



2011 NJ Legislature Candidate Survey on Transportation and Land Use Policy

As a candidate for NJ State Legislature in the upcoming election, we hope you will take a few moments to answer this short, yet important, questionnaire regarding the transportation issues facing our state. Please feel free to attach sheets as needed.

Organizational Overview:

The Tri-State Transportation Campaign is a non-profit organization working toward a more efficient, transit-friendly and equitable transportation system in New Jersey, New York and Connecticut. Since the mid-nineties, the Campaign has played a critical watchdog role in the field of transportation policy, helping state transportation agencies reform their approaches to solving transportation problems. Our work has increased funding for infrastructure maintenance and repair, created more effective road projects and led to millions of dollars in new funding for walking, cycling and mass transit projects.

Purpose and Process:

Transportation policies directly impact New Jersey's citizens in a variety of ways. Elected officials influence the development of these policies and how certain transportation systems are funded and built, thereby impacting constituents' daily lives. This short questionnaire will be used to inform the public on the incumbents' or

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3. Through Local Aid, municipalities can apply for and receive funding for a variety of infrastructure and safety projects on a competitive basis. Local Aid has generally been funded at \$10 million annually. Do you believe this funding level to be adequate? Y_____ N_____

Explain: _____

¹Transportation Funding Sources http://www.state.nj.us/governor/news/news/552010/pdf/TCP_Slides.pdf

If we allow bridges to fall in disrepair, it will cause an avalanche in future project cost & inconvenience to motorists.

Roads and Bridges:

New Jersey has made progress in reducing the backlog of deficient bridges since it mandated a "fix-it-first" policy in 2000. "Fix-it-first" means existing road and bridges are repaired before new ones are built. But as of 2010, over 200 of New Jersey's bridges and 50% of New Jersey's roads² remain in substantial need of repair. Spending on new roads and bridges has also increased in recent years.

1. How will you ensure that New Jersey is adhering to its "fix-it-first" policy?

Detailed reports of a bridge's structural integrity & making it an official record if these damaged bridges are not fixed first

NJ Transit:

Transit saw 247 million riders last year statewide, an increase of 10% since 2008, yet state support for the transit system has decreased.³ In 2004 nearly half, 49%, of the NJDOT Capital Construction Program was dedicated to NJ Transit.⁴ Since 2004, that amount has steadily decreased to a third, or 33%, in 2012.⁵

1. Do you ride trains or buses? Y ___ N When and Where? Used to

2. What would you do to address the increasing demand for public transportation?

2. Do you regularly walk or ride a bicycle? Y___ N___ Where? _____

Sustainable Communities:

Smart growth development policies (which encourage development around transit hubs and economic centers), sustainable communities and increased public transportation are often more effective and fiscally sound methods of curbing traffic growth while bringing economic, environmental and health benefits to municipalities.⁹

1. Will you promote smart growth planning and development in your district?
Y_____ N_____ Explain : _____

⁶ NJ Transit's rail ridership has quadrupled since 1984 <http://www.arctunnel.com/about/>

⁷ Wall Street Journal article April 19, 2011 <http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748703916004576271150274132500.html>

⁸ National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (FARS) <http://www-fars.nhtsa.dot.gov/States/StatesCrashesAndAllVictims.aspx>

⁹ US EPA <http://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/topics/eb.htm>

Sustainable Communities continued:

2. In 2012, the nationally recognized Transit Village program will be defunded. The program provides small grants to help towns promote development near train and bus stations. Previous funding levels were between \$1 and \$3 million annually.

Will you support the restoration of funding for the Transit Village program?

Y N If so, at what level? 1.5 million

Above & Beyond:

Is there anything else we should know about your goals regarding transportation?

Educate motorists on benefits of
car pooling, I do. Make car pooling
easier by organizing databases for folks to
share rides. We're people locally first.

