

Transportation chief honored with award

New Jersey Meadowlands Commission (NJMC) chief of transportation David Liebgold has been named the recipient of the Newark Regional Business Partnership (NRBP) Transportation Leadership Award. Liebgold is being recognized for his work in improving the transportation network in the greater Newark region to help commerce flow more freely and create job opportunities. He was honored at a NRBP breakfast on May 16.

"David Liebgold is an outstanding transportation engineer whose strong work ethic, technological ingenuity and tireless dedication to improving roadway systems in one of the most dense and economically critical highway corridors in the nation has significantly improved the quality of life and economic vitality of area businesses and hundreds of thousands of commuters," said Marcia Karrow, executive director of the NJMC.

Liebgold is currently overseeing the Meadowlands Adaptive Signal System for Traffic Reduction (MASSTR) project, a business and environmentally-friendly program in which the NJMC is upgrading 128 outdated traffic signals throughout the Meadowlands region. The MASSTR project implements high-tech, adaptive traffic signal control software that continuously adjusts traffic light timings based upon the changing flow of traffic from each intersec-

tion approach.

The project, which began this year and is expected to be completed in 2013, will reduce vehicle delays by 1.2 million hours per year, gasoline consumption by more than 1.2 million gallons per year and greenhouse gas emissions by more than 11,000 tons per year for the more than 400,000 vehicles that travel the project corridors daily. The \$10 million project is funded by a federal transportation grant that Liebgold helped secure.

In addition, Liebgold has worked with Meadowlink Commuter Services to develop a shuttle bus system that has increased the use of public transportation by workers in the Lyndhurst, Rutherford and Newark areas, taking cars off the road and reducing congestion.

As the chief of transportation for the NJMC, Liebgold directs the Commission's transportation planning and traffic engineering initiatives. He is a graduate of the University of California at Berkeley School of Engineering and Haas School of Business, where he earned a master's degree in transportation engineering and a certification in management of technology. Liebgold is an Emerson native and an Oakland resident.



David Liebgold