

# *News from the 17<sup>th</sup> Legislative District*



**FOR RELEASE:**

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**SMITH/CHIVUKULA/EGAN ANNOUNCE STREETScape GRANTS  
FOR HIGHLAND PARK, NORTH BRUNSWICK, PISCATAWAY**

*Three 17<sup>th</sup> District Communities to Receive \$800,000 in Department of Transportation Grants*

Senator Bob Smith and Assemblymen Upendra Chivukula and Joseph Egan today announced that Transportation Enhancement Grants totaling \$800,000 have been awarded to three 17<sup>th</sup> District communities for local streetscape projects.

Highland Park will receive \$250,000 for the Highland Park Smart Streets project which includes the installation of traffic control systems along Woodbridge Avenue to ensure safe passage for pedestrians and bicyclists. North Brunswick will receive \$350,000 for streetscape improvements along Livingston Avenue. Piscataway will receive \$200,000 for improvements along Stelton Road.

The grants were awarded this week by the state Department of Transportation.

“These transportation grants fund more than just the filling in of a pothole here or there,” said Senator Smith, D-Piscataway. “They represent major beautification and streetscape projects, as well as increased safety for pedestrians and bicyclists. They will enhance the quality of life for visitors and residents of the surrounding neighborhoods, and will instill a greater sense of pride in the community.

“The combination of foot, bicycle and automotive traffic along Woodbridge Avenue in Highland Park has created an extremely dangerous environment for everyone who uses the roadway,” said Chivukula (D-Somerset). “This transportation improvement grant will fund much-needed safety measures without placing any additional property tax burden on area residents.”

In North Brunswick and Piscataway, the transportation improvement projects will create safe and decorative streetscapes that will enhance vehicular traffic flow, promote safety, and increase the attractiveness of adjoining properties.

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“Due to the major thoroughfares, hospitals, and education institutions in the area, North Brunswick and Piscataway are prime locations for economic development,” said Egan (D-New Brunswick). “These transportation-related projects will complement ongoing efforts to generate new jobs and improve neighborhoods and business districts.”

Transportation Enhancement (TE) Grants provide funding for more livable communities, preserve and protect environmental and cultural resources and to promote alternative modes of transportation, all while shifting dependency on property taxes. TE grants typically allot moneys for non-traditional transportation projects such as historic train stations, bicycle and pedestrian facilities, landscaping and scenic beautification, and downtown streetscape improvements.

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