

## TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

### POLICY STATEMENT

EFF. 9/1/2019

- I. The Transportation Advisory Committee was established with the adoption of Ordinance 22-19 by the Township Committee on August 21, 2019. The ordinance created an article in Chapter 9 of the Municipal Code: Article IX Transportation Advisory Committee.
- II. Members of the Transportation Advisory Committee are appointed by the Township Committee. The Transportation Advisory Committee is composed of nine (9) voting members, consisting of two (2) members of the Township Committee, six (6) residents of Morris Township and one (1) person with a background in traffic engineering who does not have to be a Morris Township resident. Additionally, ex-officio (non-voting) members consist of the Township Administrator, Township Engineer, Director of Parks and Recreation and Chief of Police, or their designees.
- III. The Transportation Advisory Committee's purpose, powers and duties are outlined in the Township Code, Chapter 9: Article IX.
- IV. The Transportation Advisory Committee is tasked with the following:
  - A. Explore, study and make advisory recommendations regarding ways to improve travel and transportation (walking, bicycling, driving, and parking) in Morris Township. Factors to be taken into consideration are safety, convenience, accessibility and connectivity within Morris Township and with surrounding jurisdictions. Recommendations will also be derived from and reflect information regarding cost, funding sources and potential funding options.
  - B. Look for ways to reduce the number of vehicles on roadways and ways to encourage more residents to bike and walk as an alternative to driving.
  - C. Work with Stakeholders in Morris Township including:
    1. Residents and Employees
    2. Departments of Engineering, Parks and Recreation, Police, Fire, Public Works, Health and Administration
    3. Boards and Committees – Planning Board, Board of Adjustment, Environmental Commission, Open Space Committee and Economic Development Advisory Committee
  - D. Work with contiguous municipalities, transportation entities at municipal, county, state, and federal government levels, and non-profit entities specializing in transportation alternatives.
  - E. Work with local businesses to promote transportation alternatives for their employees.
  - F. Develop methods to obtain and utilize resident input and ensure residents have opportunities to ask questions, make suggestions, contribute actively, and have

access to information they need to better understand various issues, situations and decisions.

- G. Evaluate concerns/requests regarding sidewalks, traffic calming, traffic flow, bike lanes, alternative transportation programs, public transportation, special transportation needs for senior, disabled, youth and persons of limited income.
  - H. Review information and evaluate recommendations from various written sources, including but not limited to the Morris Township Master Plan Reexamination reports (2007 and 2017), Morris Township Trails Plan (2008), Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD), Engineering standards of American Association of Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO), New Jersey Department of Transportation Complete Streets Policy, N.J.S.A. Title 39 (Motor Vehicles and Traffic Regulation), and Morris Township Municipal Code.
  - I. Share, discuss and evaluate information in reference to project proposals being considered by the Township and working with representatives from the Township Departments responsible for the project.
- V. The Transportation Advisory Committee shall develop a transportation plan for Morris Township that:
- A. Addresses ways to improve transportation in each of the four (4) major categories: walking (sidewalks and trails), bicycling (programs, routes, and pathways), driving (traffic volume, congestion and violation concerns), and parking.
  - B. Incorporate a variety of considerations in gathering information and making recommendations including (but not limited to): safety, convenience, accessibility, connectivity; cost, funding sources, and potential funding options.
  - C. Include additional information such as:
    - 1. An assessment of existing conditions and needs in each of the four (4) major areas: walking, bicycling, driving, and parking.
    - 2. Goals and establishing project priorities (short-term and long-term) for each of these areas.
    - 3. Solution options and project possibilities in each of these areas, including timelines, obstacles, challenges, and benefits to the community as a whole.
    - 4. Education, Engineering and Enforcement recommendations and programs.
    - 5. Transportation needs identified for seniors, disabled, youth and persons of limited income with recommendations on how to address them.
    - 6. Criteria established for evaluating costs/benefits of recommendations.
    - 7. Recommendations for addressing decision-making challenges such as resolving conflicting views regarding sidewalk proposals, traffic calming measures, bike lanes and trails.
    - 8. A summary of advisory recommendations, strategies, and timelines.