



**NJDOT
NEWS**



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NJDOT Celebrates the 20th Anniversary of the Transit Village Initiative

**Program encourages transit oriented development
to revitalize communities and reduce congestion**

(Trenton) – New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) Commissioner and NJ TRANSIT Chair Diane Gutierrez-Scaccetti today celebrated the 20th Anniversary of the Transit Village Initiative. Created in 1999, the initiative creates incentives to revitalize areas around transit stations to create attractive, vibrant, pedestrian-friendly neighborhoods where people can live, shop, work and play without relying on automobiles.

“The Transit Village Initiative exemplifies NJDOT’s ongoing Commitment to Communities, particularly in regards to collaboration, innovation, and evolution,” NJDOT Commissioner Diane Gutierrez-Scaccetti said. “It encourages towns to grow through compact, mixed-use development around transit facilities, which preserves the character of the community and creates a safe and welcoming environment for transit users.”

The [Transit Village Program](#) seeks to reduce traffic congestion and improve air quality by increasing transit ridership. Studies have shown that adding residential housing options within walking distance of a transit facility; typically a half mile radius, increases transit ridership more than any other type of development. Therefore, one of the goals of the Transit Village Initiative is to bring more housing, businesses and people into the neighborhoods around transit stations.

At its inception, the initiative was comprised of five municipalities earning a Transit Village Designation. Today, there are 33 municipalities in the transit village program. Among the benefits of the transit village designation are priority funding and technical assistance from some state agencies, and enhanced eligibility for grants from the NJDOT to communities that are committed to revitalizing neighborhoods near existing transit facilities.

For more information on the transit village initiative visit [our website](#). Motorists are encouraged to check NJDOT's traffic information website www.511nj.org for real-time travel information and for NJDOT news follow us on Twitter [@NJDOT_info](#) or visit us on our Facebook page.

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