

P.L.2017, CHAPTER 195, *approved August 7, 2017*

Senate, No. 2153

1 **AN ACT** requiring the New Jersey Turnpike Authority to study the
2 impact of constructing rail stations at certain park and ride
3 facilities.

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5 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
6 *of New Jersey:*

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8 1. The New Jersey Turnpike Authority shall conduct a study
9 and prepare a report concerning potential options for the
10 construction of a rail station at the Vince Lombardi Park and Ride
11 facility in Ridgefield, Bergen County. The proposed rail station
12 shall allow the New Jersey Transit Corporation to provide rail
13 passenger service connecting the proposed rail station to the
14 existing rail station in the Borough of Hawthorne, Passaic County,
15 and to the light rail station at Tonnell Avenue in North Bergen,
16 Hudson County, through the use of the New York, Susquehanna and
17 Western Railway right-of-way. The report shall include, but not be
18 limited to, the following:

19 a. A description of each possible option to construct a rail
20 station at the Vince Lombardi Park and Ride facility, including the
21 locations for the placement of additional rail stations, which shall
22 provide the facility with service connections to the Main-Bergen
23 County Line and Pascack Valley Line through the use of the New
24 York, Susquehanna and Western Railway right-of-way;

25 b. An assessment of the feasibility of constructing a rail station
26 at the Vince Lombardi Park and Ride facility, including the
27 technology to be utilized in any new construction of additional rail
28 stations;

29 c. The estimated cost of each option to construct a rail station
30 at the Vince Lombardi Park and Ride facility, including the
31 estimated cost of the acquisition of property and rights-of-way and
32 the availability of any federal funds to offset the costs of each
33 option;

34 d. The estimated time of implementation of each option to
35 construct a rail station at the Vince Lombardi Park and Ride
36 facility, including the time necessary for permitting;

37 e. A projection of the number of residences and businesses that
38 will be negatively impacted by each option to construct a rail
39 station at the Vince Lombardi Park and Ride facility;

40 f. An assessment of the environmental impact of each option to
41 construct a rail station at the Vince Lombardi Park and Ride
42 facility;

43 g. An assessment of the impact on potential utilization of the
44 Vince Lombardi Park and Ride facility, including the projected

1 effects on traffic congestion and current motorbus regular route
2 service ridership; and

3 h. Any other relevant information concerning the feasibility of
4 construction of a rail station at the Vince Lombardi Park and Ride
5 facility.

6 The report shall include a summary of other possible options
7 which were not discussed in the report and set forth the reasons why
8 those options were not identified as feasible options to construct a
9 rail station at the Vince Lombardi Park and Ride facility.

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11 2. The authority shall report its findings required pursuant to
12 section 1 of P.L. , c. (pending before the Legislature as this bill)
13 not later than 12 months following the effective date of this act to
14 the Governor and the Legislature pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991,
15 c.164 (C.52:14-19.1).

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17 3. This act shall take effect immediately and shall expire on the
18 30th day following the submission of the report required to be
19 prepared under section 2 of this act.

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22 STATEMENT
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24 This bill directs the New Jersey Turnpike Authority (authority)
25 to study and prepare a report, for submission to the Governor and
26 the Legislature, concerning the potential options for the
27 construction of a rail station at the Vince Lombardi Park and Ride
28 facility (facility) in Ridgefield, Bergen County. The proposed rail
29 station is to allow the New Transit Jersey Corporation to provide
30 rail passenger service connecting the proposed rail station to the
31 existing rail station in the Borough of Hawthorne, Passaic County,
32 and to the light rail station at Tonnell Avenue in North Bergen,
33 Hudson County, through the use of the New York, Susquehanna and
34 Western Railway right-of-way.

35 The report is to include: a description of each possible option to
36 construct a rail station at the facility, including the locations for the
37 placement of additional rail stations, which is to provide the facility
38 with service connections to the Main-Bergen County Line and
39 Pascack Valley Line through the use of the New York, Susquehanna
40 and Western Railway right-of-way; an assessment of the feasibility
41 of constructing a rail station at the facility, including the technology
42 to be utilized in any new construction of additional rail stations; the
43 estimated cost of each option to construct a rail station at the
44 facility, including the estimated cost of the acquisition of property
45 and rights-of-way and the availability of any federal funds to offset
46 the costs of each option; the estimated time of implementation of
47 each option to construct a rail station at the facility, including the
48 time necessary for permitting; a projection of the number of

1 residences and businesses that will be negatively impacted by each
2 option to construct a rail station at the facility; an assessment of the
3 environmental impact of each option to construct a rail station at the
4 facility; an assessment of the impact on potential utilization of the
5 facility, including the projected effects on traffic congestion and
6 current motorbus regular route service ridership; and any other
7 relevant information concerning the feasibility of construction of a
8 rail station at the facility.

9 Under the bill, the authority is required to submit its report to the
10 Governor and Legislature within 12 months following the bill's
11 effective date.

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16 Requires NJTA to study impact of constructing rail stations at
17 certain park and ride facilities.