

New Jersey Department of Transportation

Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Design Assistance Program

**Local Aid and Economic Development
May 2026**

Presented By: Mahmood Afrina Khandakar

Objectives

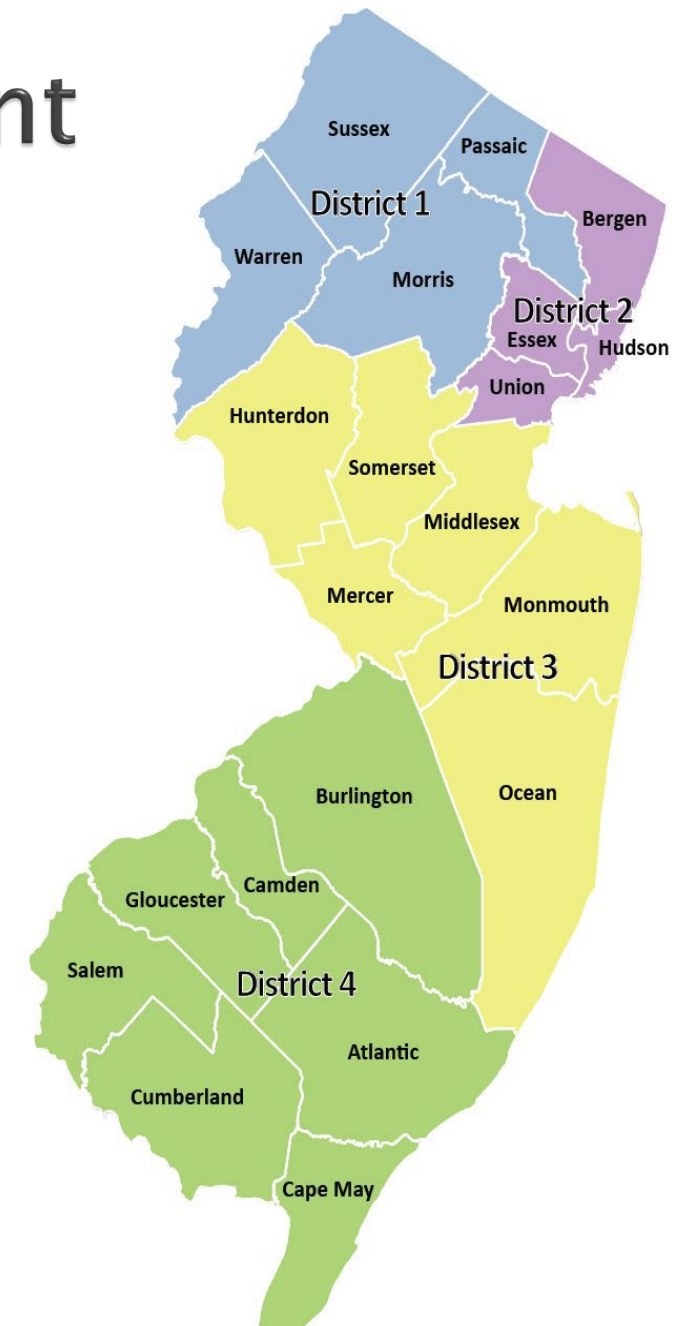
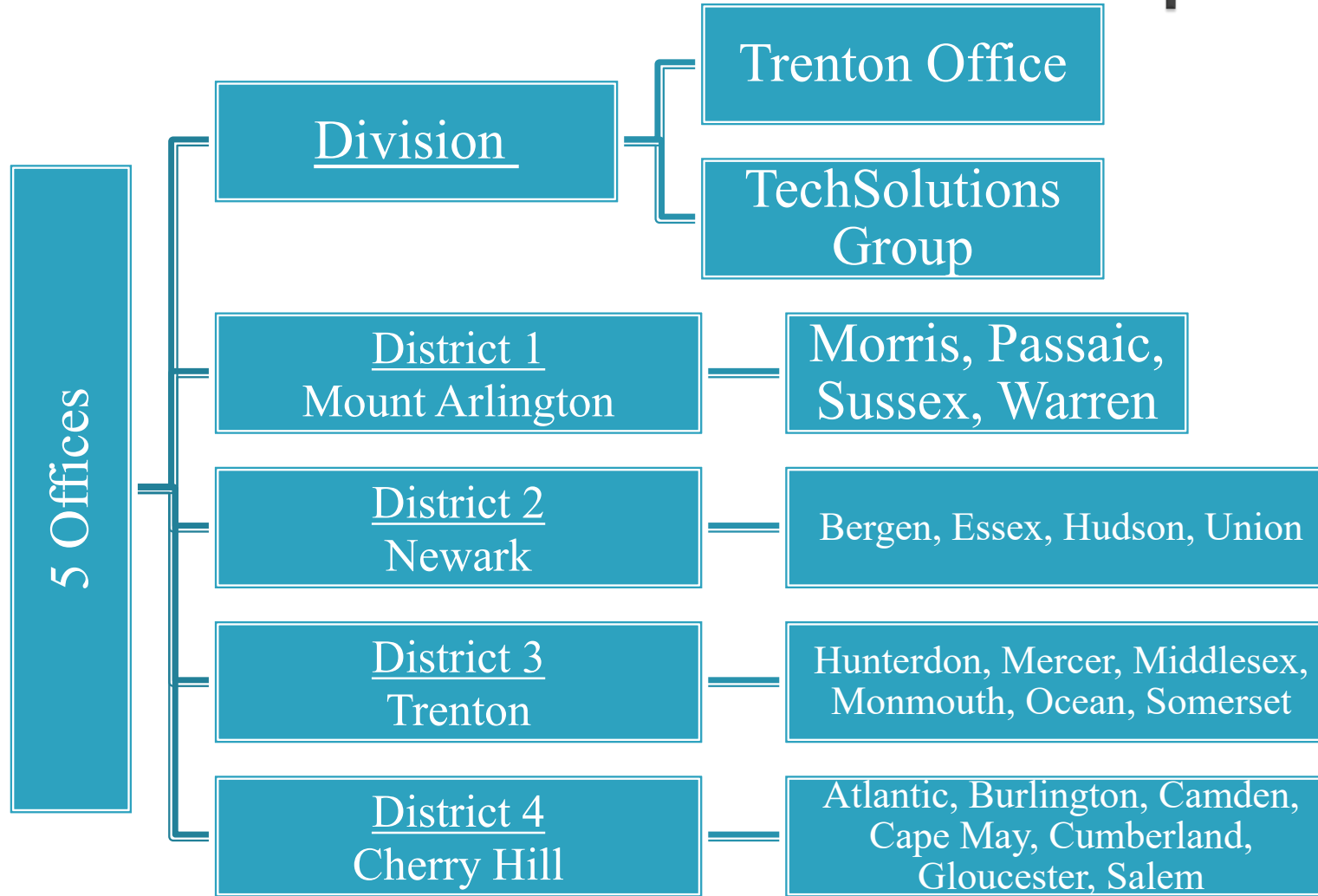


To provide an overview of NJDOT's Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Design Assistance Programs



To share TA Set-Aside Design Assistance Program policies, procedures, and resources

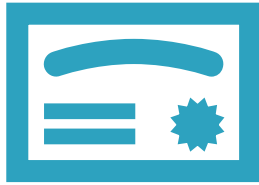
Local Aid & Economic Development



Background Information–FHWA's Every Day Counts

- ▶ FHWA initiative launched in 2009
- ▶ An effort to bring a better, faster, and smarter approach to highway and bridge construction
- ▶ Currently in 8th round of EDC
 - EDC-8 (2026–2027)
 - EDC-7 (2023–2024)
 - EDC-6 (2021–2022)
 - EDC-5 (2019–2020)
 - EDC-4 (2017–2018)
 - EDC-3 (2015–2016)
 - EDC-2 (2013–2014)
 - EDC- (2011– 2012)
- ▶ EDC-2 promoted a three-prong strategy to help local public agencies
- ▶ <https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/innovation/everydaycounts>

EDC 2–Locally Administered Projects Three–Pronged Strategy



**LPA
Certification/Qualification
Programs**

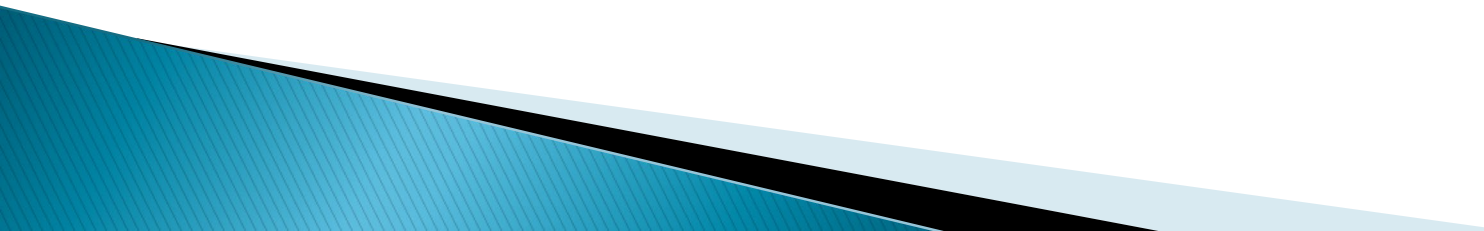


**Flexibility in Consultant
Services**



Stakeholder Partnering

NJDOT Design Assistance Program

- ▶ The NJDOT Local Aid Design Assistance Program is designed to assist local public agencies (LPAs) in the project design process.
 - ▶ The program aims to provide LPAs with the necessary support to complete designs, develop engineering plans, specifications, and estimates required to see a project built.
 - ▶ The NJDOT Local Aid Design Assistance Program first became available to grant recipients in the 2014 grant cycle.
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NJDOT Design Assistance Pool

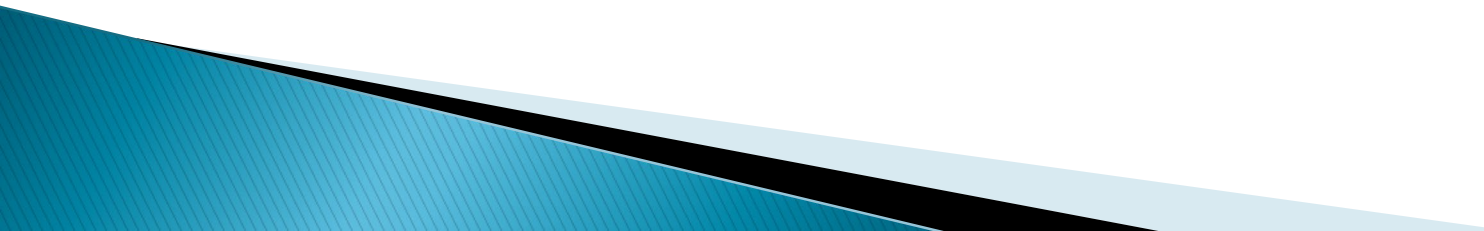
- ▶ Local Aid conducts solicitation following the NJDOT Procurement Guidelines, based on the Brooks Act and Quality Based Selection
 - ▶ NJDOT issues RFP using NJDOT procurement process and prequalified consultants
 - ▶ NJDOT obtains FHWA approval of the Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Design Assistance Program RFP documents
 - ▶ Consultants are rated on their project manager experience, key staff, project approach, and prior performance
- 

TA Set Aside Design Assistance Program– Establish Consultant Pool

- ▶ Current pool includes:
 - Michael Baker International, Inc.
 - Parsons Transportation Group, Inc.
 - Malick & Scherer PC
 - STV
 - Greenman Pedersen, Inc.

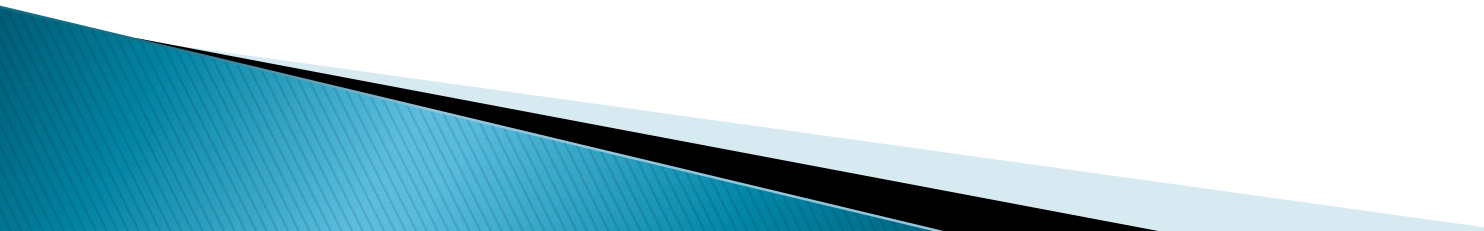


TA Set Aside Design Assistance Program– Consultant Selection & Negotiation

- ▶ LPA selects a design consultant from the pool
 - ▶ LPA contacts NJDOT to schedule initial meeting
 - ▶ NJDOT, LPA and consultant develop SOW based on TAP grant application
 - ▶ NJDOT prepares independent cost estimate
 - ▶ Consultant prepares and submits fee proposal and certified payroll roster to the NJDOT and LPA
 - ▶ LPA and NJDOT negotiates final proposal with consultant
 - ▶ NJDOT authorizes federal-aid funds for design
- 

TA Set-Aside Design Assistance Program

Consultant Contract Administration

- ▶ LPA executes agreement with consultant for work to be performed
 - ▶ NJDOT executes Federal-aid agreement with LPA for reimbursement of funds
 - ▶ LPA Eligibility assessment is required, and AECOM will reach out
 - ▶ LPA submits payment vouchers and NJDOT provides funds on a reimbursement basis
 - ▶ LPA monitors consultant's work and evaluates performance at contract completion
- 

Program Highlights

- ▶ This is a 1-year program starting today, May 13, 2026.
- ▶ Pool consultant information will be posted on the NJDOT website: [Transportation Alternatives – NJDOT Local Hub](#)
- ▶ Disciplines limited to Highway and Traffic Engineering
- ▶ Authorization priority – by June 2027
- ▶ \$750,000 cap on fee proposals



Program Highlights (cont.)

Use of pool consultant is not mandatory

LPA enters into agreement directly with consultant

LPA must evaluate consultant's performance at contract completion



Program Benefits

Simplified procurement process

Shortened time and reduced costs

Improved quality and performance

Quicker review times

Improved compliance with federal and state procurement requirements

Judgement Factors

CES Rating

Complexity

Key Staff

Project
Approach

Project
Manager

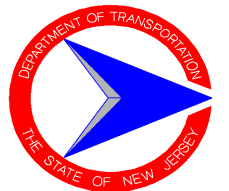
**Proximity
of the Firm**

**Relevant
Experience**

Workload

Audit Non-
Compliance

Link: <http://www.state.nj.us/transportation/business/procurement/ProfServ/ConsulSelections/>



Consultant Proposals

From Grant to Groundbreaking...



Your Journey to Creating Transportation Alternatives **BEGINS HERE**

Congratulations on your Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside grant! While this achievement is significant, translating it into a completed project can be challenging due to complex NJDOT and federal requirements.

Enter the Design Assistance Program—NJDOT's solution to guide grant recipients through the design process, offering substantial cost reimbursement. As an NJDOT prequalified Design Assistance firm since inception, GPI brings extensive experience to your project. Our team has successfully shepherded projects from concept to completion, working closely with NJDOT's Division of Local Aid and Economic Development. GPI offers the expertise and guidance needed to navigate your design assistance journey.



GPI's Comprehensive Toolkit:

- Pedestrian and Bicyclist Safety Improvements
- Streetscape and Corridor Design
- Complete Streets Design
- Trail Design
- NJDOT Local Project Delivery Process
- ADA Accommodation
- Environmental Permitting
- NJDOT Stakeholder and Community Involvement Requirements (Virtual and In-person)
- Utility Coordination
- Signalized and Unsignalized Intersection Design
- Stormwater Management
- Green Infrastructure
- Historic Districts and Structures
- Waterfront Trails / Walkways
- Structural Design and Rehabilitation
- Railroad Coordination
- Compliance with All Applicable State and Federal Laws, Rules, and Regulations, as well as Federal, NJDOT, and Recognized Industry Design Standards

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FIRM SUMMARY FOR

NJDOT TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES SET-ASIDE (TA SET-ASIDE) DESIGN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM 2025



STEP 1: SECURE FUNDING

STEP 2: DELIVER IT SUCCESSFULLY

You've achieved a major milestone by securing funding! The next step is selecting a partner who will turn that award into a successful, community-supported project.

Michael Baker International partners with New Jersey's Local Public Agencies to turn Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside (TA Set-Aside) funding into community-supported projects that improve safety, accessibility, and quality of life. Our role goes beyond design. We help communities navigate complex requirements, build consensus, and deliver improvements that work - locally, technically, and long-term.

WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOUR COMMUNITY



Clear paths from funding to construction | We guide projects from concept through final design, aligning with NJDOT Local Aid and FHWA requirements to keep schedules moving and expectations clear.



Designs grounded in New Jersey context | Our team understands local conditions - urban, suburban, and rural - and delivers solutions tailored to how people actually move through your community.



Public engagement that builds support | We integrate outreach early and often, helping communities understand the "why" behind improvements and building momentum for implementation.



Confidence through delivery | With deep experience supporting LPAs across New Jersey, we anticipate challenges, streamline coordination, and keep projects on track.



Listen | We begin by understanding your community's constraints, and opportunities - through early and meaningful public engagement.



Analyze | Data-driven safety analysis informs design decisions, ensuring improvements are targeted, defensible, and aligned with program goals.



Design | We develop implementable, standards-based designs that balance safety, accessibility, and local context with NJDOT and FHWA requirements.



Deliver | Our familiarity with Local Aid processes allows us to efficiently guide projects through approvals and construction support.

PROVEN EXPERIENCE, LOCAL COMMITMENT



Nine

Northeast Regional Offices
90+ National Offices

40+ YEARS

Based in New Jersey



260+

New Jersey Employees
6,000 Company-Wide



ALIGNED WITH WHAT MATTERS:

- NJDOT Local Aid policies and procedures
- FHWA Proven Safety Countermeasures
- Vision Zero and Complete Street goals
- ADA accessibility standards

MICHAEL BAKER INTERNATIONAL, INC.

1700 American Blvd, 2nd Floor

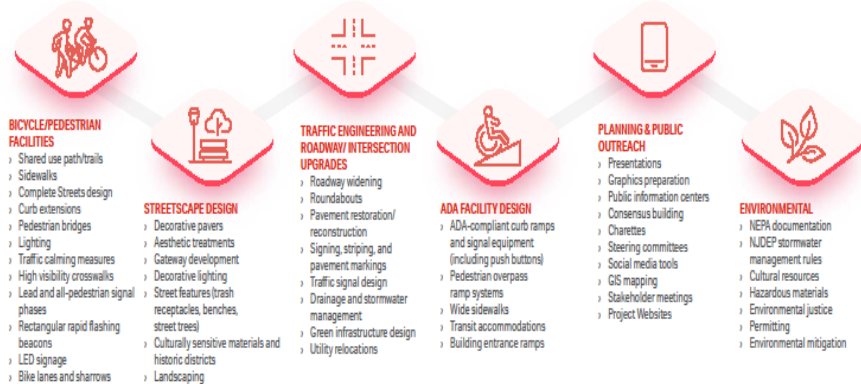
One Gateway Center, Suite 1601

Consultant Proposals

Congratulations on your selection for a 2025 Transportation Alternative Set-Aside Design Assistance Program Grant!

STV –
Your Best Choice
for Transportation
Alternative Set-Aside
Design Assistance
Program

SERVICES WE OFFER:



FIRM OVERVIEW

Malick & Scherer, P.C. (M&S) is a New Jersey-based, multidisciplinary engineering firm providing transportation design, environmental services, hydraulics & hydrology, surveying, and construction support for infrastructure projects throughout New Jersey and the surrounding region. For nearly three decades, M&S has delivered pedestrian, bicycle, streetscape, corridor safety, and ADA compliance improvements for NJDOT, NJTPA, counties, and municipalities under both state-funded and federally funded programs.

M&S has extensive experience guiding Local Public Agencies (LPAs) through the NJDOT Local Aid and FHWA federal-aid delivery process. Our team understands the procedural, technical, and regulatory requirements associated with Preliminary Engineering, environmental screening and documentation, final design, PS&E preparation, utility coordination, right-of-way support, and construction phase services. We work closely with project sponsors to ensure compliance with applicable standards including AASHTO, MUTCD, NJDOT Roadway Design Manual, NJDOT Standard Specifications, and federal-aid requirements while keeping safety and local concerns an integral part of our design process.

Our multidisciplinary structure allows us to provide roadway and intersection design, ADA-compliant pedestrian facilities, shared-use paths and pedestrian bridges, traffic signal and safety improvements, stormwater management, floodplain analysis, environmental permitting, and constructability review within a coordinated project team. This integrated approach supports efficient delivery, proactive risk management, and practical, buildable solutions.

M&S is committed to helping communities advance Transportation Alternatives projects that enhance safety, accessibility, and quality of life. We prioritize clear communication, regulatory compliance, and disciplined project management to deliver improvements that are technically sound, context-sensitive, and aligned with funding requirements.



Complete Streets & Multimodal

- Corridor safety improvements and crash reduction measures
- Traffic calming and roadway reconfiguration
- Streetscape enhancements and pedestrian-oriented design
- Integrated bicycle and pedestrian accommodations

Pedestrian & ADA

- ADA-compliant curb ramp design and retrofits
- High-visibility and raised crosswalk treatments
- Pedestrian signal upgrades and countdown heads
- Sidewalk reconstruction and accessibility improvements



Consultant Proposals

TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES SET-ASIDE 2025 DESIGN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM



Congratulations on your selection for the NJDOT Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program.

Parsons Transportation Group (Parsons) bring global technical strength and deep New Jersey transportation experience to help Local Public Agencies successfully deliver federally funded Transportation Alternatives projects.

Why Parsons?

- Parsons staff has extensive NJ transportation agency experience (NJDOT, NJTA, counties and municipalities).
- Strong knowledge of federal funding compliance and delivery requirements.
- Multidisciplinary team including traffic, drainage, structures, environmental and utilities.
- Commitment to safety, accessibility and resilient infrastructure.

The Parsons Approach

1. Understanding Your Community's Vision

Parsons will begin by aligning project goals with community priorities, Complete Streets policies and Vision Zero objectives.

2. Navigate the Federal Aid Process

Our team guides the LPAs through NJDOT and FHWA requirements, including documentation, environmental coordination, ADA compliance and permitting.

3. Deliver Practical, Buildable Solutions

We identify potential constraints early, these typically include right of way, utilities, drainage, environmental, historic and/or stakeholder concerns and work to resolve these proactively.

4. Advance Projects from Concept to Construction

Parsons provides documents for Concept Development, Preliminary Engineering, Final Design and PS&E, and staff for bid support and Construction Engineering Services

Parsons Services



COMPLETE STREETS & STREETSCAPE DESIGN

- Context-sensitive roadway improvements
- Decorative lighting, street furniture and gateways
- Landscape architecture and green infrastructure
- Wayfinding and placemaking elements
- Corridor revitalization and road diets



PEDESTRIAN SAFETY & ADA COMPLIANCE

- ADA-compliant curb ramps, sidewalks and signal equipment
- High-visibility crosswalks and pedestrian refuge islands
- Curb extensions and bump-outs
- HAWK signals and Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFBs)
- Safe Routes to School improvements



BICYCLE ACCOMMODATIONS (ON-ROAD & OFF-ROAD)

- Dedicated and buffered bike lanes
- Shared-use paths and multi-use trails
- Trail connections and rail-trails
- Bicycle signage, striping and pavement markings
- Bike parking facilities



TRAFFIC ENGINEERING & INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS

- Intersection improvement and signal design
- Signing and striping (MUTCD compliant)
- Drainage and stormwater management
- Pavement rehabilitation and roadway reconstruction
- Utility coordination and relocation



ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION & PERMITTING

- NEPA documentation and environmental permitting coordination
- Cultural and historic resource evaluation and agency consultation
- Environmental Justice analysis and community impact assessment
- Regulatory coordination with NJDEP, SHPO and other oversight agencies



PUBLIC OUTREACH & STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

- Public Information Centers (PICs) and stakeholder engagement strategies
- Community meetings, presentations and visual materials
- Coordination with NJDOT Local Aid and federal funding agencies
- Grant documentation and federal compliance support
- Inter-agency coordination to maintain schedule and approvals

Resources

- Local Hub webpage NJ Local Hub

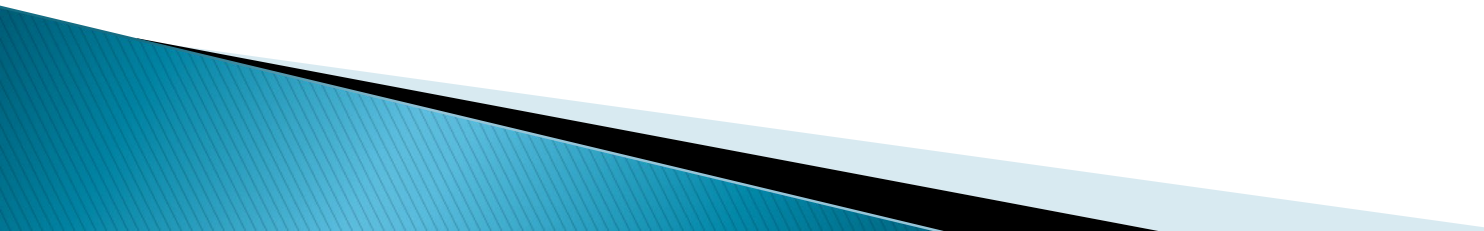
<https://njdotlocalhub.com/>

- Grants & Funding Overview:

<https://www.saferoutesnj.org/grants-funding-overview/>

- FHWA Federal-aid Essentials for Local Public Agencies

<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/federal-aidessentials/>



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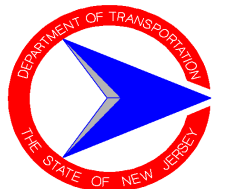
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A person in a blue shirt and white shorts is riding a bicycle away from the camera on a paved path. To the left of the path is a dark wooden fence and a green field. To the right is a paved road with a white line and a grassy area with trees. The scene is outdoors on a sunny day.

Thank you!