

# NEWSLETTER

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## Director's Message

The NJLTAP team enjoyed seeing many of you at our spring and early summer meetings and training events! We are now bringing more education opportunities to the Bordentown, NJ area through the New Jersey Department of Transportation's new training facility. We greatly appreciate this additional support from NJDOT to reach local public agencies.



Our calendar is quickly filling up for the remainder of the year- please make sure you are tracking what engineering PDH or Certified Public Works Managers credits you will need for your next license renewal. We don't want anyone to miss out! The annual New Jersey Association of County Engineers Fall Forum will return to in-person this year. It is scheduled for October 18th at Rutgers Center for Advanced Infrastructure and Transportation. Registration will open soon.

If you are planning to attend the November New Jersey League of Municipalities Conference, we will have two stormwater compliance workshops on Wednesday afternoon- stay tuned for those details.

Last, but most certainly not least- it is our pleasure to introduce a new Registrar to you. Mackenzie Meixner has recently joined our team and she brings a background in local government. We wish Mackenzie a warm welcome and hope you will introduce yourself to her the next time you attend one of our events!



## Safe System Approach for Roadways

For practitioners working toward zero roadway fatalities through the implementation of the [Safe System Approach \(SSA\)](#), the FHWA Office of Safety released [two new tools](#)—one to assist with project selection, the other to help stakeholders assess their policies.

Each tool is formatted as a user-friendly spreadsheet, and both were developed through extensive research of national and international best practices for measuring their relative alignment with the Safe System Approach. Learn more below!

- [Safe System Project-Based Alignment Framework](#): provides practitioners with a means of contrasting potential roadway improvements relative to one another
- [Safe System Policy-Based Alignment Framework](#): helps agencies assess policies, plans, processes, programs, and documents in a holistic manner.

## Next-Generation TIM Funding

Are you looking to deploy a Next-Generation TIM innovation and need funding to offset the costs? Did you know that each [State Transportation Innovation Council \(STIC\)](#) has access to \$125,000 each year to support the costs of standardizing innovative practices in a State transportation agency or other public sector STIC? Learn about innovations your peers have deployed at STIC Incentive Projects (FY 2014–2023) and learn how to apply at [STIC Incentive Program Guidance](#). If you have questions, contact the [Every Day Counts Coordinator](#) in the FHWA Division Office.



## Organizational Safety Culture

FHWA has produced a new 6-minute video that shows what a strong organizational safety culture looks like. The animated short features two fictitious transportation agencies working to implement road improvement projects. Follow along at your next meeting to determine how strong your organization's safety culture is, and start talking about how everyone can work to improve it. [Watch now!](#)



## New Jersey Announces \$21.1 Million for the Safe Routes to School Program

The Murphy Administration announced \$21.1 million for 23 grants under the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program. The SRTS is a federally-funded program to increase pedestrian safety, encouraging children to walk and bike to school. The goal is to make bicycling and walking to school a safer and more appealing transportation alternative, encouraging a healthy and active lifestyle from an early age. Projects are designed to improve safety, as well as reduce traffic, fuel consumption and air pollution near schools.

Infrastructure improvement projects to be funded through this program include sidewalk improvements; pedestrian and bicycle crossing improvements; and on street bicycle facilities.

To view the full list of recipients, [click here](#).

## Guide for Intersection Control Evaluation Available

Intersection crashes result in just over one-quarter of all traffic fatalities and about half of all traffic injuries. Each intersection project is an incremental opportunity to enhance safety and take one more step toward zero deaths and serious injuries on our Nation's roads. Using a performance-based approach, [Intersection Control Evaluation \(ICE\)](#) is used to screen alternatives and identify optimal geometric and control solutions for an intersection. The goal of ICE is to help agencies make data-driven decisions when it comes to identifying and selecting strategies for intersection-related projects.



Recently, the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine posted Report 1087, Guide for Intersection Control Evaluation (ICE) through the National Cooperative Highway Research Program (NCHRP). This guide incorporates processes, objective performance metrics, and tools to help agencies provide consistent and objective ICE. A growing number of transportation agencies have been adopting ICE policies around the country; to see how it can help you, [download the guide here](#).

# Jacob's Junction

## Question #1

Who is responsible for making sure DEB's listed on the contract are carrying out the exact work specified on the contract?

*After the award, the LPA is responsible for verifying that the listed DBE firms were used as described—for example, that the firms identified as subcontractors have subcontracts and are performing the work. As part of its monitoring efforts, agencies might review project documents and accounting records, and visit the project site to verify DBE participation. LPA monitoring uncovers discrepancies in the proposed and actual use of DBE firms, LPAs are required to take administrative action.*

**As an instructor for NJLTAP, Lloyd Jacobs draws on four decades of experience when he teaches professional development courses and trainings. See what he has to say today!**

## Question #2

What kind of documentation would be helpful to justify a change order?

*Examples of documentation include accurate records that show the time, labor, equipment, and materials; cost estimates prepared by the agency that can be compared to the costs in the proposed change; evaluation of construction schedule modifications needed; court orders or other legal agreements. All of these could be used to justify a change.*

## New Jersey's Build a Better Mousetrap Competition

People involved in the transportation industry often find better ways to do their job. Whether it's a new gadget that improves the quality and safety of a project, or an innovative process that reduces costs and improves efficiency, it is typically the people on the front lines that often realize the latest and best practices.

Now is the time to share those new ideas with others in New Jersey's **Build a Better Mousetrap Competition**. We are looking for submissions from any employee of a **local** or **state** public agency (municipalities, counties, parks commissions, NJ Department of Transporta-



tion, NJ Transit) that has created an alternate or better way of doing something in a transportation project. We will gather the best ideas from around the state and judge them using a 5-point rating system. As a reminder, this competition is open to **any** local, county, or state transportation agency, including NJDOT and NJT employees. Two winners will be selected: one for the best local agency and another for the NJDOT/NJT submission.

<https://cait.rutgers.edu/mousetrap/>

**Download the entry form today!**

## **Upcoming CLASSES**

### **[NJLTAP -Asphalt Roads: Common Maintenance Problems \(In-Person\)](#)**

**September 5, 8:30am—12:30pm**

This course provides relevant information to individuals who must maintain asphalt pavements. The course material reviews the importance of preventive maintenance to the life of an asphalt pavement.

### **[NJLTAP - Grant Management \(In-Person\)](#)**

**September 12 9:00am—12:00pm**

Are you a recipient of a Federal-aid grant? Effective and efficient “management” of the funds received from such a grant is critical to insuring future eligibility and reimbursement.

### **[NJLTAP - Highway Inspection Procedures \(In-Person\)](#)**

**September 10, 9:00am—12:00pm**

This course is designed specifically for project engineers, project inspectors, supervisors and those in responsible charge of Federal-aid construction projects. It presents essential requirements and procedures for insuring conformance with contract plans and specifications including records and documentation necessary to facilitate reimbursement to recipients of federal funds.

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### **Publication Statement**

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