



Kathryn A. DeFillippo, Chair
Mary D. Ameen, Executive Director

April 26, 2021

The Honorable Chris Smith
2373 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Smith:

I am writing regarding the proposed inclusion of funding for the Borough of Freehold's Parking Improvement Project in the next surface transportation reauthorization legislation.

As the Metropolitan Planning Organization for northern and central New Jersey, the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority (NJTPA) oversees the region's Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). It is our understanding that the House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee requires assurance that any projects funded through the reauthorization legislation that are not currently in the TIP can and will be added to it. This letter serves to provide that assurance.

It is our understanding that the funding for the project will be used to redesign the parking lot on South Street. The project will add parking and revise the circulation pattern to improve safety. This project also includes additional green space to reduce stormwater runoff and make drainage improvements. In addition, a second pedestrian access point will be created, and ADA-compliant curb ramps and crosswalks will be installed.

This project is fully consistent with *Plan 2045: Connecting North Jersey*, the current long-range plan for the NJTPA region. *Plan 2045* encourages investing federal transportation funds to maintain and improve existing infrastructure. The plan also supports projects that improve pedestrian safety.

Given this project's consistency with our long-range plan, the NJTPA would be able to add it to the TIP in a reasonable timeframe should it receive federal funding.

Thank you for your ongoing support of federal transportation investment in the NJTPA region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Mary D. Ameen'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mary D. Ameen
Executive Director