

August 3, 2022, PBAC Meeting Minutes

Meeting started 7:10 pm.

Minutes: No minutes to approve; Perry misplaced them. Perry will gather minutes.

Present:

Members: Laurie Harmon, Phil Chao, Perry Jones, Dan Rappaport, Dave Kimmel, Lisa Serieyssol, Adrian Serieyssol.

Staff: Justin Lesko.

Public: Richard Rein, Christine Symington.

**Engineering Updates:**

Rosedale; under construction. No other updates.

DPW Will be repairing some Sidewalk areas, especially areas that are damaged by trees.

Lisa: Elm Road close to Stockton: A repair that was done there isn't ideal. The sidewalk is really high. It was always high, but now it is especially high. There is a white line that demarcates the edge of the sidewalk and the drop off. Now there is at least a foot drop off down to the road from the sidewalk.

We are going to send sidewalk priority list to Engineering.

Harrison Hamilton intersection light timing was altered.

Mount Lucas repaving job has been delayed.

Laurie: Had a conversation with Deanna last night, Deanna thinks that the google doc is fine for engineering updates, but is open to trying something else (like Perry's idea with Trello.) Deanna is also saying that some Engineering staff will come every other month, for ½ hour.

**Justin Lesko Updates:**

Master Plan: We have had 2 steering committee meetings; last one was in June. In July; consultant is doing background work; gathering data, working with staff.

Yellow "Tell us what you want" survey signs: Economic Analysis survey; answers will be feeding into an economic element of the master plan.

"Engage.princetonmasterplan.org." Launching a website there.

Next Master Plan Steering committee meeting: 4<sup>th</sup> Wed in August; at 2 pm. Will be every 4<sup>th</sup> Wed going forward. On Zoom. Public can attend. Recordings of the first two meetings have been put up on line (Municipality YouTube channel is a good place to get this.)

June or July by next year is when this master plan should be implemented, so the sooner any elements can be put in, the better.

Lisa: What is the best way for PBAC to contribute to the master plan?

Justin: Adopted plans are the data that is being sent to the consultant. Anything that is approved by Council or by the full Vision Zero committee, has a better chance of getting into the plan (especially council approval). Vision Zero isn't the only way bike stuff can get into the plan; community input sessions, petitions, etc., are also good ways.

Lisa: David requested that we review the current circulation element, and the current Bike Master plan.

When PBAC Committee has review of current bike master plan and circulation element; good to submit it to Justin, and then he will send it to the Consultant.

2017 Bike Master Plan; may be an appendix to master plan, not part of the whole master plan. The Mobility element of the Master plan is the more binding part.

Current master plan is more narrative. This coming master plan will be more action oriented, with more concrete things, etc. Our current master plan has some mapped elements, but not all of it. The coming master plan will be redone all at the same time, and will have more maps.

Asbury Park 2017 Master Plan; we are looking at that as a good example for how we want the coming Princeton Master Plan to be. The consultant that we are using is the consultant that did the Asbury Park 2017 Master Plan.

Link for Asbury Park 2017 Master Plan:

<https://www.cityofasburypark.com/DocumentCenter/View/398/City-of-Asbury-Park-2017-Master-Plan-and-Master-Plan-Re-Examination-Report>

Dave Kimmel and Justin Lesko: Final Product will be a new master plan, but will incorporate parts of previous master plans.

### **Committee reports:**

#### Vision Zero updates from Lisa

Lisa: Safe routes to schools. School isn't in session, but administrators are planning programs for year coming up. Lisa saw a lot of interest at Community Night Out; she was there for Greater Mercer TMA. Safe Routes to Schools will be expanded to include high schools. Safe Routes to schools program is funded by Department of Transportation (DOT), Federal Highway commission; they set parameters on where grant funding can be spent. For instance; Pre-K and Highschool can't be recipients of Safe Routes To Schools funding. But in last round of funding announcements from DOT, they said they would be expanding to include Pre-K and High Schools.

Adrian: Report on PHS Biking Club. Refurbished and gave away 4 donated bikes. Has refurbished and repaired 7 more. They are now sponsored by 27 biking companies, and they have received a lot of merchandise from them, and they are giving this merchandise away. They need help: fixing up bikes. They don't have more stands to use to fix bikes.

Lisa: Perhaps the PHS Biking club can do a bike fixing clinic at the Green Mobility Event that Sustainable Princeton is doing.

Adrian: Can probably do a bike repair clinic at the Green Mobility event.

## Bike Parking Update:

Lisa:

There is a Need for more bike parking space downtown. Bikes parked on sidewalk in front of library; Lisa feels that those bike owners will need places to park their bikes. Because the Bike parking on the sidewalk in front of the library will be removed as part of work on Witherspoon. Some new parking has been added behind a hedge on Witherspoon, but most people don't know about it.

## Vision Zero:

Safe Streets For All; is one of the big programs under the Federal Infrastructure bill... \$5 billion over 5 years, \$1 billion per year. This is a grant program. There are two types of grants being awarded. One is for Providing action plans to bring in Vision Zero. The Other is grants for infrastructure, and these are bigger than the grant program for action plans. However, the infrastructure grants won't be given unless there is an action plan. Lisa would like to know what Princeton is doing to pursue this grant program. Jim Purcell said that we will co-sign an application with our Metropolitan Planning Office, which is the region, but it's not clear if this will lead to any grant awards coming to Princeton. First round of funding deadline is September 15.

Email from Jim Purcell:

**From:** James Purcell <[jpurcell@princetonnj.gov](mailto:jpurcell@princetonnj.gov)>

**Subject: RE: VZ policy**

**Date:** August 2, 2022 at 4:49:04 PM EDT

**To:** Justin Lesko <[jlesko@princetonnj.gov](mailto:jlesko@princetonnj.gov)>, "[lfarrseriey@gmail.com](mailto:lfarrseriey@gmail.com)" <[lfarrseriey@gmail.com](mailto:lfarrseriey@gmail.com)>, "[pallavinuka@gmail.com](mailto:pallavinuka@gmail.com)" <[pallavinuka@gmail.com](mailto:pallavinuka@gmail.com)>, "[tineke.thio@gmail.com](mailto:tineke.thio@gmail.com)" <[tineke.thio@gmail.com](mailto:tineke.thio@gmail.com)>, "[martyl621@comcast.net](mailto:martyl621@comcast.net)" <[martyl621@comcast.net](mailto:martyl621@comcast.net)>

**Cc:** Deanna Stockton <[dstockton@princetonnj.gov](mailto:dstockton@princetonnj.gov)>, Bernard Hvozdovic <[bhvozdovic@princetonnj.gov](mailto:bhvozdovic@princetonnj.gov)>

Thanks, Justin.

Lisa,

As you are probably aware, the Safe Streets and Roads for All grant program has two prongs to it. The first is development of an Action Plan. The second is Implementation of an Action Plan, which includes either planning, design, and development in support of an Action Plan, or carrying out projects and strategies identified in the Action Plan. Princeton does not have an Action Plan, so Princeton is not eligible for an Implementation Grant.

We have been advised the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC, our Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)) is planning to submit an application for an Action Grant this round. USDOT encourages local municipalities to partner with the MPO as the lead applicant. USDOT does allow submission of separate applications, but may screen them as duplicative and may decline to fund them on that basis. We have advised DVRPC that Princeton would like to be a partner municipality in their application.

Furthermore, the selection criteria for the SS4A grants is such that Princeton has a low probability of award. Selection is based on number of roadway fatalities (Princeton's is very low), fatality rate (again, very low), and percent of population in underserved communities (hard to believe, but this is also very low – the federal government doesn't recognize any area of Princeton as being underserved (and they discuss it in terms of economic justice)).

Given all that, we believe it is much more likely that we will be successful in partnering with DVRPC. DVRPC has requested that we at least have a Vision Zero Policy Statement and that any committees or task forces associated with VZ or SS4A be supported by Council by ordinance or resolution to show commitment. So, developing that Policy Statement and getting Council support should be a priority.

Feel free to reach out to Deanna and me if you need more information.

Jim

#### Sustainable Jersey Certification:

Christine from Sustainable Princeton: Local governments and school systems can apply for a certification, and then we would get a certification. "Health Gold" is what the board of health is trying to achieve. Laurie said she'll pursue this.

#### Events:

Christine:

Sustainable Princeton Event for Green Mobility:

Westminster Choir College. This won't be at the Princeton shopping Center anymore; which got more shopping center traffic easily, so, they need to find ways to get people to the event and to come there as a destination. The event may be able to have music. EV owners and dealers presenting at this event often get lots of leads from members of the public who are interested in EV's from this event. Tineke and Perry can work on this. Adrian can try to get the word out in PHS, as well.

Christine Symington: Green mobility event. Trying to get people to adopt more sustainable transportation. She is saying that PBAC has done bike valet in the past, but perhaps we could do more publicizing other things as well. September 30<sup>th</sup> will probably be the date; they are finalizing that date before they publicize.

Chasing George Ciclovía: Lisa will check with Eve about this.

Mercer Trails Summit: Cancelled at last minute. Was rescheduled to October 6, Thursday, 8:30 am, Mill One, in Hamilton (Shared Office Space.)

#### Ongoing Business and New Business:

Dan Rappaport: Has been noticing banner signs about running events hung over Washington street. Wants to be able to do banners for biking events.

Laurie: We can't really put up signs, but we can ask town to use the electronic signs.

Dan: Concerning the idea of putting Harrison Street on a road diet: Feels that limiting number of lanes on Harrison Street isn't a good idea, because so many new housing units will be added there.

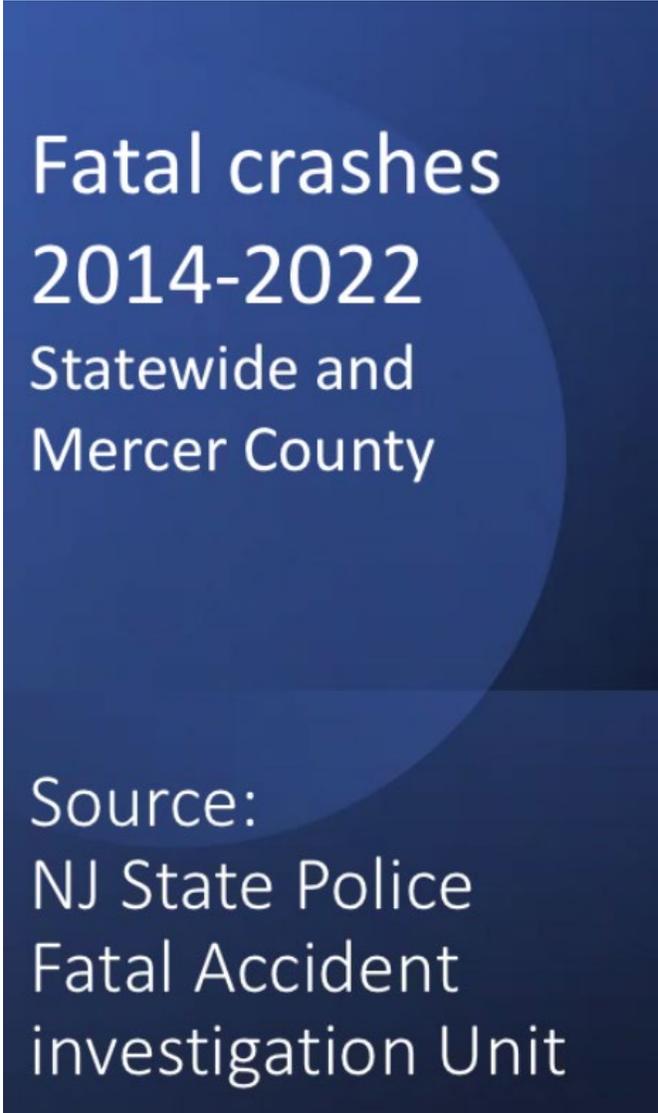
Laurie: There will be a consultant figuring this out.

Lisa: Quick review on pace of fatal crashes.

The Data she used is on the website of state police.

Fatal Crashes: Drivers, Passengers, Pedestrians, Cyclists.

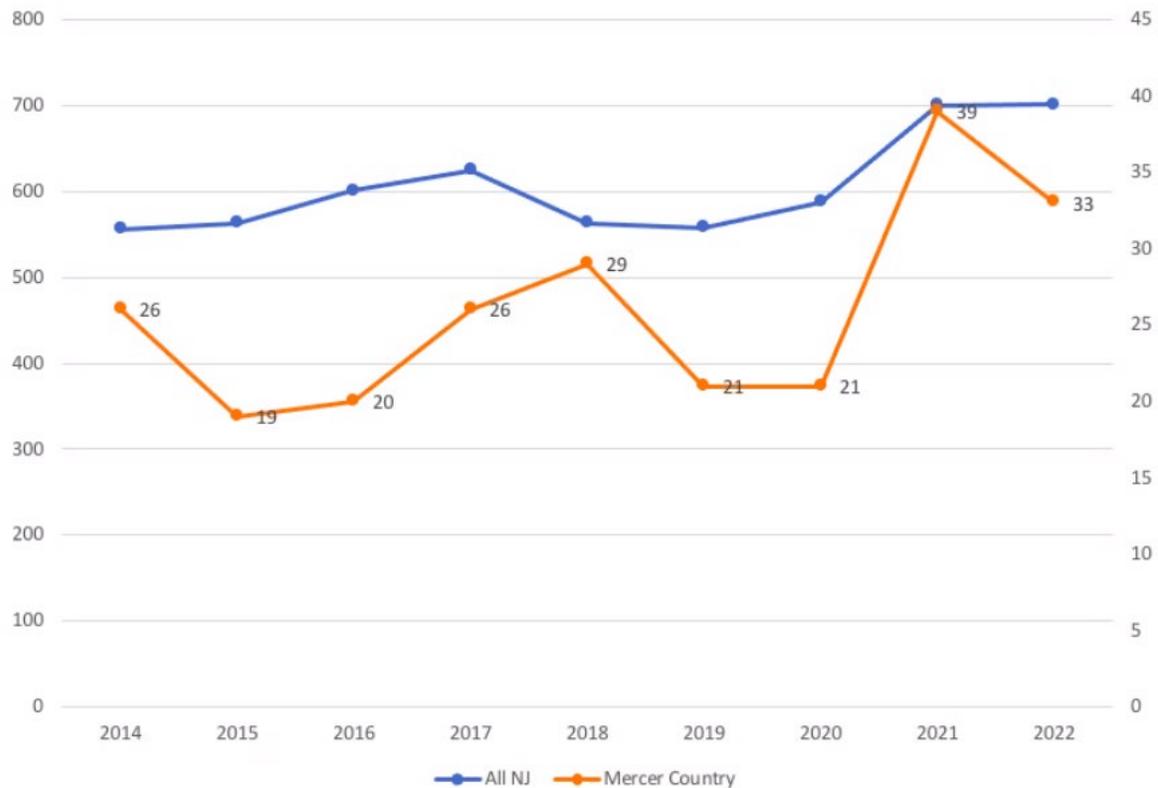
There has been an upward trend:



# Fatal crashes 2014-2022 Statewide and Mercer County

Source:  
NJ State Police  
Fatal Accident  
investigation Unit

## Fatal Crashes, 2022 Annualized



(Is Annualized in that the rest of 2022 was extrapolated, based on the first 7 months)

Lisa is saying that there has been an uptick all over the country, which is why the Safe Streets for All grant program was rolled out.

### Question of meeting in Person:

Phil is saying that Dave Cohen was telling him that the Council is going to meet in person and work out the technology, in terms of Hybrid options, and then will roll out recommendations to committees.

### September Meeting:

Will be busy. Will be 7<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm. Sustainable Princeton event will be coming up.

Meeting Adjourned 8:59 pm.