

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TAC Annual Report - 2023



TOWNSHIP of **MORRIS**
EST. 1740
NEW JERSEY

Prepared by Jim Hunt
TAC Chair, 2023

About TAC: Safe Streets for All

TAC is...

...the nickname of Morris Township's Transportation Advisory Committee.

TAC held its first meeting on December 16, 2019, and began its work in earnest in January 2020*. We've accomplished much in a little over three years—with lots of help, Township professional support and the Township Committee's commitment to safe streets that can be safely used by car, foot, bicycle, wheelchair, scooter or any other way residents choose to travel.

In 2023, we broadened the ways we reached out to residents to listen to their improvement ideas, safety concerns, and goals ...to help them discover new ways to explore the Township without a car...and to continue to collaborate on new policies that ensure the commitment to Safe Streets for All will continue to be “the way we do it” in Morris Township. to working together with our professionals to identify workable improvement recommendations.



TAC meets on the 2nd Wednesday of every month at 7pm. Each meeting includes Public Comment. Join us online or in-person.

As we work, we take into consideration factors such as safety, convenience, accessibility and connectivity. We evaluate concerns and requests regarding sidewalks, traffic calming, traffic flow, bike lanes, greenways, trails, alternative

transportation programs, public transportation, and special transportation needs. We consider funding and recommendations presented by government agencies and Safe Streets experts. We explore the impact of new “e” scooters, bicycles and other car alternatives. And we focus on the fun of exploring the Township’s rich history, beautiful parks, and connections to the towns around us with as little driving as possible.

*Ordinance 22-19 by the Township Committee on August 21, 2019. Chapter 9 of the Municipal Code: Article IX Transportation Advisory Committee.



2023 TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

The Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) is comprised of members of the Township Committee, citizen volunteers and several Township professionals from the Engineering, Police, Parks and Recreation, and Administration Departments.

Jim Hunt, (Chair), DJ Curnow (Vice-Chair) Rick Bye, David Wilson, Donna Guariglia (Township Committee), Jeff Grayzel (Township Committee), Bette Simmons, Kristina Ruggeri, Stephen Drozdow, Andrew Feldman. Sarah Daher (Secreta

2023 TAC PROJECTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Morris Township in Motion



Goal: Encourage more car-free exploration of our Town, highlight neighborhoods and parks, listen to better ways to access or find Township places.

TAC volunteers led:

- 7 neighborhood and park walks (Fairchild, Jockey Hollow Top, Jones Woods (2), Collinsville, Evergreen Cemetery, Loantaka for Seniors)
- 2 bicycle rides (Loantaka Loop, Convent Station history ride)
- Secured children and adult prizes awarded by the Mayor to random participants MTM events.
- Requested and received support from Township professionals to publicize and register participants.
- Requested and received a Township Committee resolution declaring the good weather season “Morris Township in Motion.”

Community Outreach

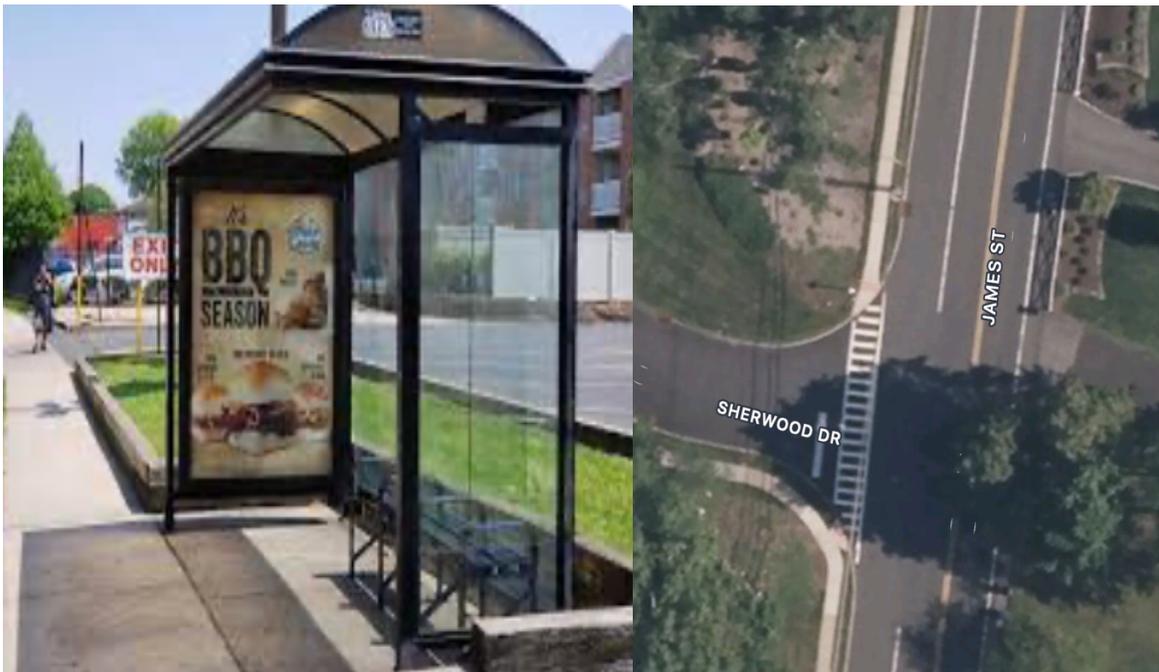


Goal: “Develop methods to obtain and utilize resident input and ensure residents have opportunities to ask questions, make suggestions, contribute actively, and have access to information they need to better understand various issues, situations and decisions.”

TAC volunteers:

- Staffed an information table at the Winter Farmer’s Market in Convent to answer questions about TAC, explain the new NJ Safe Passing Law and conducted surveys.
- Requested and received regular updates on Township transportation projects, police education and enforcement actions, and recreational activities from our Township professionals.
- Worked with Township Administrator Tim Quinn to create a TAC outreach banner.
- Increased the materials linked to the TAC tab on the Township website.
- Mapped EV charging stations in the Township and explored the use of mapping for other mobility support such as parking lots, bicycle parking and signage, low-speed road bicycle routes, and trail connections to the road network.

Connection Gap Audits



Goal: Explore ways to fill in gaps in the Township’s transportation network to encourage residents to consider all options for travel.

TAC initiated:

- Sidewalk gap on-foot walking audit based on prior mapping of the sidewalk network.
- Audit conducted by TAC member and Township Committeewoman Donna Guariglia, Township Administrator Tim Quinn and Township Engineer Jim Slate.
- Walking audit identified 14 additional “gaps” that would be added to the map and considered for funding on a priority basis in consultation with TAC.
- Identification of Township bus routes by TAC volunteers and possible priority placement of bus shelters and other safety measures through NJ Transit.

Collaboration and Support



Goal: Partner with other Township Advisory Committees and Township Departments to develop or support special activities.

TAC volunteers:

- Adjusted bicycles, served as marshals and led rides in support of the Township Health Department, Police Department and Recreation Department Bike Safety Rodeo.
- Consulted with Township Senior Club about Morris Township in Motion Senior Walk.
- Invited Brian Morgan, chair of the Environmental Commission, to suggest ways for both committees to work together.
- Attended webinars and forums such as the first Avenues in Motion County gathering to gather information supportive of Township goals.

Complete and Green Streets



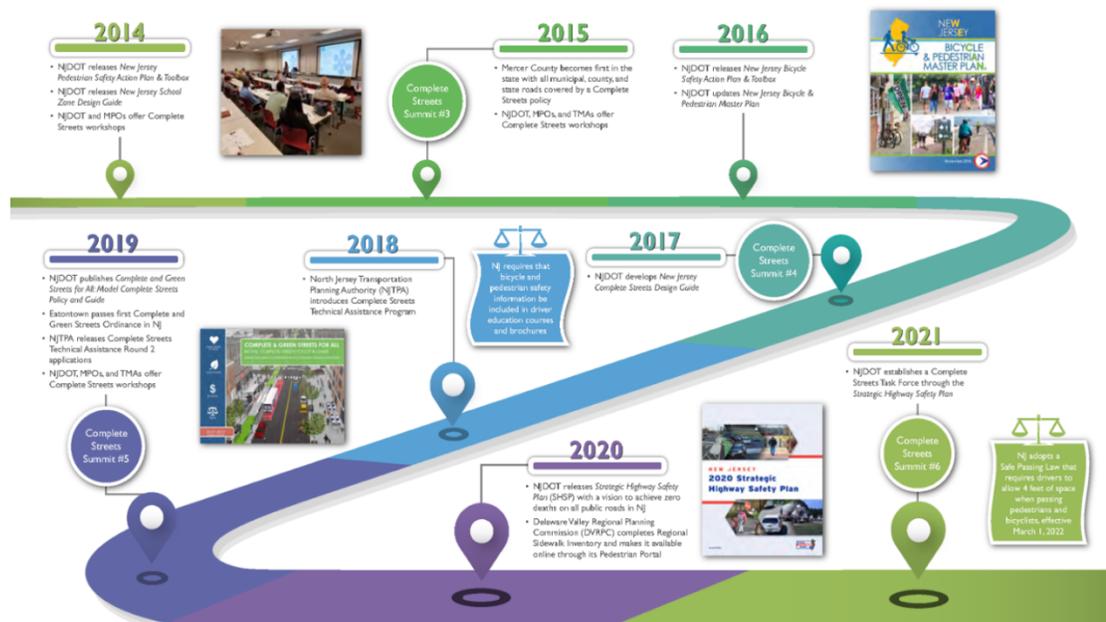
Goal: Continue to collaborate on new policies that ensure the Township’s commitment* to Safe Streets for All will continue to be “the way we do it” in Morris Township.

TAC volunteers

- Completed a three-year initiative to provide the research and rationale for the Township to codify its commitment to ensuring an environmentally protective road system that is planned, designed, operated and maintained ways that make them safer to use for people of all ages and abilities no matter how they choose to travel.

<https://www.morristwp.com/DocumentCenter/View/11383/Morris-Township-Complete-Streets-Policy--Final-rev-12-8-2023-CLEAN>

10+ Years of Complete Streets in New Jersey



- Recommended a policy that raises awareness of the Township’s commitment when applying for grants and funding,
- Made Morris Township the 12th community of 39 in Morris County, a policy with the most current provisions.
- Acted through a special subcommittee consisting of DJ Curnow, Jim Hunt, Kris Ruggeri in consultation with Councilwoman Cathy Wilson, one of the original proponents of the policy.
- Collaborated with Township professionals on the policy provisions.
- Recommended the policy to the Township Committee which granted its unanimous approval.
- Made an accepted recommendation that TAC be recognized as the Complete and Green Streets Committee for the Township.
- Began development of guidelines to help TAC fulfill the policy’s requirement that a report be given to the Township Committee each year about Complete and Green Streets progress under the policy and recommended improvements.

* [Resolution Mo. 148-22](#),