



Winter 2025

■ ■ ■ NYMTC NOTES

Welcome to NYMTC Notes

Inside this issue, you'll find a recap of the efforts and accomplishments of NYMTC and its members to keep our transportation system optimally funded and functioning.

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About NYMTC

NYMTC is the federally mandated council of governments that directs the use of billions of dollars in federal transportation funds for New York City, Long Island, and the Lower Hudson Valley.

As the area's Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), NYMTC provides a collaborative planning forum that addresses transportation-related issues and develops regional plans and goals through a shared vision for its regional transportation network.

Visit www.nymtc.org/ABOUT-US to learn more!

Join NYMTC For Upcoming Annual Council Meeting in Downtown Manhattan on February 27

Mark your calendar for NYMTC's annual Council Meeting, which will be held at the U.S. Custom House on Thursday, February 27th at 11:15 AM.

Further details to be announced soon through email and social media – stay tuned!

NYMTC's January Brown Bag Provides a Deep Dive into the Region's Transit Accessibility Upgrades with Metropolitan Transportation Authority Presentation

Quemuel Arroyo, Chief Accessibility Officer of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA), led NYMTC's Brown Bag lunch webinar on January 9, 2025, to highlight the accessibility upgrades planned in MTA's 2025-2029 Capital Plan.

In his presentation, Quemuel outlined MTA's plans to upgrade transportation infrastructure for Americans with Disabilities Act compliance over the next four years and discussed the transportation system's current accessibility challenges.

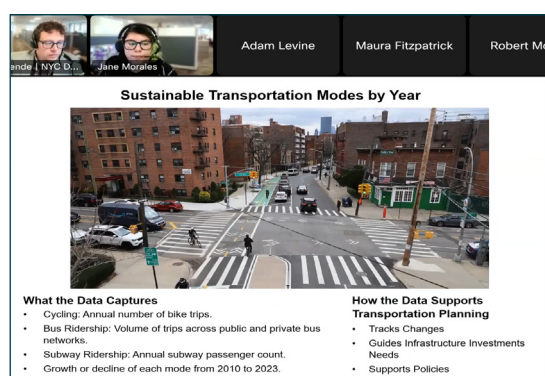


January Brown Bag flyer

Visit NYMTC's YouTube channel to watch the meeting presentation: <https://youtu.be/CTcdNmlrqNM>.

NYMTC's December Brown Bag Features NYC DOT Mobility Dashboard

On December 4, 2024, NYMTC's Brown Bag lunch webinar featured a presentation on the New York City Department of Transportation's (NYC DOT's) Mobility Dashboard, led by Jane Morales, Mobility Program Support Specialist, and Josef Szende, Mobility Studies Lead, both from the Special Projects Unit. The Mobility Dashboard is an interactive platform that collects data from regional agencies to highlight New York City's mobility and travel trends.



December Brown Bag

Jane and Josef presented some of the Mobility Dashboard's key transportation insights, including:

- Travel patterns into New York City's Central Business District
- Population, tourism, taxis/for-hire vehicles and household vehicle registrations trends
- Shifts in alternative transportation ridership including subway, bike, and bus

The presentation illustrated how NYC DOT and other agencies can use the Mobility Dashboard to inform future long-term solutions to address the City's current and emerging transportation needs. The NYC DOT Mobility Dashboard was funded through NYMTC's Unified Planning Work Program.

Visit NYMTC's YouTube channel to watch the meeting presentation: https://youtu.be/gndWtaq6woU?si=UaKlUs_gkJwfjvs7.

NYMTC's November Brown Bag Showcases the City of Long Beach's Resiliency Efforts After Superstorm Sandy

On November 21, 2024, guest speakers from the City of Long Beach joined NYMTC's Brown Bag lunch webinar to present on the City's resiliency efforts. Dan Creighton, Long Beach's City Manager, introduced Patti Bourne, Director of Economic Development and Planning, who led a discussion that highlighted Long Beach's recovery after Superstorm Sandy in 2012.

The presentation also featured a discussion on Long Beach's 2023 Comprehensive Plan, and updates to the city's zoning code from Scott Solomon, a Planner for the City, and Michael Robinson, the City's Director of Fleet Management. The presentation described how Long Beach's approach to resiliency planning in land use, zoning, and transportation can be applied regionally to better prepare the Nassau County area for future climate change impacts.

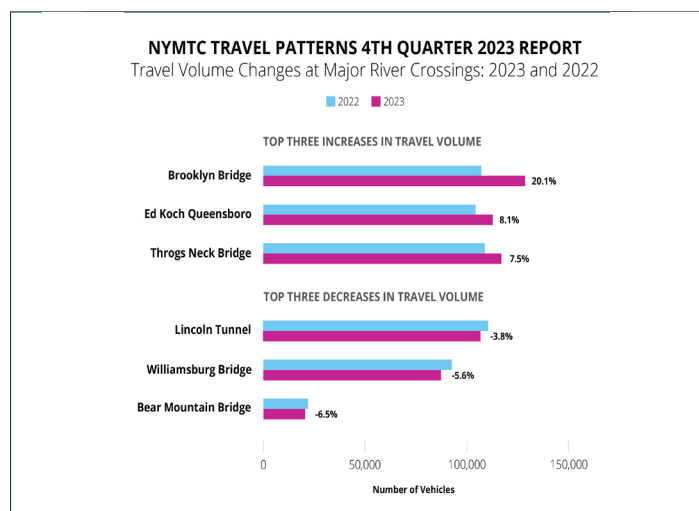


November Brown Bag

To watch the meeting presentation, visit NYMTC's YouTube channel: <https://youtu.be/OxV1Y6AMYk?si=5Actm4RqojZ5vcz7>.

NYMTC's Annual *Travel Patterns Report* Shows Increased Vehicular River Crossings While Public Transit Ridership Still Lags from Pre-COVID Levels

Released in November 2024, the NYMTC Travel Patterns Fourth Quarter 2023 report found a general increase in both vehicle crossings and public transportation ridership in the fourth quarter of 2023 compared to the same period of 2022.



Key trends from NYMTC's Travel Patterns Fourth Quarter 2023 report

Created annually and updated each quarter since 2002, the Travel Patterns reports measure ridership on buses, rail, subways, and ferries along with the vehicular traffic crossing the area's waterway bridges and tunnels in New York City, Long Island, the Lower Hudson Valley, and Northern New Jersey.

The report found a 2.6% increase in vehicle traffic at 23 major river crossings and a 6.5% increase in public transportation ridership in the fourth quarter of 2023 compared to the same period in 2022. However, both vehicle traffic and ridership remained below pre-COVID levels.

The Travel Patterns report, and NYMTC's other transportation research studies, are available at <https://www.nymtc.org/>.

November 2024 PFAC Meeting Explores Suffolk County's Bus Network Redesign

On November 14, 2024, NYMTC's Program, Finance, and Administration Committee (PFAC) met for its bi-monthly meeting which included a presentation from Darnell Tyson, Deputy Commissioner of Suffolk County Department of Public Works, on the County's "Reimagine Transit" initiative. This effort redesigned Suffolk's fixed-route bus network and on-demand mobility services, which improved accessibility, increased ridership, and enhanced efficiency.

Watch the presentation on NYMTC's YouTube channel: https://youtu.be/i1zvLitm7g?si=NRmnUqfi_8MeT457.

NEW YORK METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL
 Program, Finance and Administration Committee (PFAC) Meeting

Suffolk County Reimagine Transit and Moving Forward

This PFAC Meeting will include invited guest speaker Darnell Tyson, who will discuss Suffolk County's major bus network redesign, which has improved access, increased ridership, and improved travel time.

THURSDAY | NOVEMBER 14, 2024
 11:30 AM | (UTC-04:00) EASTERN TIME (US & CANADA)

WEBINAR LINK
<https://meetny.webex.com/join/1610308031>
 161 030 8031

WEBINAR PASSWORD:
 73221114 (73221114 WHEN DIALING FROM A PHONE OR VIDEO SYSTEM)
 161 030 8031

Guest Speaker

Darnell Tyson, P.E.
 Deputy Commissioner
 Suffolk County Department
 of Public Works

Follow NYMTC:

November PFAC Meeting flyer

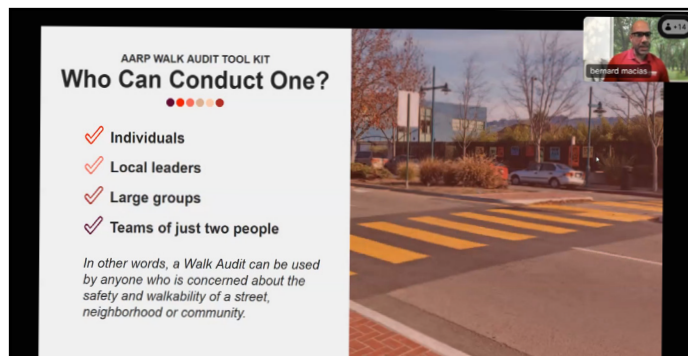
NYMTC's Thriving Communities Network Provides Launching Point for Local Organizations to Improve Walkability and Safe Streets

In October 2024, NYMTC's Thriving Communities Network (TCN) convened local organizations across the NYMTC region for another engaging meeting which explored strategies to improve walkability and safe streets through local community action.

Guest speakers shared tactics and resources they have used to advocate for safer streets:

- Bernard Macias, Associate State Director of AARP Long Island, provided information on how TCN organizations can organize local walkability audits to identify unsafe streets in their community.
- Judy Mezey, Deputy Commissioner of Planning, and Tom Soyk, Deputy Commissioner of Parking/Traffic Division from the City of White Plains, connected meeting attendees to safe streets grant opportunities that they can pursue to fund street and walkway improvement projects.

TCN will meet again in March 2025 to explore how communities can get involved in the transportation planning process in the new year.



October 2024 Thriving Communities Network meeting

NYMTC launched the Thriving Communities Network in 2023 to serve as a resource for traditionally underrepresented communities working in NYMTC's planning area. TCN regularly convenes community organizations to support their participation in regional and local transportation funding. TCN also encourages participating organizations to share NYMTC's activities and resources with their communities.

NYMTC's Executive Director Adam Levine Participates in Key Transportation Discussions at NYC V2X & AI Symposium and Transportation in New York Summit

In October 2024, NYMTC's Executive Director Adam Levine shared key insights about NYMTC's vision for a more efficient multi-modal regional transportation system during a panel discussion at City & State's Transportation in New York Summit.



Adam Levine moderates the New York City Vehicle-to-Everything (V2X) & Artificial Intelligence (AI) Symposium.

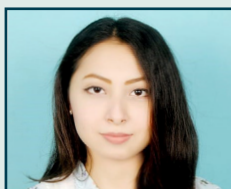
Adam also moderated a panel on emerging mobility technologies for smart cities at the New York City Vehicle-to-Everything (V2X) & Artificial Intelligence (AI) Symposium, a two-day event organized by New York City Department of Transportation (NYC DOT), the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), and the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT). During the Symposium, participants explored how companies are integrating AI and other emerging technologies into vehicles to enhance safety through traffic control and crash avoidance.

NYMTC's September 11th Memorial Program Awards Academic Fellowships in Transportation Planning to Six Graduate Students

In October 2024, NYMTC awarded six graduate students from New York and New Jersey universities a one-year academic fellowship in transportation planning as part of the agency's September 11 Memorial Program for Regional Transportation Planning. The program awards students with a fellowship to conduct innovative transportation planning research under the guidance of a NYMTC or NYMTC member agency mentor.

NYMTC established the annual program in 2005 to honor the memory of Ignatius Adanga, Charles Lesperance, and See Wong Shum, three NYMTC employees who lost their lives during the World Trade Center attacks in 2001. NYMTC administers the program in collaboration with Rutgers University's Center for Advanced Infrastructure and Transportation.

The six fellowship awardees for the program in 2024 are:



Afia Ibnat Subah

Afia Ibnat Subah, Ph.D. Civil and Environmental Engineering Candidate, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.
Mentor agency: New York State Department of Transportation.



Bennett Jonathan

Bennett Jonathan, Master of Science in Civil Engineering Candidate, Columbia University.
Mentor agency: New York City Department of Transportation.



Elliot Wareham

Elliot Wareham, Master of Urban Planning Candidate, New York University.
Mentor agency: New York City Department of Transportation.



Eunjin Shin

Eunjin Shin (E.J. Shin), Master of Science in Civil Engineering and Master of Architecture Candidate, Columbia University.
Mentor agency: New York State Department of Transportation.



Paula Yaghi

Paula Yaghi, Ph.D. Civil and Environmental Engineering Candidate, Rutgers University.
Mentor agency: New York City Department of Transportation.



Vivek Dsouza

Vivek Dsouza, Master of City and Regional Planning Candidate, Rutgers University.
Mentor agency: New York State Department of Transportation.

Stay Connected

Stay connected to your region! There are a number of ways you can continue to learn more about transportation events and investments in the NYMTC region:



Reach out to us: NYMTC-Web@dot.ny.gov



Visit our website: [NYMTC.org](https://nymtc.org)



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Please be safe and be well.