

HUDSON TMA

Hudson TMA - Spring, 2005 Newsletter

Headlines

- Federal dollars to fund Hudson transit projects
- Earth Day 2005
- Trans-Hudson ferry service
- Best Workplaces for Commuters
- State Highway Route 139 Project
- NJ Transit ridership sets record in 2004
- 12 Months of Traffic Safety Outreach Campaign
- Shuttle To 22nd St. Light Rail to Start Mon., April 4; Will Also Provide Medical Transport
- 'Transit Village' tag gives Journal Square shot at more funding

Federal dollars to fund Hudson transit projects

NEWARK - The North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority, the regional body that distributes federal transportation funds across 13 counties, approved its 2006 fiscal year capital construction program yesterday, earmarking \$2.2 billion in highway, bridge and mass transit funds. The plan goes to the Legislature today for approval.

If passed, Hudson County will see 16 projects, totaling \$111 million, funded by the Department of Transportation portion of the capi-

tal program.

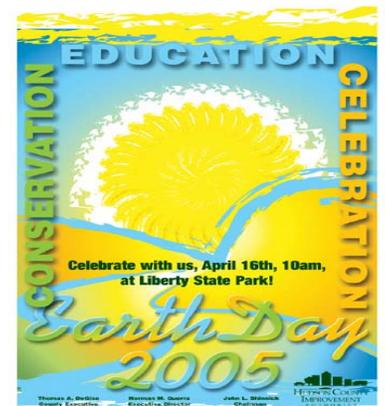
"Hudson County did better than any other county," said Martin A. Hofler, the director of capital programming and project development for the NJTPA. "They have old bridges, which cost a lot to repair. We look more at needs, and right now, Hudson County has a lot of needs."



Earth Day 2005

The Hudson County Improvement Authority and the Hudson Transportation Management Association invite you to the Earth Day Celebration on

April 16, 2005 - Starting at 10:00 AM in Liberty State Park. Families looking for a free day of great fun should not miss this event.



Trans-Hudson Ferry Service

TRENTON - A bill, sponsored by Senator Joseph V. Doria and Senate Majority Leader Bernard F. Kenny, Jr. which would allow the New Jersey Transit Authority to acquire and operate passenger ferries was unanimously approved by the Senate Transportation Committee . "Considering the financial collapse of the New York Waterway ferry company, which has jeopardized mass transit for hundreds, if not thousands

of commuters in northern New Jersey, we need to allow the Transit Authority to step in where needed and pick up the slack," said Senator Doria, D-Hudson. "The Transit Authority has a great track record in maintaining and improving the mass transit opportunities for the people of New Jersey. We need to let them do their jobs when it comes to the ferries run from the New Jersey coast to Manhattan."



Best Workplaces for Commuters

As part of its Employer Services Program, the Hudson TMA is partnering with the Best Workplaces for Commuters Program, offered through the Federal Department of Transportation and Environmental Protection Agency.

Offering innovative solutions to commuting challenges faced by employers and employees, Best Workplaces for CommutersSM is a public-private sector voluntary program advocating employee commuter benefits.



State Highway Route 139 Project

The New Jersey Department of Transportation will soon begin repairs on State Highway 139. Route 139 is a major access road for the Holland Tunnel. The ramps leading down to and up from the Holland Tunnel are old and in need of major repairs. Also, the covered roadway from Tonelle Ave. and the Pulaski

Skyway needs similar work.

This project will begin in Spring 2005. It will take, at least, five (5) years to complete. During this time there will be a major impact on traffic to and from the Holland Tunnel as well as certain streets in Jersey City. Hudson TMA will keep citizens

of Hudson County informed of developments on this project and any issues related to vehicular transportation in the project area. We will also provide information regarding alternate means of travel to avoid congestion on Route 139 and at the Holland Tunnel.

NJ Transit Ridership Sets Record in 2004

A record number of commuters rode New Jersey's public transit system last year, the first increase in riders since the 2001 terrorist attacks and the economic recession that hit that year.

More than 225 million passengers - about 9.6 million, or 4.5 percent, more than in 2003 - rode NJ Transit trains, light rail or buses in 2004, the agency said Wednesday.

Much of the growth came from new service, such as the light rail line in South Jersey, and a rebounding job market that had more people commuting each weekday into Manhattan and Newark.

But leisure trips appeared to increase as well, particularly during the winter holiday season, when trains from Bergen and Passaic counties saw 14 percent more riders heading into Manhattan on weekends.



12 Months of Traffic Safety Outreach Campaign

The 12 Months of Traffic Safety is a campaign to increase public awareness of traffic safety issues. A different traffic safety issue will be highlighted each month of 2005. The USDOT, NJDOT, NJMVC, NJDHTS, Insurance Council for NJ and AAA have partnered to develop

informational materials for each month. Brochures include : January "Aggressive Driving", February "Drive Safely in Inclement Weather" and March "Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety".

We hope that you will join us in this campaign.

Contact Hudson TMA for additional information.

Shuttle To 22nd St. Light Rail to Start Mon., April 4; Will Also Provide Medical Transport

Mayor Joseph V. Doria, Jr. announced that the City of Bayonne would begin operating a free, rush-hour shuttle bus to the 22nd Street Light Rail Station on Monday, April 4. The shuttle will pick up Light Rail

passengers at four locations during rush hours:

- 1) Avenue C and 4th Street, by Bayonne Community Bank
- 2) 4th Street and Kennedy Boulevard, under the Bayonne

Bridge

- 3) Avenue A by the A&P, under the overpass
- 4) North Street and Avenue C, in front of Rite-Aid

HUDSON TMA

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Share the Ride !!!

We're on the Web !
WWW.HUDSONTMA.ORG

The Hudson Transportation Management Association (TMA) is dedicated to fulfilling Hudson County's Transportation needs through planning and implementation of effective programs. A Division of the Hudson County Improvement Authority, the Hudson TMA works with issues vital to the County, including transportation management, reducing traffic congestion, improving air quality and participation in State transit programs.

'Transit Village' tag gives Journal Square shot at more funding

With the awarding of a \$100,000 planning grant, Jersey City was named the state's 15th "Transit Village" - a designation that puts the city in line to receive additional funding for economic, housing and commercial projects in and around the Journal Square transportation hub.

"The designation brings us attention," said Mayor Jerramiah Healy, who was handed a cardboard replica of a check by state Department of Transportation Commissioner Jack Lettiere and Department of Community Affairs Commissioner Susan Bass Levin. "It will bring investment . more state aid."

Begun in 1999, and underwritten by \$1 million a year in state funding, the Transit Village program encourages municipalities to develop housing and various commercial enterprises around transportation depots to reduce traffic congestion, air pollution, and other problems arising from poorly planned, sprawling communities.

Rep. Robert Menendez, D-Hoboken, and state Assemblyman Vincent Prieto, D-Secaucus, also attended the press conference.

"Transportation is about economic development, quality of life . the air we collectively breathe, creating new jobs as we create new businesses," said Menendez, a senior member of the House Transportation Committee. "It takes transportation as a catalyst to achieve all these things."