

NJDOT UAS High Mast Light Pole Inspection

OVERVIEW OF INNOVATION

NJDOT's Unmanned Aerial Systems program in the Bureau of Aeronautics is demonstrating how the adoption of drone technology can serve NJDOT's goals to increase safety, increase efficiency, save time, and save money. Drones are replacing boots on the ground, increasing accuracy, speeding up data collection, and providing access to hard-to-reach locations for divisions throughout the Department.

Drones can perform High Mast Light Pole inspections more quickly and less expensively than by traditional means. One advantage of UAS inspections is that they do not require shutting down a travel lane for a bucket truck to occupy. This results in cost savings to the traveling public who would otherwise experience traffic congestion and lost productivity. A UAS inspection requires a crew of only three including two controllers (one pilot and one engineer each with a camera and screen), and a third visual observer to monitor the site. Using this method, NJDOT was able to complete six or seven inspections per day compared with one or two using traditional methods, contributing to "significant" cost savings.



Source: NJDOT

BENEFITS

Improves safety by reducing the risk of injury for roadside workers.

Saves time and money for the traveling public and for NJDOT.

FIND OUT MORE . . .

- NJDOT Unmanned Aerial Systems Innovative Initiative: <https://www.njdottechtransfer.net/uas/>
- *Drone Technology at NJDOT* video: <https://www.njdottechtransfer.net/2019/11/04/drone-tech/>
- UAS Peer Exchange, Final Report: <https://www.njdottechtransfer.net/2018/01/01/research-project/?pdb=37>

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