

RECEIVED
NJ TRANSIT CORPORATION

SEP 5 2025

OFFICE OF THE
GENERAL COUNSEL

Caleb L. McGillvary
#1222665/SBI#102317G NJSP
PO Box 861 Trenton, NJ 08625

August 5, 2025

To: Commissioner of Transportation
New Jersey Department of Transportation
1035 Parkway Avenue
Ewing, NJ 08625

Administrative Practice Officer (APO)
New Jersey Department of Transportation
PO Box 600
Trenton, NJ 08625-0600

RE: Petition for Rulemaking Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:14B-4(f) and N.J.A.C. 16:1A-3.1 et seq.; to Establish a Women's Advisory Board for NJDOT and NJ Transit Planning and Operations

Dear Commissioner and APO;

Please find enclosed and file onto the NJ Register my petition for rulemaking to the New Jersey Department of Transportation, and initiate rulemaking proceedings thereon. This petition addresses the ongoing concerns women have using public transit in New Jersey, by tackling the systemic factors contributing to such abuses as groping, intimidation, and sexual assaults on and around transit services. I strongly encourage you to give this petition priority consideration, as the cascading effects its proposed regulation will have on women's safety are urgently needed.

Thank you for your expeditious consideration of this vitally important initiative.

Kind Regards,

Caleb L. McGillvary

ENCL:

CC: FILE

Various Media Outlets
Numerous Elected Officials

**PETITION FOR RULEMAKING TO THE NJ DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION**

To:

**Commissioner of Transportation
New Jersey Department of Transportation
1035 Parkway Avenue
Ewing, NJ 08625**

**Administrative Practice Officer
New Jersey Department of Transportation
PO Box 600
Trenton, NJ 08625-0600**

From:

**Caleb L. McGillvary
#1222665/SBI#102317G NJSP
PO Box 861 Trenton, NJ 08625**

Date:

August 3, 2025

**Subject: Petition to Promulgate Rule Establishing a Permanent
Women's Audit Board for NJDOT and NJ Transit Services.**

Petition for Rulemaking to NJ Department of Transportation

I. Introduction and Legal Basis for Petition

(N.J.A.C. 16:1A-3.1(a)(5) - The statutory authority under which the Department of Transportation may take the requested action)

Pursuant to the New Jersey Administrative Procedure Act, N.J.S.A. 52:14B-4(f) and implementing regulations at N.J.A.C. 16:1A-3.1 et seq., the undersigned hereby petitions the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) to initiate rulemaking to establish a permanent advisory board composed of women from diverse demographics to conduct ongoing women's audits of services and operations provided by NJDOT and NJ Transit (NJT).

II. Text of Proposed Rule

(N.J.A.C. 16:1A-3.1(a)(2) - The substance or nature of the rulemaking which is requested)

The petitioner requests NJDOT adopt a rule that establishes the following:

N.J.A.C. 16:1A-1.4 – Women's Audit Advisory Board

(a) The NJDOT hereby creates a Women's Audit Advisory Board ("the Board") composed exclusively of women from diverse backgrounds and geographic regions across New Jersey, including representation from:

- (i) Communities of diverse ethnic backgrounds;
- (ii) Low-income communities;
- (iii) Communities of diverse sexual preferences;
- (iv) Women with disabilities;
- (v) Senior women;
- (vi) Transit-dependent populations.

(b) The Board shall be appointed through a public nomination process managed by the NJDOT Office of Civil Rights and must be composed of no fewer than 12 members serving staggered 3-year terms, with appointments renewable upon evaluation.

Petition for Rulemaking to NJ Department of Transportation

(c) The Board shall conduct comprehensive women's audits of all NJDOT and NJ Transit planning, policy, infrastructure, and service delivery - both pre-existing and proposed.

(d) The Board shall utilize the methodology and recommendations from leading research, including:

(i) The 2018 report by the Rudin Center for Transportation Policy and Management at New York University authored by Susan M. Kaufman, "The Pink Tax on Transportation."

(ii) The 2019 study "Understanding How Women Travel" by the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LA Metro), which highlights key barriers and solutions to women-sensitive mobility.

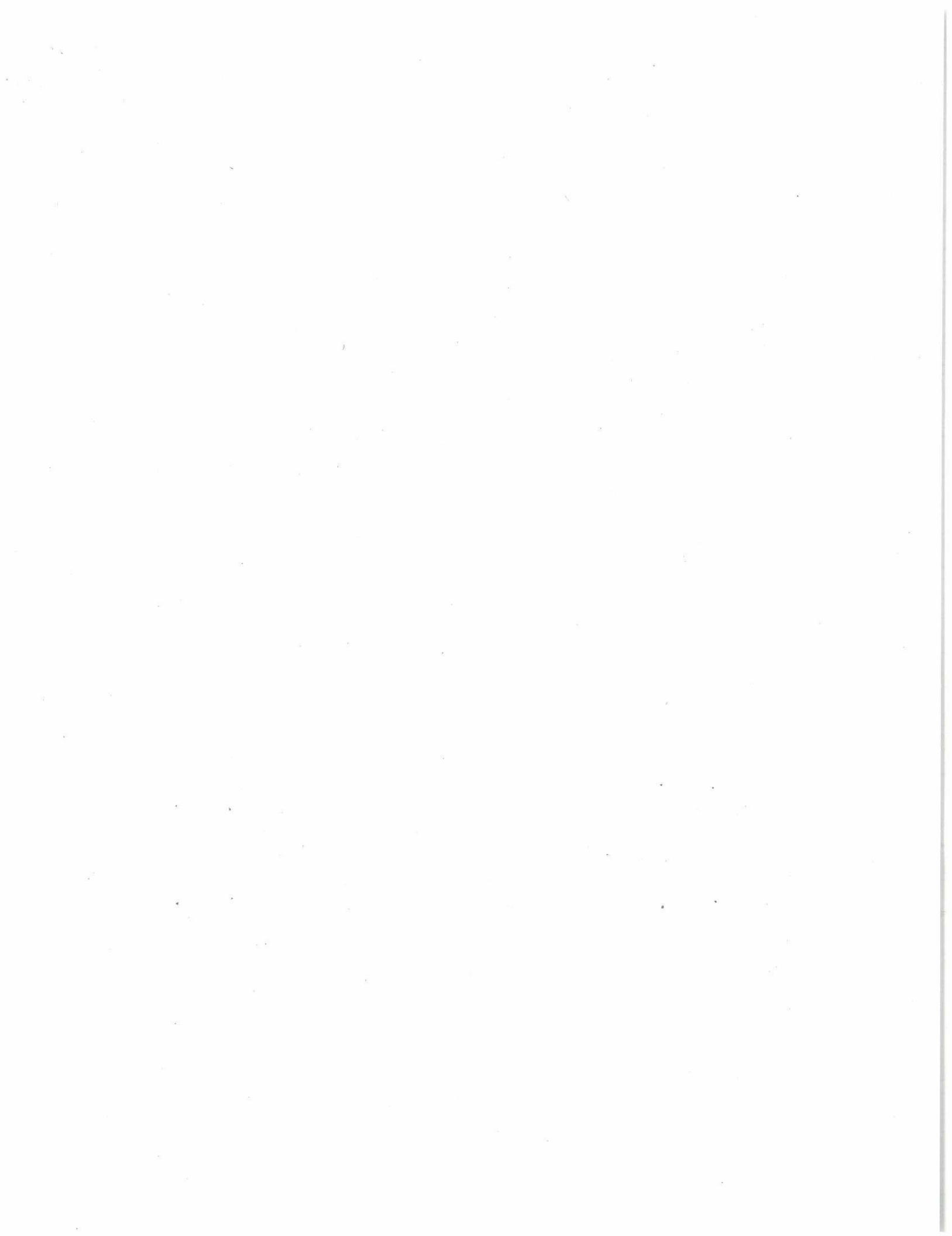
(e) The Commissioner of Transportation and all relevant agency officers shall be required to review and respond to all Board findings within 90 days, and where necessary, make changes to NJDOT and NJT services to address disparities between men and women's safety, accessibility, and comfort concerns raised by the Board.

Petition for Rulemaking to NJ Department of Transportation

(f) This rule shall require that any new NJDOT or NJT project or service undergo a mandatory women's audit by the Board prior to final approval or implementation.

(g) The Board shall issue annual public reports summarizing findings, trends, and progress in implementing women-sensitive transportation planning.

(h) Each of the Board members shall be salaried employees of NJDOT hired for the sole purpose of their service on the Board.



III. Justification for the Proposed Rule

(N.J.A.C. 16:1A-3.1(a)(3) - The reasons for the request)

Transportation systems in New Jersey - and across the U.S. - have historically been designed without full consideration of the unique needs, experiences, and safety concerns of women. While Title VI and equity impact reviews are standard practice, they often do not capture women-specific patterns and disparities in mobility, care-based trips, safety at night, sexual harassment, or affordability for low-wage earners.

Key findings from existing research support this petition:

1. The 2018 NYU Rudin Center report identified that women - particularly women of color - incur additional transportation costs and burdens due to system designs that ignore caregiver roles and personal safety.
2. The 2019 LA Metro study revealed that women are more likely to combine multiple trip purposes, travel off-peak, and use transit systems in ways that traditional planning does not reflect. These findings highlight the need for system-wide women's audits to inform better service design.

Petition for Rulemaking to NJ Department of Transportation

Despite similar demographics and transit dependency in New Jersey, no agency-wide process currently ensures that women-based insights are institutionalized in NJDOT or NJT's policies and services.

By adopting this rule and establishing the proposed Board, NJDOT will:

1. Promote Safety, accessibility, and dignity for all users;
2. Demonstrate leadership in women's rights in mobility policy;
3. Proactively reduce disparities and ensure equal access for the millions of New Jersey women who rely on public infrastructure and services.

IV. Anticipated Benefits

(N.J.A.C. 16:1A-3.1(a)(3) - The reasons for the request)

1. Reduction in harassment and safety risks through targeted design and service recommendations.
2. More efficient and inclusive planning that better reflects women's travel behaviors and care-giving roles.
3. Increased ridership among women and families due to improved comfort, trust, and relevance of transit services.
4. Compliance with federal women's rights guidance and enhanced alignment with broader state goals on ensuring women's equal access to programs and services.

V. Petitioner's Interest in the Request

(N.J.A.C. 16:1A-3.1(a)(4) - The Petitioner's interest in the request, including any economic interests)

Petitioner has loved ones who utilize the NJDOT and NJT services which will be affected by this regulation. The implementation of the Board will create a cascading series of policy shifts that will provide greater security and enjoyment of Petitioner's loved ones. This will in turn holistically improve the Petitioner's well-being, because his loved ones will experience less anxiety at using NJDOT and NJT services, which will result in improved social dynamics for Petitioner and lessen the anxiety he himself feels for his loved ones.

**VI. Existing Federal and State Statutes and Rules Which the
Petitioner Believes May be Pertinent to the Request**
(N.J.A.C. 16:1A-3.1(a)(6))

To Petitioner's knowledge, there are no federal or state statutes
or rules which are on point for this request.

