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Murphy Administration Announces Atlantic City as the 35th State Transit Village

Initiative promotes mixed-use development and Complete Streets accommodations near transit facilities

(Trenton) – The Murphy Administration today announced that Atlantic City has been designated as a Transit Village, making it the 35th municipality to be recognized since the initiative began in 1999.

The state’s [Transit Village Initiative](#) connects designated municipalities with a [task force comprised of 10 state agencies](#) that help implement mixed-use development and [Complete Streets](#) accommodations near transit facilities. The agencies that make up the Transit Village Task Force, which includes the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) and NJ TRANSIT, can provide funding and technical assistance through their programs to municipalities that have been designated as a Transit Village.

“To receive a Transit Village designation, a municipality must develop a plan for redevelopment that promotes economic activity and public transportation,” NJDOT Commissioner Diane Gutierrez-Scaccetti said. “Atlantic City’s plan to create a mixed-use neighborhood near the Atlantic City rail station will transform one of New Jersey’s premier destinations in a way that will enhance the quality of life for the residents, as well as visitors, through enhanced bike and pedestrian facilities near public transportation, shops and restaurants.”

Atlantic City’s primary objective in the Transit Village District is to promote compact, mixed-use development, and a walkable, bikeable and transit friendly environment around the Atlantic City rail station, which is the focal point of the Transit Village. The plan is to increase housing opportunities within walking distance of shops, restaurants, offices, entertainment, and cultural centers by increasing opportunities for pedestrian activity and reducing reliance on automobiles. This should help reduce traffic congestion and pollution, boost the local economy, and improve the feeling of safety and security.

The Atlantic City Rail Terminal train station, located inside the Atlantic City Convention Center, serves as the terminus of the Atlantic City rail line, operated by NJ TRANSIT that runs from the Philadelphia 30th Street Station to Atlantic City. In addition, the Atlantic City Bus Terminal, a regional bus station and major stop for NJ TRANSIT buses is located two city blocks from the rail terminal.

NJ TRANSIT also operates local bus routes within Atlantic County, which are centered on Atlantic City. The city has a unique and long-standing jitney service. The Atlantic City Jitney Association (ACJA) operates a minibus service in the city, providing 24-hour service on three (3) fixed routes, daytime service on a fourth fixed route, and fare-free bus-to-rail connections to Atlantic City Line trains.

The Transit Village District falls within the jurisdiction of both the city and the Casino Reinvestment Development Authority (CRDA). The two entities have formed a partnership that will enhance development in the Transit Village District through CRDA financing capabilities to facilitate residential and commercial projects.

In 2022, Atlantic City adopted a [Complete and Green Streets](#) policy that ensures transportation projects are developed to safely accommodate users of all ages and abilities, including pedestrians, bicyclists, public transportation users, motorists, and freight vehicles.

The NJDOT-administered Transit Village Initiative provides participating municipalities with planning expertise and grant opportunities to redevelop land near train or other transit facilities in a way that promotes economic activity and the use of public transportation.

Transit Village designation provides:

- State of New Jersey commitment to the municipality's redevelopment vision
- Coordination and technical assistance among state agencies that comprise the Transit Village Task Force
- Priority consideration for certain funding opportunities

New Jersey's first Transit Village was designated in 1999. The roster now includes Pleasantville, Morristown, Rutherford, South Amboy, South Orange, Riverside, Rahway, Metuchen, Belmar, Collingswood, Bloomfield, Bound Brook, Cranford, Matawan, New Brunswick, Journal Square/Jersey City, Netcong, Elizabeth, Burlington City, Orange, Somerville, Montclair, Linden, West Windsor, East Orange, Dunellen, Summit, Plainfield, Park Ridge, Irvington, Hackensack, Long Branch, Asbury Park, Newark, and now Atlantic City.

The Department has programmed \$1 million in the Fiscal Year 2024 Capital Program to provide funding on a competitive basis to the 35 municipalities designated as Transit Villages. In FY23, the Governor and Legislature provided an additional \$2 million allowing 10 municipalities to receive grants. Applications for Transit Village designation are accepted on a rolling basis and reviewed by the Transit Village Task Force. The task force reviews applications and makes recommendations to the NJDOT Commissioner, who has final approval of Transit Village designations.

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