



Adirondack / Glens Falls Transportation Council

Washington County Municipal Center
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Policy Committee Meeting *Minutes of Wednesday, January 27, 2010*

Attendance:

Members:

Ralph Bentley, Supervisor, Town of Horicon
Bill Lamy, Warren County DPW (rep. F. Monroe)
Frank McCoy, Town of Lake George
Daniel Stec, Supervisor, Town of Queensbury
Steven Sweeney, NYS Canal Corp. (rep. Bill Rinaldi)
Mike Valentine, Saratoga County (rep. Willard Peck)
William Watkins, Washington County

Others:

Stu Baker, Town of Queensbury
Ed Bartholomew, City of Glens Falls
Michael Fiorillo, Village of Hudson Falls
Willy Grimmke, Washington County DPW
Robert Hansen, NYSDOT Region 1
Wayne LaMothe, Warren County Planning
Mary Anne Mariotti, NYSDOT-Region 1
Patti Miller, Warren County STOP - DWI
Scott Sopczyk, GGFT
John Wheatley, EDC of Warren County

A/GFTC Staff:

Monika Bulman, Administrative Assistant
Aaron Frankenfeld, Transportation Planning Director

I. Welcome & Introductions

1. Introductory remarks- Chairman Dan Stec called the meeting to order at 1:38 PM

II. Visitors Issues – None

III. Administration

1. Approval of March 4, 2009 minutes

Motion was made to approve the March 4, 2009 minutes

MOVED BY : Ralph Bentley SECONDED BY: Mike Valentine MOTION CARRIED

2. Approval of Officers 2010-2012, Aaron-Every two years the chairmanship for the PC and TAC rotates between Warren and Washington County. The Policy Committee chair goes to Warren County for two years and the Technical Advisory Committee chair goes to Washington County. Policy Committee: Dan Stec, Chairman; Mike Suprenant, Vice Chairman; and Mary Ivey, Secretary. Technical Advisory Committee: Willy Grimmke, Chairman; Bill Lamy, Vice Chairman.

Motion was made to approve the Officers for 2010-2012

MOVED BY : Frank McCoy SECONDED BY: Ralph Bentley MOTION CARRIED

3. Approval of Joint Cooperative Planning Agreement (handout), Aaron-On November 18th the TAC was provided with this agreement and asked to review it and discuss it with the Policy Committee. This is a required document that outlines the cooperative planning agreement among the MPO, the State Department of Transportation and the Transit Operator when developing the major financial documents that guide the planning process.

Motion was made to allow Aaron Frankenfeld to sign the agreement and forward it to DOT and Transit for their respective signatures.

MOVED BY : Ralph Bentley SECONDED BY: Frank McCoy MOTION CARRIED

4. New contact information, Aaron-A/GFTC will be moving to a new space in Glens Falls by February 10. The address will be 11 South Street, Suite 203. We will have new phone and fax numbers. The Washington County e-mail extension will change to agftc.org. When all the contact information is in place, it will be forwarded to committee members.

IV. Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

1. GGFT Report (handout) Scott Sopczyk – Capital projects included the procurement and delivery of new buses; completed the Transportation Development Plan; overall system ridership was down 6.2% last year but can be attributed to a service change during Americade week. Mr. Hansen reported that CDTA was down 10% but not due to one event. Mr. Sopczyk's transit budget took into account anticipated cuts. Mr. Hansen still feels there needs to be synergy between Glens Falls Transit and CDTA for interregional transportation.

2. Consultant Projects

A. Transit Development Plan (Adoption)

Motion was made to adopt the Transit Development Plan

MOVED BY : Frank McCoy SECONDED BY: Ralph Bentley MOTION CARRIED

B. Exit 20 Corridor Management Plan (Adoption), Mr. Stec told the PC that on Monday night (1/25) the Town of Queensbury passed a resolution adopting the Plan. Aaron said that by adopting the Plan the concepts in the document are given some programming weight. Some concepts that have been speculated about for years have been put to rest. The public meetings were well attended.

Motion was made to adopt the Exit 20 Corridor Management Plan

MOVED BY : Frank McCoy SECONDED BY: Ralph Bentley MOTION CARRIED

C. School Circulation Studies, Aaron-The Abraham Wing (GFCSD) circulation study has been completed. Big Cross (GFSD) study should be completed shortly. The purpose of the studies was to assist the schools in coming up with ideas to improve the school districts' conditions for elementary school students that walk or bike to school. Safety and congestion concerns were reviewed. The crime and safety issue is difficult to address from a transportation element. Other issues resulting from the studies:

Non-standard sign placement, staff parking, crosswalks, safety education, crossing guard programs.

D. GIS Services, Aaron-Attempting to work out some technical problems with the ridership tool used to collect data for laptop entry. Have a very nice project visualization tool that shows where all the TIP projects are, financial info, pictures, and programming information. The contract will continue to the next state fiscal year to allow work on a pavement management inventory tool.

3. Staff Activities

A. Long Range Plan (Adoption), Aaron-The public comment period closed at the first of the year. The plan has been under development for four years and is the core planning document of the transportation planning process. The Plan supports our programming activities (TIP) and our UPWP. Once we have MPO approval, it will be sent to Environmental Sciences Bureau of DOT who will forward it to FHWA and FTA. FHWA and FTA need to approve the air quality conformity statement which also went out for public comment.

Motion was made to approve the Long Range Plan for adoption

MOVED BY : Mike Valentine SECONDED BY: Bob Hansen MOTION CARRIED

Aaron extended his thanks to everyone who participated in preparing and reviewing the document.

B. Proposed Work Program (UPWP) 2010-2011, (handout), Aaron went over some of the accomplishments in 2009 as listed on the handout and reviewed how our funding works. We will be getting \$312,949 from FHWA and \$43,722 from a Grant from FTA. Both of those amounts are the same we received last year. Our unspent money will increase the pot by \$235,000. The money is distributed to four categories: Program Support and Administration, General Development and Comprehensive Planning, Long Range Transportation Planning and Transportation Improvement Program. Since there is no large engineering study planned for 2010, the focus will go to assist member municipalities in providing local engineering traffic consulting services. This is how the school studies were funded. The Lake Luzerne concept of intersection realignment and a streetscape design project for Mr. McCoy, in the Town of Lake George, are current candidates for engineering services. Aaron would also like to get out some safety roadside assessments contracts. The above fall under Task 2. Under Task 3 an upgrade to the travel demand model is a priority. An RFP is out for this. Also, hope to update the regional bicycle and pedestrian plan. Before we can go forward with the Fort Edward/Kingsbury Canal Corridor Industrial Area Re-use Plan, we need some direction from Washington County. Task 4 is the Transportation Improvement Program. Project solicitation is out. Should have projects returned to our office by the end of the week.

Motion was made to approve the draft UPWP for a 30 day public comment period

MOVED BY : Mike Valentine SECONDED BY: Frank McCoy MOTION CARRIED

V. Transportation Improvement Program(TIP)

1. 2010-2015 Transportation Improvement Program, Aaron
 - A. Project Solicitation-due by the end of the week
 - B. Allocations, the sub-allocations provided to A/GFTC are smaller than what we are accustomed to. Adjustments will have to be made to the program as a result. We are getting some new highway project candidates. We will have more projects than the program can support.

Mr. Hansen pointed out that the numbers that are out now are conjecture and we won't really know where we stand until the next highway act comes through.

- C. Program Reconciliation (discussed above)
 - D. Second stimulus round- Mr. Hansen, The House bill is pretty well formulated. The Senate appears to be the sticking point. What we can expect is probably around another \$100mil for the Region, a very short time to put a project out on the street, project has to be shovel ready, ROWs need to be done. On Stimulus 1, FHWA is aggressively monitoring construction specs.
2. 2007-12 TIP
 - A. Amendment request – I-87/Pottersville, Aaron-Half of the project was programmed (replacing only one of the two structures) but now it is better to have both structures replaced at the same time. We will adjust the Interstate Maintenance funds to comply with DOT's request. This amendment request was approved by the TAC but because of the \$ scale, a public comment period was required. It has been out for public comment and closed on January 23, 2010 with no comment.

Motion was made to approve amendment request for I-87/Pottersville

MOVED BY : Ralph Bentley SECONDED BY: Mike Valentine MOTION CARRIED

Aaron- We missed a TIP update cycle because of the challenges some of the other MPOs had in putting together a TIP. Some of the larger MPOs are struggling with the TIP timeframe again. If one MPO in the State fails to deliver a TIP, then there is no STIP. DOT has asked us to approve language in the TIP and state that the 4th year of our TIP program can be rolled up into the STIP.

Motion was made to change the language in the TIP from 3rd to 4th year

MOVED BY : Ralph Bentley SECONDED BY: Mike Valentine MOTION CARRIED

- B. Other Amendments-(handout), Aaron-one needs an administrative change and deals with the railroad bridges in Whitehall. The next amendment is a rail project initiative and is not a formal amendment. This is a service upgrade.

Motion was made to approve the amendment requests from NYSDOT

MOVED BY : Ralph Bentley SECONDED BY: Mike Valentine MOTION CARRIED

- C. Recent developments or action items for ongoing federal aid projects
 - a) New York State Department of Transportation, Bob Hansen-Batchellerville Bridge-next week CDTC will entertain an amendment to proceed with construction.NYSDOT has replied to the Village of Hudson Falls regarding the Route 4 project.Congressman Murphy requested DOT to come up with suggestions for special line items. Mr. Hansen came up with Main Street in South Glens Falls, Roundabout at Burgoyne Avenue, and the Roundabout at Fort Ann.
 - b) Warren County DPW, Bill Lamy-Construction has started on the Corinth Road/Exit 18 project; Milton Street has been awarded; the second stimulus-funded bridge in Stony Creek will go to construction this year; Alter Brook Bridge in the Town of Chester should begin construction in 2010; Beach Road project should be going to bid later in this year and construction should start in 2011.
 - c) Washington County DPW, Willy Grimmke-one stimulus project is underway but is shut down for the winter, a portion of the drainage work is complete and the bridge work will start in the spring; County Rte 12 supplemental has been authorized.
 - d) Saratoga County/Town of Moreau, Mike Valentine-nothing to present. Aaron met with Mr. Jenkins when the project solicitation went out. Mr. Jenkins pointed out a safety project that the department had been planning for Rte 9. This project will be reprogrammed.
 - e) City of Glens Falls, Ed Bartholomew-The City is waiting for the official letter from Senator Schumer/DOT for the \$970K grant for So. Street.
 - f) Town of Queensbury, Mr. Stec- The Town is excited about Main Street getting started.

VI. Proposed meeting schedule, Aaron-will probably have another PC meeting in May to approve the TIP. TAC will probably meet in February.

VII. Other Items, Frank McCoy asked if he had to bring up his streetscape project now. Aaron noted that A/GFTC should be able to provide some assistance.Wayne LaMothe questioned whether the dollar amount of the engineering service projects should be increased from \$10K to 20K since we do not have a big consulting project on the table this year. Aaron said we can do this but we may not be able to do as many of them.

Motion was made to increase the small engineering projects to 20K

MOVED BY : Frank McCoy SECONDED BY: Ralph Bentley MOTION CARRIED

VIII. Motion made to adjourn the meeting at 2:58.