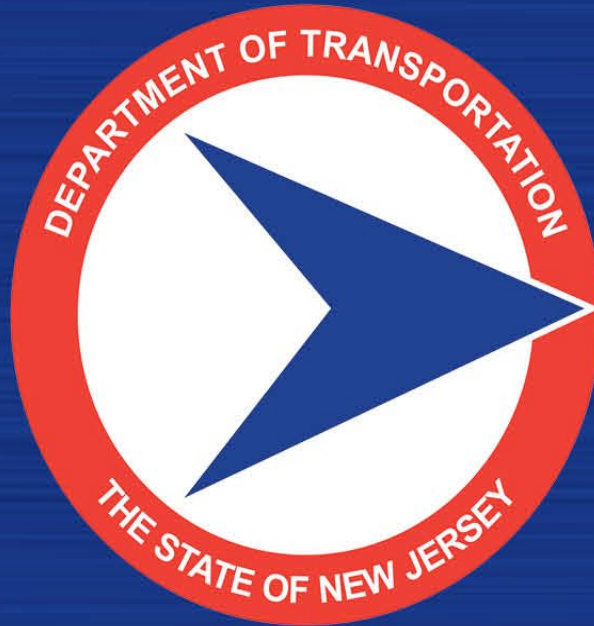


**Discoveries in
the First Year of
the NJDOT's
Digitization
Project**



**Presented by Eric
Schwarz, NJDOT
Research Librarian,
to Transportation
Librarians
Roundtable
*March 14, 2024***

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



NJDOT Research Library

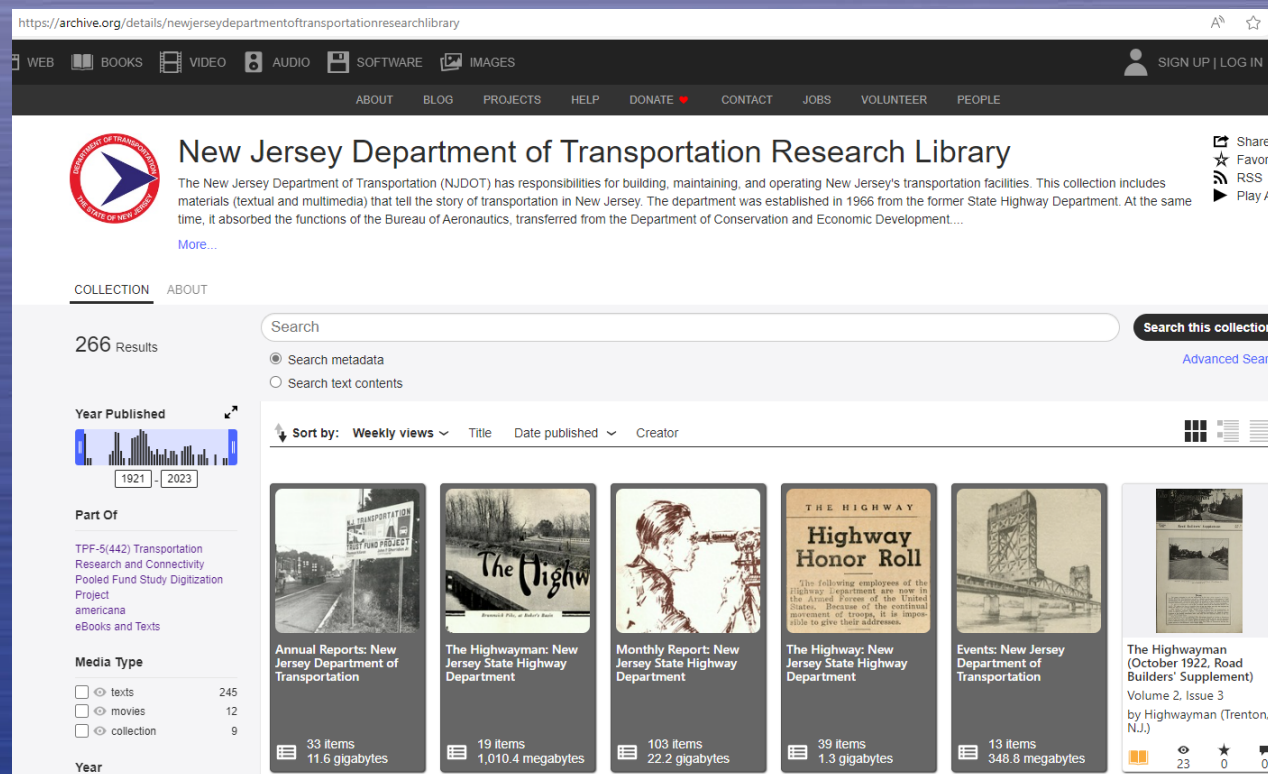
- Provides resources to plan, design, construct, and maintain a high-quality transportation system.
- Part of the Bureau of Research, Innovation & Information Transfer since 1962.
- Founded in 1943 or 1944.





Digitization Project Overview

- Textual and video materials
- Tell stories about transportation in NJ
- Supported by Transportation Research and Connectivity Pooled Fund



*<https://bit.ly/njdot-ia>
On the Internet Archive website*



Pop Quiz! Question

How many women have served as New Jersey's Transportation (or Highway) Commissioner, since the state adopted a single commissioner system in 1935?



Answer



**Anne P. Canby
1981-1982**



**Hazel Frank Gluck
1986-1989**



**Kathy Stanwick
1993-1994 (acting)**

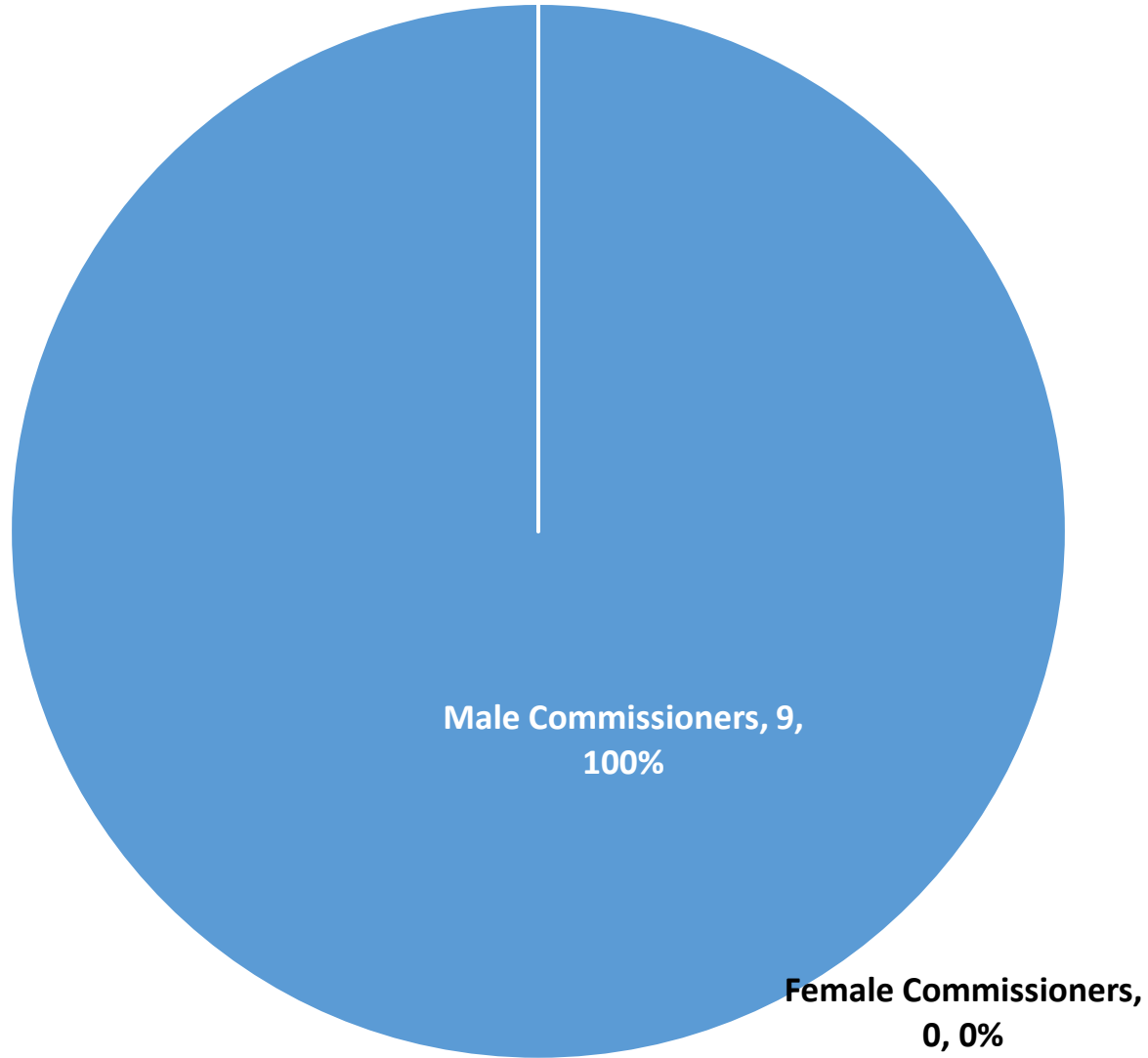


**Diane Gutierrez-
Scaccetti, 2018-2024**

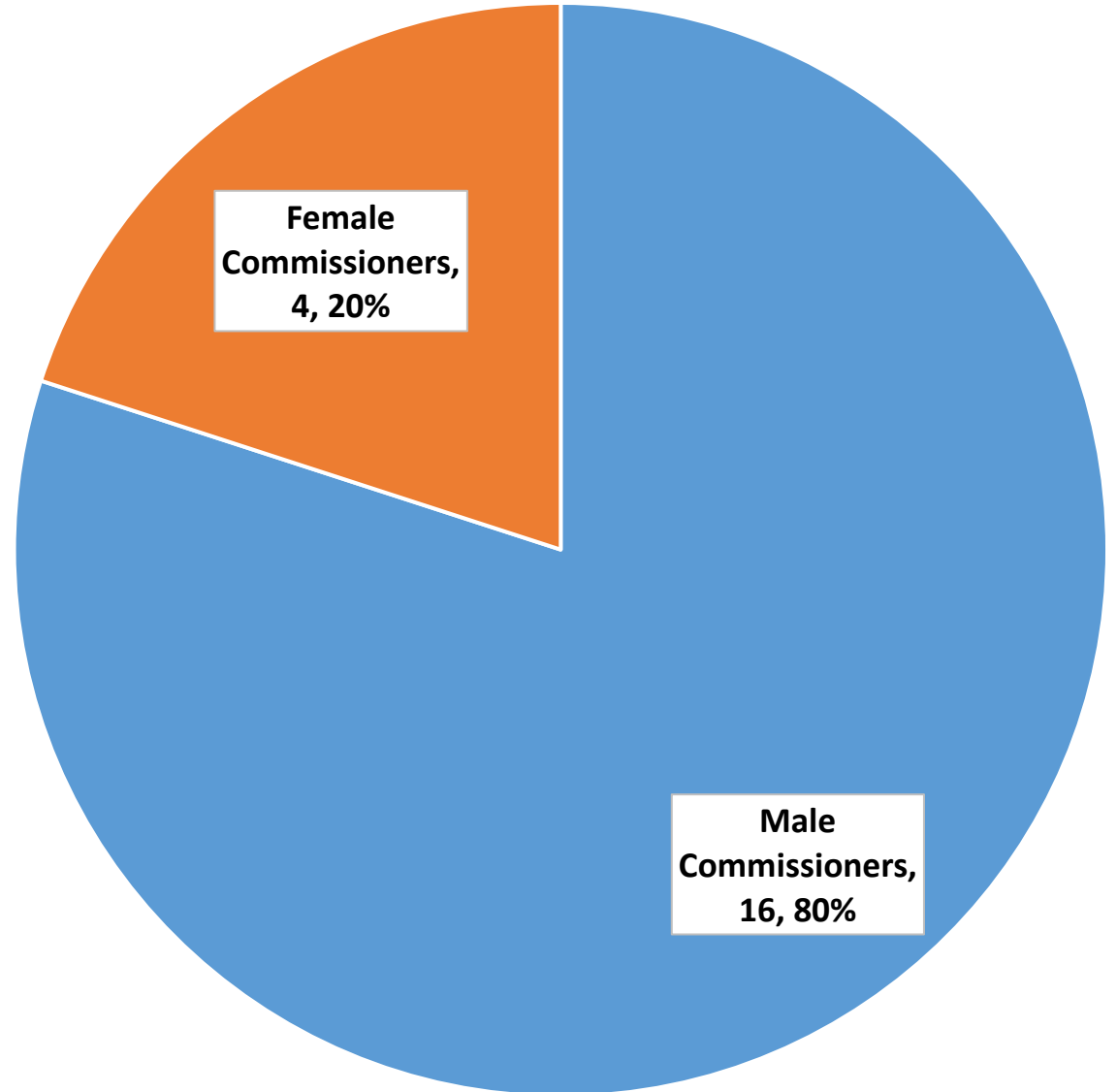
Four: Anne P. Canby, Hazel Frank Gluck, Kathy Stanwick, and Diane Gutierrez-Scaccetti.



**Male and Female Commissioners,
1935-1980**



**Male and Female Commissioners,
1981-2024**



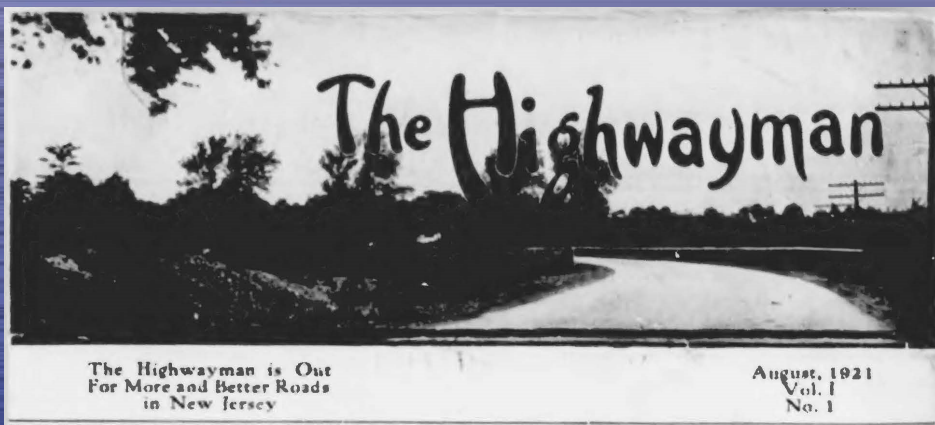


Selection of Materials

- Prioritizing materials about significant eras or events, or with photos or charts.
- Annual and monthly reports.
- Videos and microfilm.
- Not a records management project.



Employee Publications



THE HIGHWAY

VOLUME 1 — NO. 1



AUGUST, 1942

OUR BOYS IN THE SERVICE

Elsewhere in this issue there appears a list of the State Highway Department employees now in the Armed Forces. We are proud of these men and the sacrifices they are making. Each is playing his part in America's fight for liberty. Together they form what we are proud to call "THE HIGHWAY HONOR ROLL."

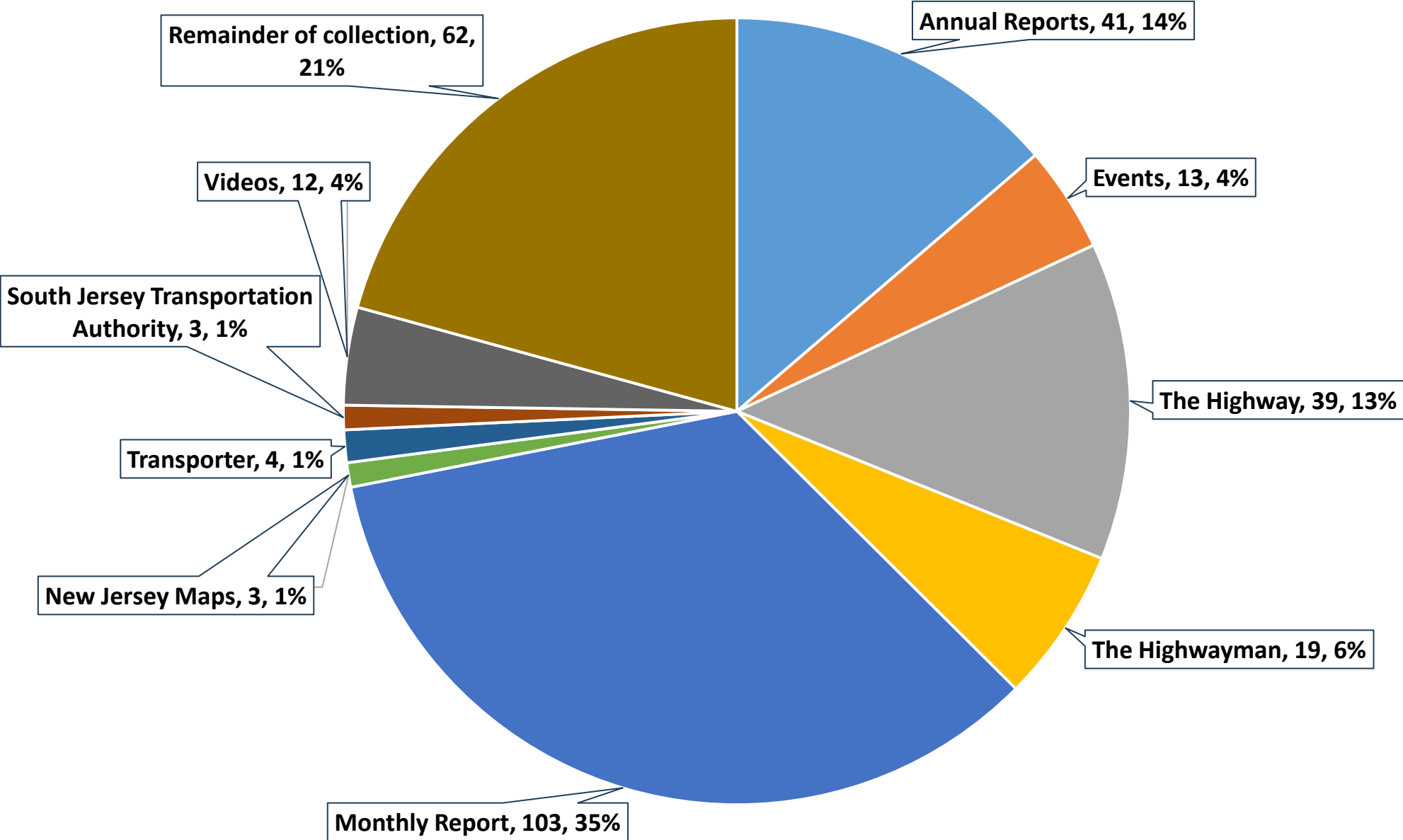
HERE'S YOUR NEW PAPER

Governor Edison Sends Greetings

I am indeed happy to know that the Highway Department has decided to establish a newspaper to be devoted to matters pertaining

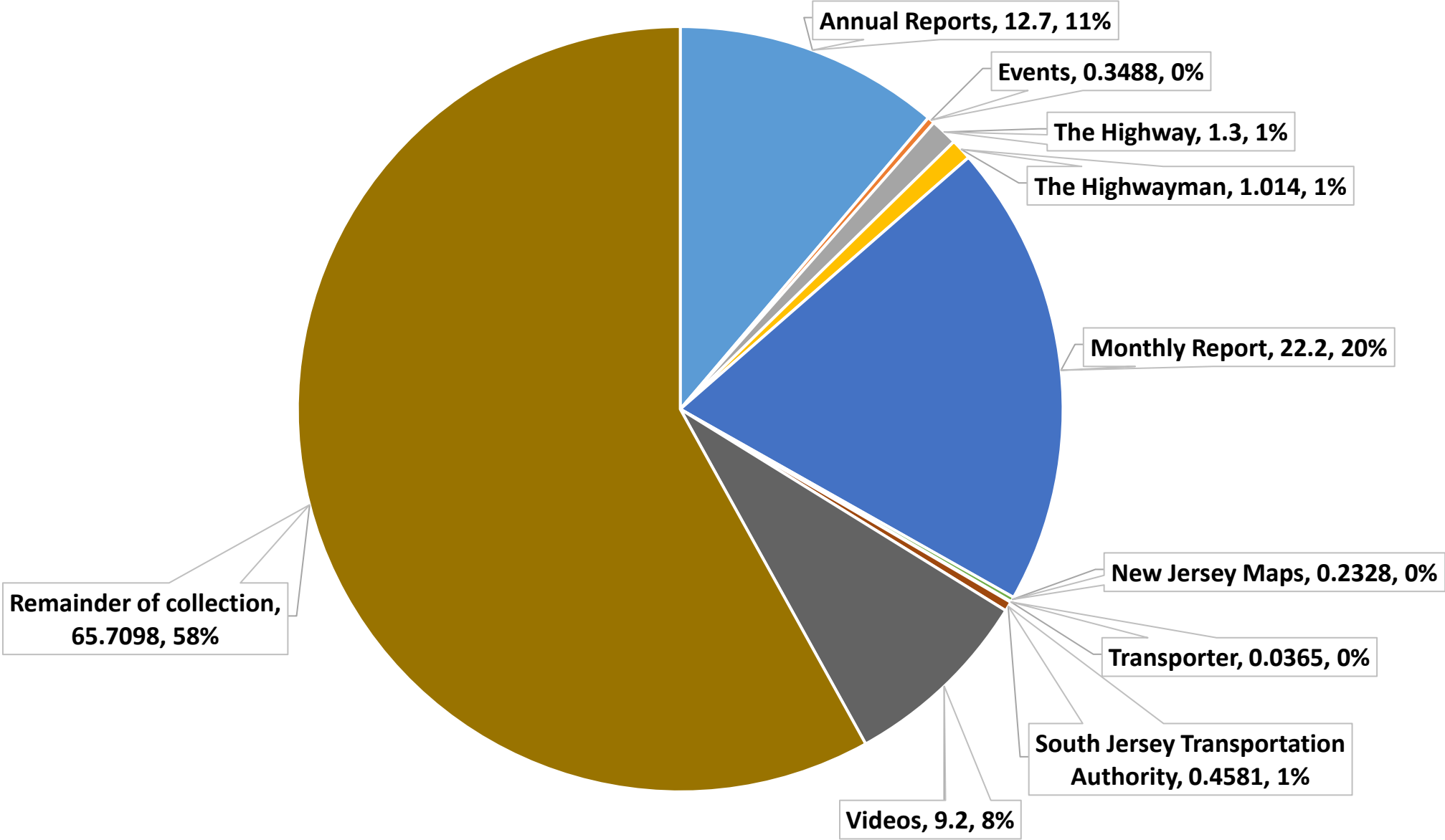


Number of Items in Collection - March 13, 2024



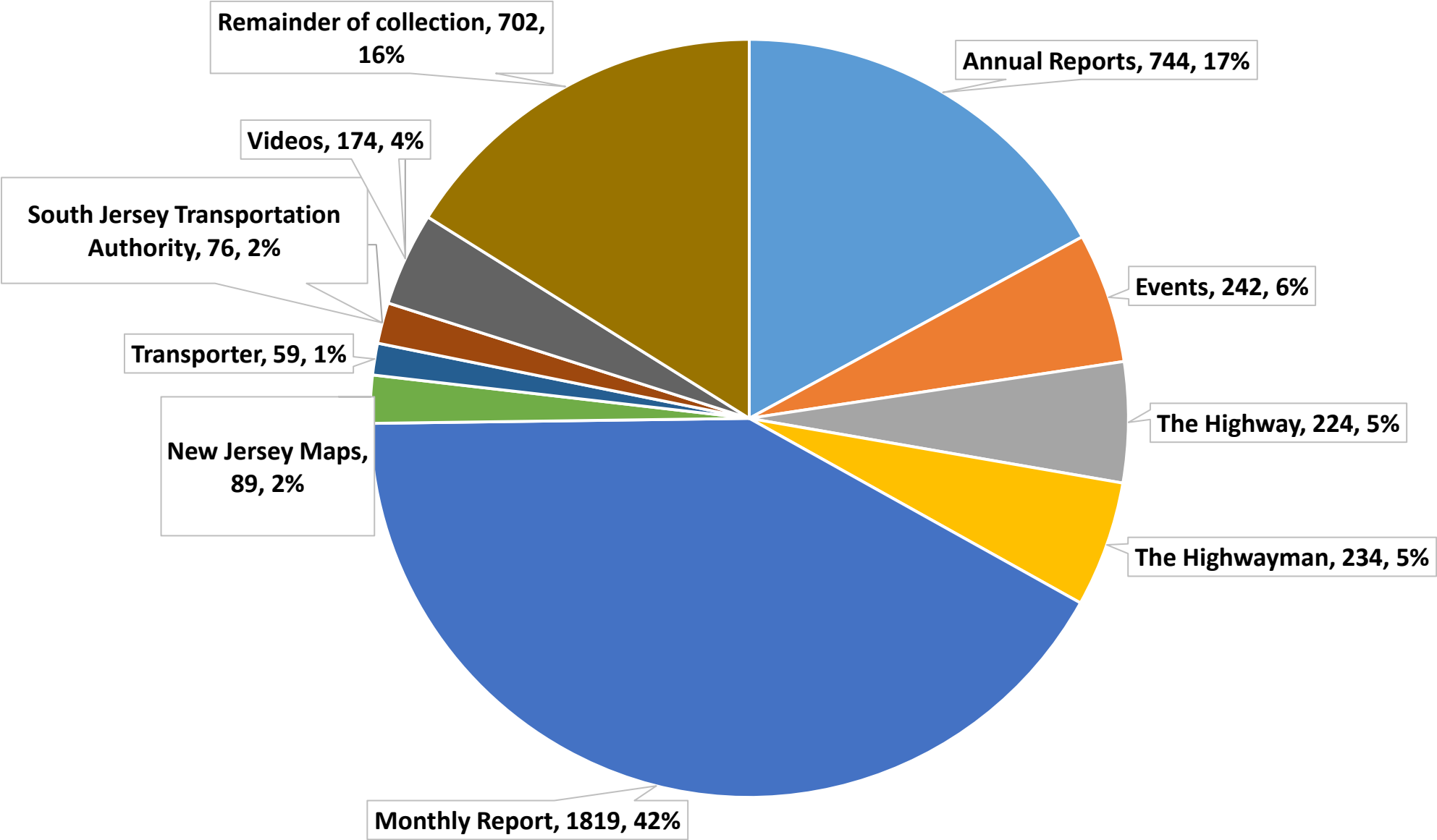


Size of Collection in Gigabytes - March 13, 2024





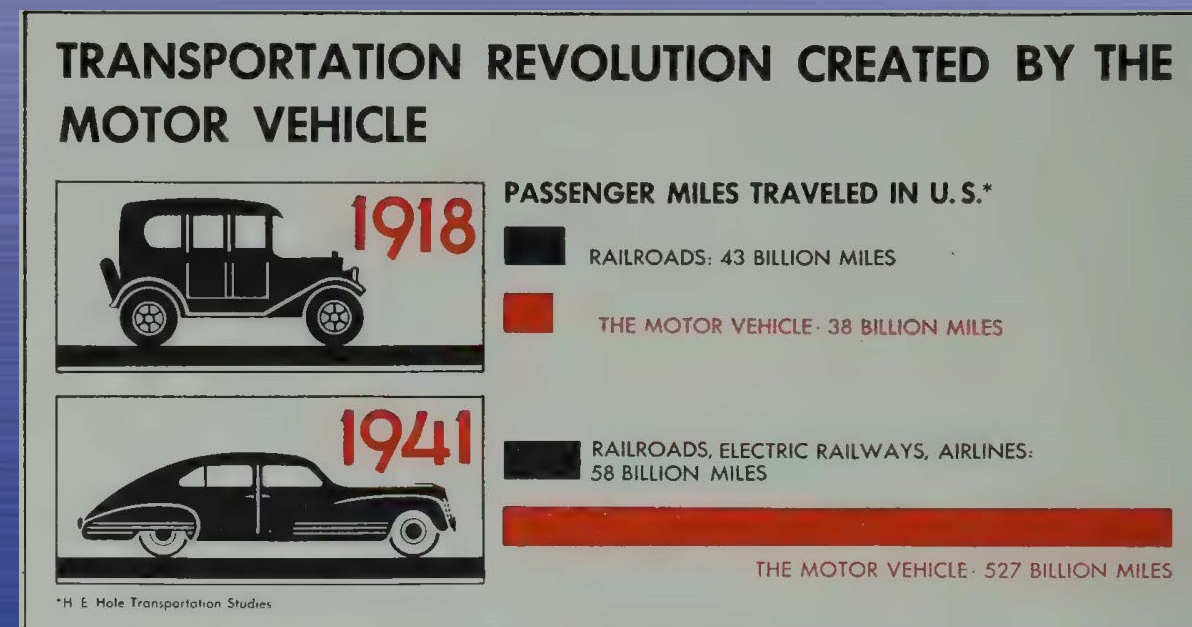
Views/Usage - March 13, 2024





Getting Started

- Determine the mission of the archival project.
- Find funding and project champions within your organization.
- Partner with other organizations?



A graphic showing predominance of motor vehicles in transportation, from The Highway Department: A Report for 1944.



Remembrance Ceremony

- Research led to the names of 5 employees who died on the job.
- Names were added to the Employee Memorial in 2023.
- About 3 dozen more names are being reviewed.

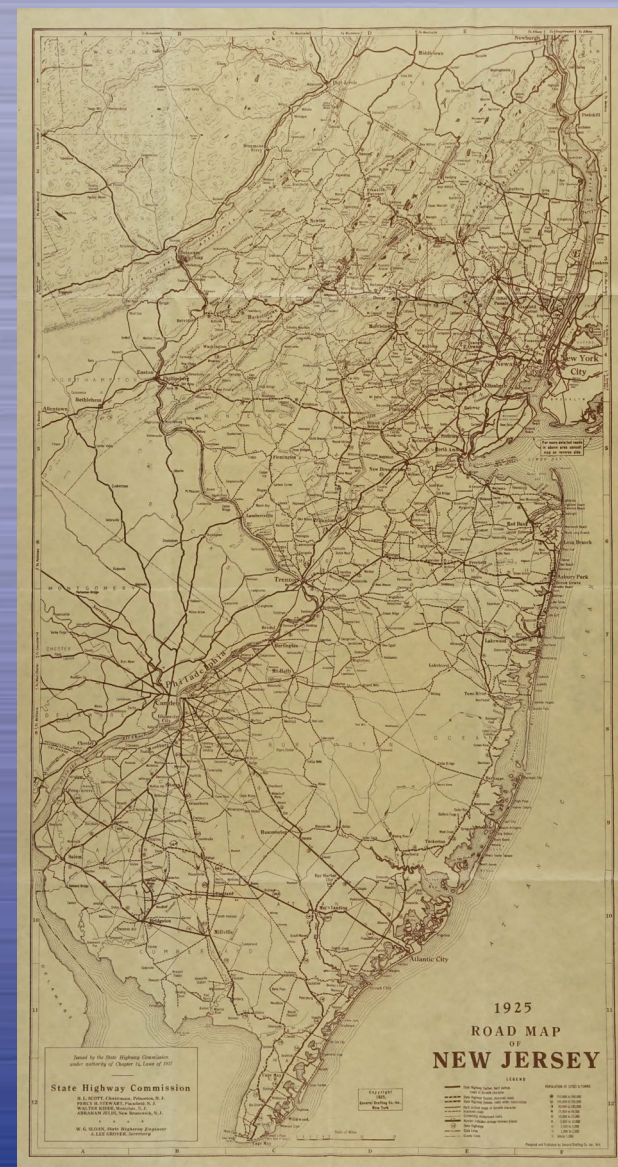




Pop Quiz! Question

In 1925, how many miles were in the State Highway System, and how many miles of streets and roads were in New Jersey?

- A. 656 miles; 10,278 miles.
- B. 732 miles; 14,677 miles.
- C. 843 miles; 20,500 miles.
- D. 920 miles; 22,194 miles.





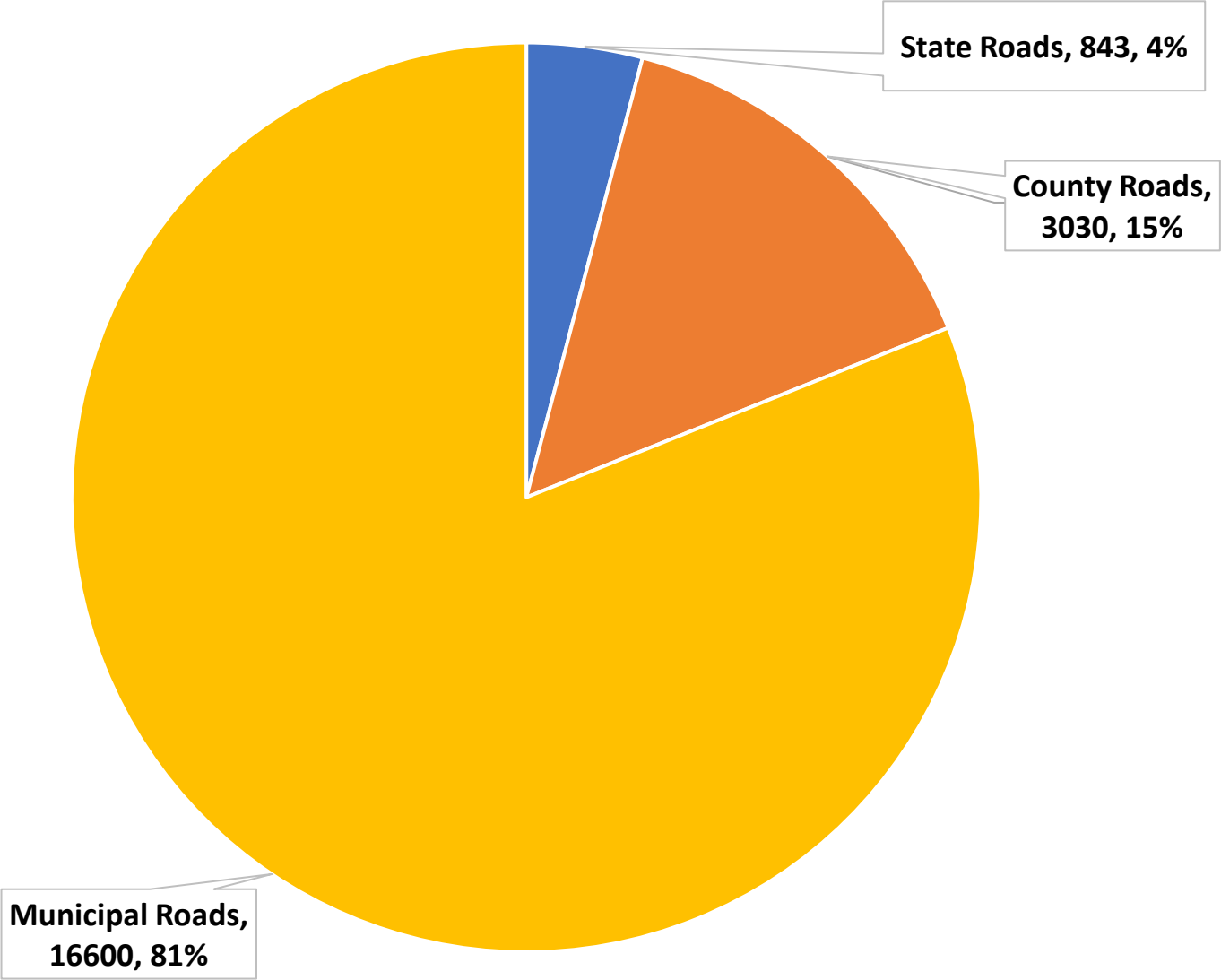
Answer

New Jersey has a State Highway System of 843 miles, traversing the state in every direction; a County Road System of 3,030 miles; and more than 16,600 miles of roads and city streets under the jurisdiction of other municipalities; a total state mileage of approximately 20,500 miles.

C. 843 miles; 20,500 miles.

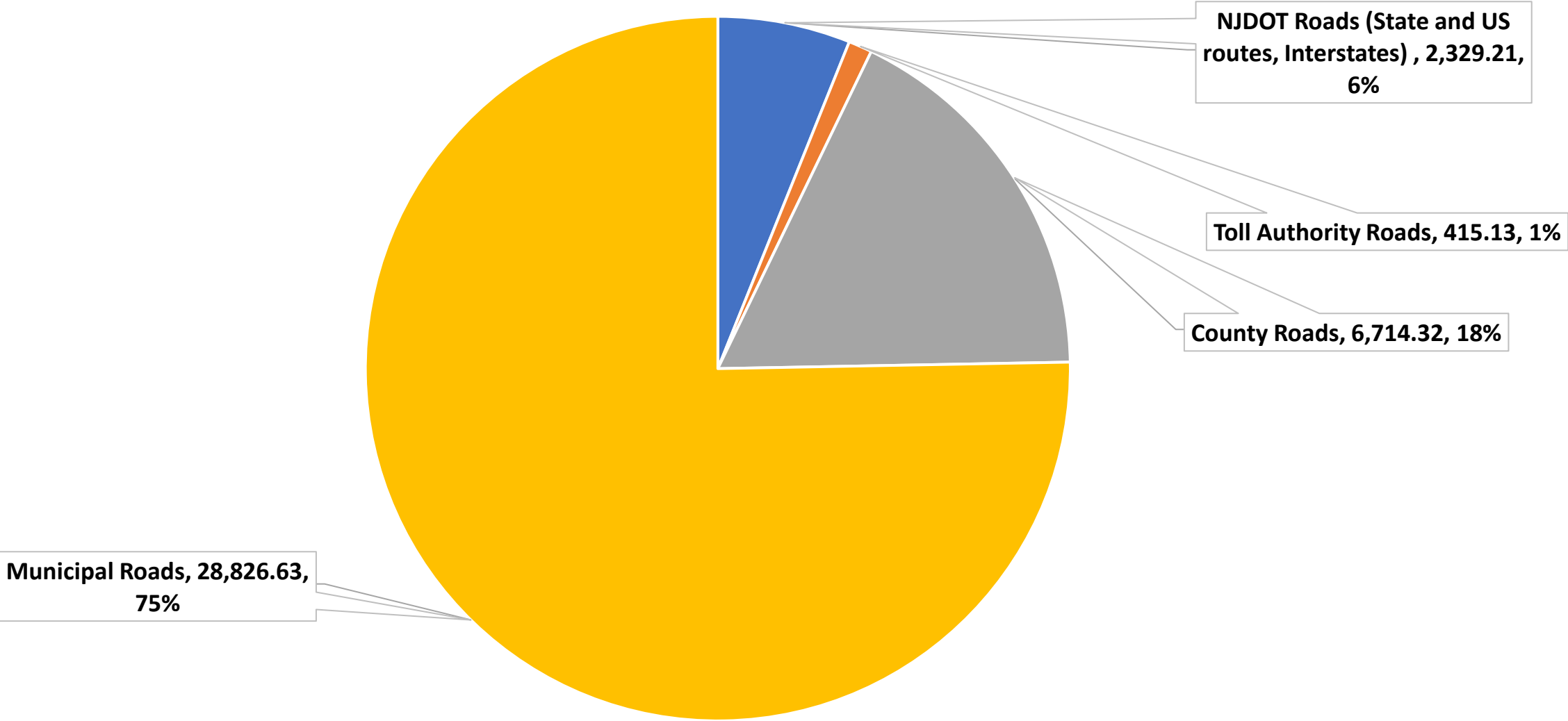


NJ Roads by Type in 1925 (in miles)
Total: 20,500 miles





NJ Roads by Type in 2019 (in miles)
Total: 38,285.29 miles



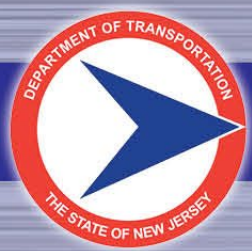


Cataloging/Indexing

- Cataloging before or after digitization.
- Level of indexing/metadata.
- Logging the metadata and items.
- Promoting the collection.



A 1993 video in the collection.



Pop Quiz! Question

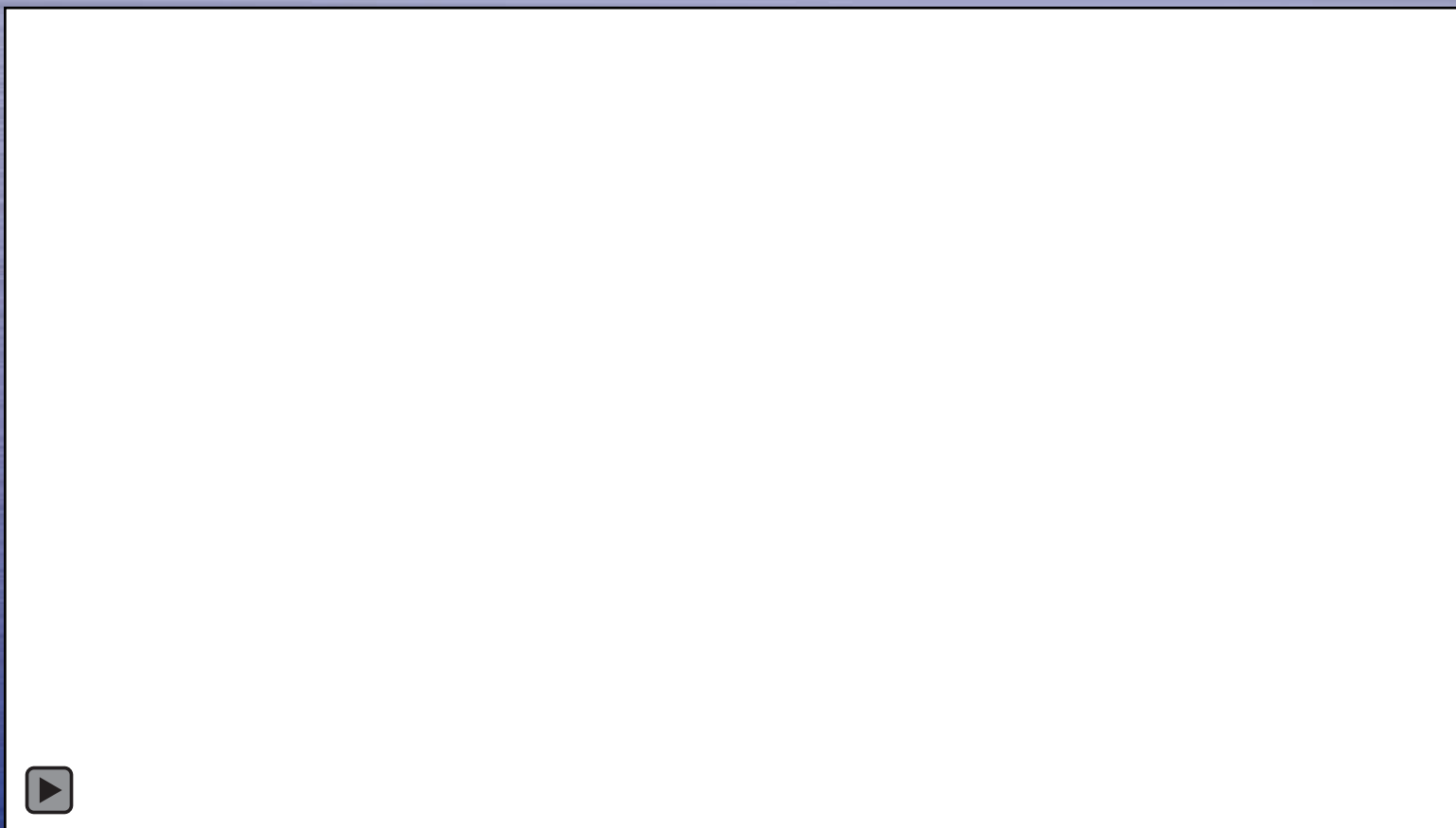
In 1997 the New Jersey DOT promoted a new program with incentives for business. What was it called?

- A. Transit Villages
- B. Drive Green
- C. Zero Emission Incentive Program
- D. Employer Trip Reduction



Answer

D. Employer (Employee) Trip Reduction.





Processing/Preserving Materials

- Review materials for preservation.
- Any fragile materials or other challenges to digitization?
- Are images, charts, etc., printed sideways?
- Shipping materials.





Pop Quiz! Question

The NJDOT launched a safety innovation on roads in 1969. What was it?

- A. Cloverleafs
- B. Breakaway signs
- C. Center barriers (Jersey barriers)
- D. Emergency/Safety Service Patrol



A. Cloverleafs (1928)



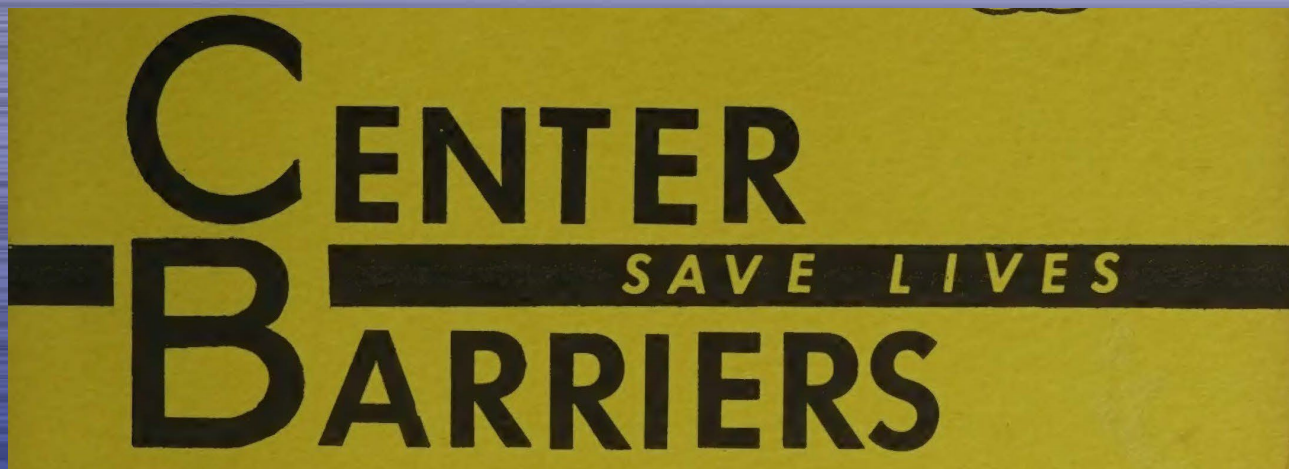
1928

Construction of the first "clover leaf" at Routes 1&9 and Route 35 in Woodbridge.



C. Center Barriers (1959)

| ROUTE | DATE (Bids Rec'd) | LENGTH (In Feet) | MUNICIPALITY (Twps., & Boros) |
|-----------|----------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| 287 | 6/4/59 | 2,044 | Piscataway & Franklin |
| 38 | 7/8/59 | 5,970 | Delaware, Maple Shade |
| 322 | 7/9/59 | 24,239 | Hamilton & Weymouth |
| 287 | 7/31/59 | 3,565 | Bridgewater |
| 1 & 9 | 10/21/59 | 13,538 | Jersey City, Fairview |
| 1, 9 & 46 | 10/21/59 | 8,604 | Palisades Park and Ft. Lee |



New 32" high solid concrete center barrier being installed on Route 46 in Leonia and Fort Lee.



D. Emergency/Safety Service Patrol (1994)



Emergency Service Patrol, a roadside assistance program, began in Camden and Morris counties. The program continues today as the Safety Service Patrol (SSP). (1994)



B. Breakaway Signs (1969)

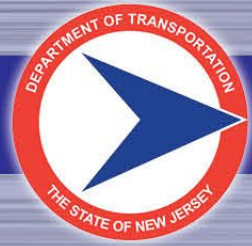


Engineer Richard A. Strizki of the New Jersey Department of Transportation makes notes on the successful L.C.B.C. Breakaway Device test.

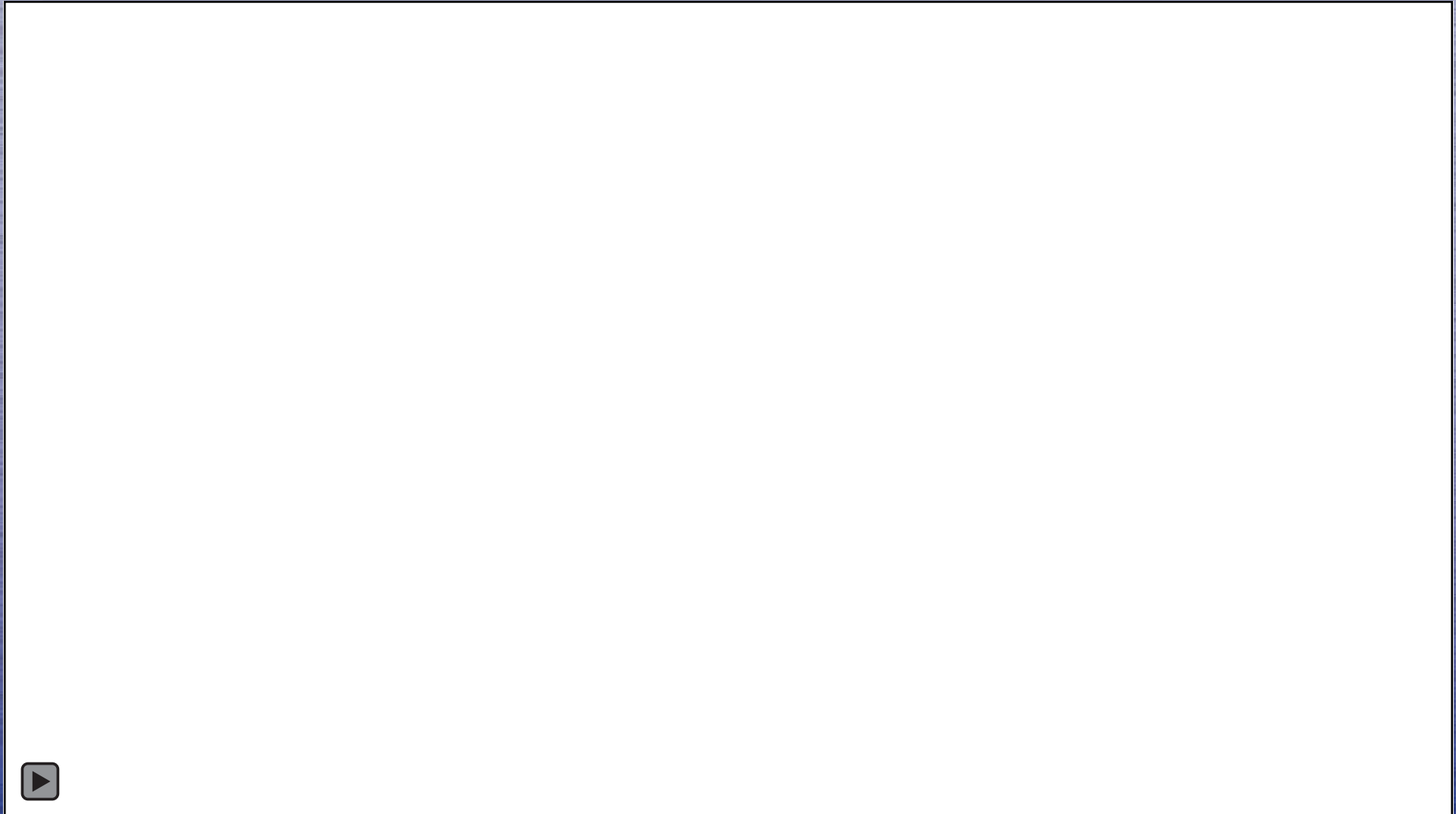
It all started back in May of 1968 when Strizki was temporarily transferred to the Division of Traffic Engineering. He first experimented with fiber-glass for the coupling, later switching to a steel alloy donated by Ryerson & Son, Inc. of Philadelphia, Pa. The L.C.B.C. was made in the Department's machine shop under the supervision of Joseph Saprioni.

After a series of actual tests — the final one held on May 19, 1969 — the Department of Transportation announced that it had developed a breakaway sign post completely satisfactory for use on New Jersey's State

The department began developing breakaway signs in 1968, then tested and installed the first sign in 1969.



Breakaway Signs: Promotional Video





Thank You!

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NJDOT Research Library
library@dot.nj.gov
609-963-1898



njdottechtransfer.net/library