



# Welcome

## Amanda Gendek

Deputy Director  
Statewide Planning



# Feature Presentation

## **Overcoming Challenges - Recruiting, Developing and Maintaining a Workforce to Meet Current and Future Highway Construction Needs**

Vicki Tilghman-Ansley

Civil Rights & Affirmative Action



# FHWA Updates

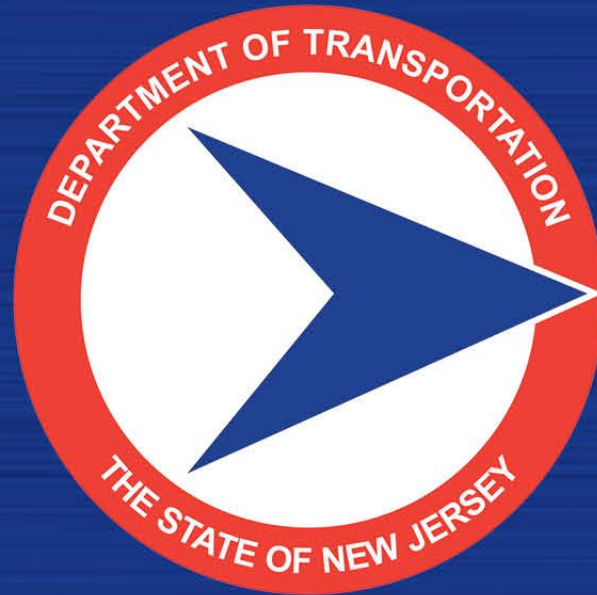


**Christopher Paige**

Innovation Coordinator & Community Planner

FHWA, NJ Division Office

# Mentimeter Engagement Activity Summary



Presented by Giri Venkiteela, BRIIT  
August 6, 2025

**NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

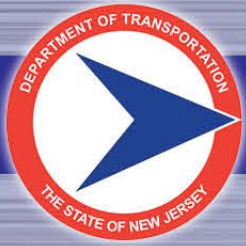


# Survey on Innovation

**Objective:** To explore STIC members

- Perceptions,
- Initiatives,
- Challenges,
- Support requests, and
- Notable projects related to innovation.





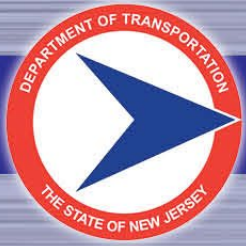
# Perceptions of Innovation

- **Key Themes:**

- Creativity and thinking outside the box
- Efficiency and progress
- Embracing change and new technology

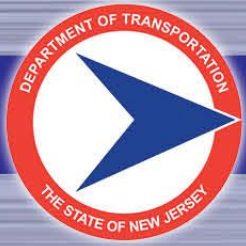
- **Quotes/Keywords:**

- "Risk-taking," "enhancing existing systems," "new solutions"



# Ongoing Initiatives

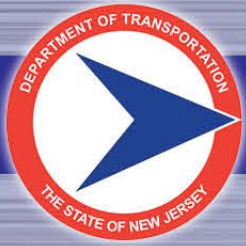
- **Highlights of Current Projects:**
  - AI integration and smart vehicle testing
  - Electric vehicle infrastructure
  - Weather Savvy Pilot and automated shuttle deployment
- **Focus Areas:**
  - Safety, efficiency, sustainability



# Challenges in Implementing Innovations

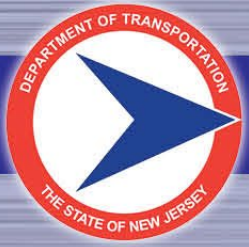
- **Common Challenges:**
  - Organizational silos and siloed perspectives
  - Lack of funding and resources
  - Resistance to change
- **Additional Issues:**
  - Fear of risk, IT challenges





# Support Mechanisms by NJ STIC

- **Suggestions for Support:**
  - Foster a culture of innovation
  - Advocate for pilot projects and provide funding
  - Facilitate communication and collaboration
- **Additional Recommendations:**
  - Engage global experts and academia



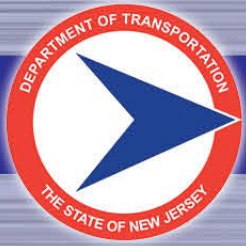
# Notable Innovations in NJ

- **Key Innovations to Share:**
  - Automated enforcement options
  - Green infrastructure projects
  - AI in transportation
- **Emphasis:**
  - Safety, efficiency, environmental management



# Conclusions

- **Summary:** The survey highlights a strong interest in leveraging innovation to enhance safety, efficiency, and sustainability.
- **Call to Action:** STIC will incorporate suggestions.



# Core Innovation Area Team Leads

## **SAFETY**

NJDOT – Jeevanjot Singh  
FHWA – Alan Huff

## **PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT**

NJDOT – Simon Nwachukwu  
FHWA – Christopher Paige

## **INFRASTRUCTURE PRESERVATION**

NJDOT – Bob Signora  
FHWA – Paul Cardie

## **MOBILITY & OPERATIONS**

NJDOT – Vandana Mathur  
FHWA – Ek Phomsavath

## **ORGANIZATIONAL SUPPORT & IMPROVEMENT**

NJDOT – Kristal Walker  
FHWA – Christopher Paige