

PEOPLE

the transportation connection

A Brief History of the NJDOT



New Jersey Department of Transportation





James Weinstein
Commissioner of Transportation

This organization has a great history – a history entwined with New Jersey’s successes. The development of transportation and the economic development of the state are virtually one and the same. The New Jersey Department of Transportation has been instrumental in creating, designing, constructing and maintaining transportation for more than a century.

New Jersey is a state on the move. Its citizens greeted the advent of the 21st century with a vital complex of ports, highways, airports and bus and rail systems to move goods and people and provide services. It is difficult to imagine the state as a wilderness with footpaths as major arteries.

Local residents helped to turn the Indian trails into turnpikes, build canals and developed today’s highways, public transit systems and airports. This transportation history is also their history, told through the individuals and groups who actually worked to build one of the best and most heavily used transportation networks in the country.

Many “firsts” have come from this Department because transportation is directly connected to our way of life. It is important for people who work here today to know the contributions of those who preceded them and be inspired by them to add their own list of accomplishments.

October 2001