

Research at a Glance

Technical Brief

Principal Investigator

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Research Library Operations (2019-2020)

The New Jersey Department of Transportation Research Library completed its 22nd year of operation since its reopening in February 1998 and, since its reestablishment, has been funded annually by NJDOT as a research project with State Planning & Research (SPR) funding. This report covering July 2019 through December 2020 updates the most recent accomplishments and provides a snapshot of the Library's activities.

Research Problem Statement

Since 1998, the NJDOT Research Library has operated as a branch of the New Jersey State Library (affiliated with Thomas Edison State University) to provide onsite library services to NJDOT, to support the research and technical work of the Department and its affiliated agencies, and to provide stewardship of the Research Bureau's collection of technical reports and other materials.

Research Objectives

The main objectives of this research project were to operate and improve the Research Library as a major resource for transportation knowledge sharing and technology transfer. By partnering with NJDOT staff and Department units whenever possible, and with other transportation libraries and entities, Library staff sought to provide support to the organization and the industry, to assist people in their professional endeavors, and to fill gaps in the body of knowledge within the Department and externally.



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Methodology

Professional librarians at NJDOT used library and information science practices to manage the operations of the NJDOT Research Library and to provide knowledge services to NJDOT staff and external customers.

Results

This report examines research library operations from July 2019 through December 2020. The major focus of this year was collection management. This involved extensive weeding and cataloging of print materials on hand at the library at the start of the year.

Information requests were stable through the year and were answered by an array of librarians both onsite at NJDOT or at the New Jersey State Library.

Highlights of the accomplishments include:

- Extensive weeding of texts, treatises, federal documents and excessive duplicate copies of state documents.
- Supporting staff career development by obtaining and lending civil service career examination study materials and professional certification exam study materials.
- Development of a Transportation Resources LibGuide hosted through the New Jersey State Library. This LibGuide provides ready access to a variety of resources needed by transportation researchers in and beyond New Jersey.



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