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New Mobility and Transportation Innovation Pilot Program applications being accepted for \$2 million in FY24 grants Program provides funds to improve access to public transportation

(Trenton) – The New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) today announced the grant solicitation period for the new FY24 Mobility and Transportation Innovation Pilot Program (MATIP) is open to local government and transit agencies in Mercer County with applications being accepted through May 31, 2024.

"Growing up in Jersey City, I relied on public transportation to get me to where I needed to go, and I am happy to announce the Mobility and Transportation Innovation Pilot Program will fund projects that will make public transportation more accessible for our underserved communities and constituents in Mercer County," NJDOT Acting Commissioner Fran O'Connor said. "The New Jersey Department of Transportation is committed to advancing Governor Murphy's vision of providing a safe, equitable and reliable transportation system for all who travel through our state, while tackling the climate issues we are facing today. By creating programs like MATIP, we encourage the use of public transit and reduce New Jersey's carbon footprint."

MATIP is a \$2 million program, which was signed into law on November 27, 2023. The program, supported through the General Fund, helps Mercer County's local public agencies fund public transportation projects that emphasize and enhance passenger mobility, increase access to public transportation among disadvantaged communities, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Under the program, the proposed projects must meet the following eligibility criteria: (1) enable lowincome persons, including persons without access to smartphone technology, to access any transportation services made available through the project; (2) include accessibility features to accommodate the mobility needs of persons with disabilities; and (3) utilize innovative technologies or strategies that have already demonstrated success in similar transportation projects.

The grant is administered by the NJDOT Division of Local Aid and Economic Development. Applications are being accepted through the Local Aid Resource Center website: <u>www.njdotlocalaidrc.com</u>; For more information about MATIP, email <u>DOT-LocalAID.ResourceCenter@dot.nj.gov</u> or call 609.649.9395. For NJDOT news follow us on X (Twitter) <u>@NewJerseyDOT</u> and on the <u>NJDOT Facebook page</u>.