



BRT Benefits

BRT systems are successfully serving communities all over North America. BRT has many benefits:

- Helping people to get around faster and more reliably
- Improving access to jobs, shopping, and schools
- Promoting economic development
- Offering attractive new alternatives to driving
- Managing traffic congestion for everyone
- Creating more livable, sustainable communities
- Flexible to adapt to changing passenger needs over time

GET INVOLVED

We are interested in public feedback and opinion as to the BRT options for Bergen County.

We encourage you to visit the Bergen BRT website at www.bergenbrt.com to learn more about this exciting project. From our interactive features, you can help us collect information about the popular routes and destinations, watch informative videos and participate in our public opinion survey.

If you would prefer to just take the survey, you can go directly to <http://www.bergenbrt.com/get-involved/take-the-survey-travel-needs/>



Bergen County Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Implementation Study

The County of Bergen and NJ TRANSIT have initiated a study to examine how Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) may improve travel within Bergen County. The Bergen County BRT Implementation Study is considering the best routes and associated improvements needed to bring BRT to the County and build on existing transit services.

BRT possesses a real potential to enhance mobility options within Bergen County, improve service for existing transit customers and create new travel options for those who drive. By giving travelers the option of leaving their cars at home, BRT will offer an attractive incentive for individuals to save money on gas, tolls, insurance and repairs, and avoid the time and stress associated with driving.

Key Steps and Schedule

- Task 1:** Identify Alternative Destinations and Routes: **Months 1-4**
- Task 2:** Select Preferred Destinations and Routes: **Months 4-8**
- Task 3:** Prepare Description, Analysis and Recommendations for Preferred Alternative: **Months 8-12**
- Task 4:** Prepare Capital Investment and Operations Plans: **Months 8-12**
- Task 5:** Conduct Community and Public Outreach: **Months 1-12**

DID YOU KNOW

Today, more than 60% of Bergen County residents work in the county compared to only about 18% of residents who work in New York City? Bergen County residents, employees, and visitors are largely dependent on car travel. Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) is a customer friendly and cost effective way to create new mobility options that serve county residents. The Bergen County BRT Study will define the vision for tomorrow's advanced bus service for Bergen County...

What is Bus Rapid Transit?

BRT stands for Bus Rapid Transit. Bus Rapid Transit is a transportation system that combines the efficiency of trains with the flexibility of buses. It includes stations and stops, exclusive lanes and rapid transit vehicles. BRT is designed to provide high quality service like a subway or light rail system, but typically runs on existing roads and highways, and in some cases on its own right-of-way.

Technological improvements allow BRT vehicles to travel faster, cleaner, and more reliably than regular buses. BRT systems are designed to bypass congestion, collect fares efficiently, and provide real-time travel information to riders.

BRT for Bergen County

Bergen County already has an extensive bus system and a proven track-record of commuters using public transit. It has the mix of denser urban and suburban areas where BRT works well. By providing efficient, flexible, and premium service to key destinations, BRT will benefit current bus riders, while making mass transit more attractive to those who could or would not entertain this option before. Greater transit use means less driving and less congestion and therefore reduced pollution. Dozens of cities worldwide have BRT systems in operation, and even more are planning future BRT. Local examples exist in New York City and Newark, NJ, and are being planned elsewhere in New Jersey, in Westchester County, and on Long Island.



A Bus Rapid Transit system is a bus system that's *faster*, *more reliable*, *more flexible*, *more convenient* and *more attractive* to more people.



Some Special BRT Features:

- More frequent service and limited stops. BRT will provide direct service to major destinations within Bergen County and offer connections outside of the County. BRT vehicles may stop less frequently to improve travel time for the majority of the route's passengers.
- Exclusive bus lanes, queue jumps at intersections, and other tools that enable buses to consistently travel at posted speed limits and maintain a reliable schedule.
- Improved fare payment technology, including ways to pay before boarding. BRT offers rider-friendly options paying the fare to reduce the time buses wait at stations.
- Traffic signal priority that adjusts traffic lights to keep buses moving, while minimizing the effect on other traffic.
- Advanced buses that may be easier to get on and off, have more customer amenities, and use cleaner fuels. BRT often uses new buses that make the system more comfortable, more sustainable, and more identifiable.
- Enhanced and more customer-friendly bus stations, with safe and more comfortable passenger shelters and bus stations that provide additional amenities.
- Real-time travel information for waiting riders. BRT passengers can expect to have information about arrival and departure times available at the station or accessible to riders through the Web or on cell phones.

