Dept. of Foods & Nutrition where I teach and mentor students in community nutrition education and research methods at the graduate and undergraduate level. Interested in getting more involved with public health initiatives in NJ! Thank you.

From Jimmy Gastner - FRB Philadelphia to Everyone: 11:32 AM

Hi everyone! My name is Jimmy Gastner, and I am a community engagement associate with the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia. While I am based in Philadelphia, our district includes southern New Jersey. Mercer and Ocean Counties is as far north as we extend.

From Rebecca Rhoads to Everyone: 11:32 AM

Hi there, Rebecca Rhoads, Department of Community Affairs, Director of Office of Homelessness Prevention

From Me to Everyone: 11:33 AM

Hi - in addition to the chat, please feel free to use this form to share information with us

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSemoBVa6IDzd1TD4Z4yXrPTXkC4uFIG18AV-x9gZgXnODDj4w/viewform?gxids=7757>

From Lisa Lee to Everyone: 11:33 AM

Claudia Aghahowa, EZ Ride intern

From Jennifer North to Everyone: 11:33 AM

Jennifer North, Director of Development, Institute of Music for Children in Elizabeth (Union County)

From Paul Mickiewicz to Everyone: 11:33 AM

Paul Mickiewicz, The Gateway Family YMCA, Healthy Living working out of Union New Jersey.

From Lynn Tobin to Everyone: 11:33 AM

Lynn Tobin, Middlesex County College, Edison, NJ

From Jennifer Butzgy to Everyone: 11:34 AM

Jennifer Butzgy, Norwescap. We serve Hunterdon, Somerset, Sussex, and Warren Counties.

From Veronica Murphy to Everyone: 11:34 AM

Veronica Murphy NJ Department of Transportation

From Ronda Urkowitz to Everyone: 11:34 AM

Hello—Ronda Urkowitz with Cross County Connection TMA. We are Transportation Management Association for the 7 southern counties (Burlington to Cape May counties)

From Krishna Murthy to Everyone: 11:35 AM

Krishna Murthy, CEO EZ Ride

From Adeline Cochran to Everyone: 11:35 AM

Adeline Cochran, Montclair State University, Montclair, NJ

From Zenobia Fields - Trans, Access and Mobility to Everyone: 11:35 AM

Good morning -

From Cheryl Kastrenakes to Everyone: 11:35 AM

Hi! Cheryl Kastrenakes with Greater Mercer TMA. The TMA for Mercer and Ocean Counties

From Zenobia Fields - Trans, Access and Mobility to Everyone: 11:35 AM

Zenobia Fields, NJDOT

From Leigh Ann Von Hagen to Everyone: 11:35 AM

Leigh Ann Von Hagen, from the Safe Routes and Planning Healthy Communities programs, Voorhees Transportation Center, Bloustein School, Rutgers University

From Jeff Anthony he/they to Everyone: 11:35 AM

Jeffrey Anthony, health educator, not representing any organization

From Charlie Hoffmann to Everyone: 11:35 AM

Charles Hoffmann, Red Bank Dept of Recreation

From Karen J. Alexander to Everyone: 11:36 AM

Hi - Karen J. Alexander from NJTIP @ Rutgers, glad to be here with Melody Bundy from our team, as well.

From Toni Lewis to Everyone: 11:36 AM

Toni Lewis. I am a Community Health Strategist for New Jersey Health Initiatives. In this role I support communities in New Jersey to develop long-term change in the policy, system and environmental conditions to advance health equity. I also coach several communities for NJ Healthy Communities Network.

From Loretta Kelly to Everyone: 11:36 AM

Loretta Kelly, New Jersey Department of Health, Trenton, NJ.

From Toni Lewis to Everyone: 11:37 AM

Loretta does everything!

From Loretta Kelly to Everyone: 11:38 AM

Haha Toni, not true! ;)

From Beth Conlon to Everyone: 11:43 AM

There are significant racial/ethnic disparities in nutrition education and access to preventative health services.

*also physical environment with safe places to play

From Nat Bottigheimer to Everyone: 11:45 AM

This crash data point is really important.

From Rebecca Rhoads to Everyone: 11:45 AM

Data shows a lack of affordable housing, increase of unsheltered homelessness, particularly for those with disabilities.

From Amy Verbofsky to Everyone: 11:46 AM

My coworkers produced a report on this topic in the Greater Philadelphia region, specifically looking at effects on minority communities: <https://www.dvrpc.org/Products/18022/>

From Kelly McLaughlin to Everyone: 11:47 AM

Data shows a need to increase lead screening rates in children ages 1 and 2 as well as children <6 years of age.

From Rebecca Rhoads to Everyone: 11:47 AM

Racial disparities indicate people of color experience homelessness as a significantly higher level than their white counterparts.

From Jennifer North to Everyone: 11:49 AM

Echo prevention. We provide arts programming and have demonstrated significant mental health benefits in short term and college attendance rate/increased wages in long-term.

From Amy Verbofsky to Everyone: 11:49 AM

Also want to highlight the Pedestrian Portal - we recently released our NJ sidewalk data, mapping all of the sidewalks in our region

<https://walk.dvrpc.org/>

From Lisa Lee to Everyone: 11:49 AM

As seniors and boomers age and can no longer drive, there will be more need for senior transport that is safe. There will also be a need for senior driver education and perhaps retesting for aging drivers

From Jimmy Gastner - FRB Philadelphia to Everyone: 11:54 AM

Separate from transportation, I think there needs to be focus on ensuring that all residents have access to safe and affordable housing. The Urban Institute's Housing Matters Portal

(<https://housingmatters.urban.org/>) provides a lot of research on the intersection of health and housing. The Philadelphia Fed has also done work on the cost estimates for home repair cost estimates

(<https://philadelphiafed.org/-/media/community-development/publications/special-reports/home-repair-costs-national-report.pdf>), which has clear implications for health outcomes. In New Jersey, there are a lot of health and housing initiatives with leaders such as NJHMFA, HCDNNJ, and NJHA, among other in the field

From Lisa Lee to Everyone: 11:59 AM

Zip code level data is even better than municipal. It would be good if you could do a CHNA and CHIP at the municipal levels instead of at counties.

From Cheryl Kastrenakes to Everyone: 12:01 PM

Need better reporting related to crash data. Improvement of police reporting forms to properly document and at the hospitals to be able to track and understand where serious injuries and fatalities are occurring and to whom.

From Paul Mickiewicz to Everyone: 12:06 PM

<https://smartgrowthamerica.org/> Great resource for video analytics on crash data and equitable traffic enforcement.

From Rebecca Rhoads to Everyone: 12:12 PM

Rebecca Rhoads [REDACTED] As a new office, data sharing across healthcare utilization, re-entry and people experiencing homelessness and addressing barriers real or perceived to sharing data and to use it effectively to inform decision making.

From Toni Lewis to Everyone: 12:16 PM

What work is being done to address the inequity in homeownership

From Jeff Anthony he/they to Everyone: 12:17 PM

some data: <https://www.cbpp.org/research/housing/federal-rental-assistance-fact-sheets#NJ>
<https://www.njfuture.org/2020/09/16/the-black-white-homeownership-gap-in-new-jersey/>

From Nat Bottigheimer to Everyone: 12:18 PM

Amen to Cheryl's Vision Zero point

From Lisa Lee to Everyone: 12:20 PM

Leigh Ann - I don't think all the TMAs have integrated health info into their STPs and the website list is not comprehensive or updated. We've done reports that are not online yet.

From Amy Verbofsky to Everyone: 12:21 PM

<https://dvrpcgis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=3522f0101f3e44a588c6d8e13ec1bf68>

<https://dvrpcgis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=3522f0101f3e44a588c6d8e13ec1bf68>

Bicycle and pedestrian counts

From Lisa Lee to Everyone: 12:22 PM

To do counts properly, we need cameras or the in road tech to count cyclists

From Amy Verbofsky to Everyone: 12:27 PM

TMA's still do that work

From Cheryl Kastrenakes to Everyone: 12:28 PM

it's because it was required, but then the mandate to reduce the number of employees driving was removed

From Lisa Lee to Everyone: 12:29 PM

On multilane roads, I'd love to see a lane dedicated for micromobility users (bikes, scooters, etc) - then you won't need a passing policy

From Ronda Urkowitz to Everyone: 12:29 PM

Employers have little incentive to encourage carpooling b/c parking is so plentiful and free to employee

From Leigh Ann Von Hagen to Everyone: 12:30 PM

Agree with Paul - the high costs of free parking

From Amy Verbofsky to Everyone: 12:30 PM

I have to jump off but thank you for the conversation!

From Lisa Lee to Everyone: 12:31 PM

Increase the % of affordable housing available in all areas - the requirement for developers seems too low

Universal healthcare for all

From Lisa Lee to Everyone: 12:32 PM

Increase the % of affordable housing available in all areas - the requirement for developers seems too low

Universal healthcare for all

More funding for bike and ped infrastructure like CA DOT is doing

From Elise Bremer-Nei to Everyone: 12:34 PM

If municipalities locate affordable housing on major roadways, the developers must be required to improve facilities along and across those roadways for bicyclists and pedestrians.

From Lynn Tobin to Everyone: 12:34 PM

I would like to be involved with healthcare discussions, as I am in the dental arena and we need to find ways to provide oral health preventive services to more people, by using alternative oral healthcare providers: dental therapist, or at least allow dental hygienists to access underserved populations outside of dental office settings.

From Elise Bremer-Nei to Everyone: 12:34 PM

I had another call this morning. Can you send me the PPT or the recording?

From Lisa Lee to Everyone: 12:34 PM

Require past developments to add bike and ped infrastructure

From Beth Conlon to Everyone: 12:34 PM

a goal of addressing built environments to help counties achieve something like greater than 98% access to physical activity and exercise opportunities that are safe. If they aren't safe, then they won't get used. Also there is research showing lower reports of exercise/PA in the winter vs. warmer months. How to address built environment for higher-risk areas for obesity and chronic diseases through the different seasons. Safety is big - people need to feel safe to go out to walk/bike and visit parks.

From Lynn Tobin to Everyone: 12:36 PM

I agree with walking and bike paths, that should be extensive and connected. I have lived in communities where these are so well-used and become social connection points for people who live there. Like the "Italian piazza" model.

From Charlie Hoffmann to Everyone: 12:36 PM

thank you.

From Leigh Ann Von Hagen to Everyone: 12:36 PM

Policy - 10 min walk to parks

From Lisa Lee to Everyone: 12:36 PM

Thanks

From Elise Bremer-Nei to Everyone: 12:36 PM

Thank you!

From Beth Conlon to Everyone: 12:36 PM

Thank you!

From Melody Bundy to Everyone: 12:36 PM

Thank you

From Lola Taiwo to Everyone: 12:37 PM

Thank you

From Lisa Lee to Everyone: 12:38 PM

Increase lighting requirements in communities with high crash rates and crime

ONLINE FORM COMMENTS