

MOBILIZING THE REGION

NEWS AND OPINION FROM THE TRI-STATE TRANSPORTATION CAMPAIGN

Legislative Update: Progress on Bike-Ped Safety, Transit Oversight in New Jersey



TSTC's Janna Chernetz testifying at the New Jersey Assembly's Transportation and Independent Authorities Committee. | © 2015 Brian Branch Price

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This week was [a busy one](#) for transportation advocates in Trenton. Tri-State, along with [New Jersey Bike & Walk Coalition](#), [AAA Northeast](#), [Environment New Jersey](#), [New Jersey Chapter Sierra Club](#), [Morris Area Freewheelers](#), and [Major Taylor Cycle Club](#), appeared before the New Jersey Assembly's Transportation and Independent Authorities Committee on Monday providing testimony in support of a wide range of bills, from pedestrian and bicyclist safety to the public notice regarding NJ Transit schedule changes.

[A1348](#) (sponsored by Assemblywoman Grace Spencer) was released favorably with one abstention, and requires **motorists operating vehicles to maintain a reasonable and safe distance when overtaking pedestrians and people on bicycles.**

Committee Substitute A1461 (sponsored by Assemblywoman Pamela Lampitt) was unanimously released favorably, and establishes the **Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Advisory Council**.

A1919 (sponsored by Assemblyman John Wisniewski) which would **add two public voting members to the NJ Transit board** was pulled from the board agenda.

A227 (sponsored by Assemblyman Wayne DeAngelo) was released favorably with one abstention, and requires **NJ Transit to hold public hearing and provide notice prior to any curtailment of certain bus and rail services**.

A2205 (sponsored by Assemblyman Tim Eustace) was released favorably with four abstentions, and requires **NJ Transit to provide locations at bus terminals and rail stations where bicycles may be safely secured**.

Next stop for these bills (with the exception of A1919) will be a vote in the full Assembly—although none are scheduled just yet.