



Adirondack / Glens Falls Transportation Council

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MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE A/GFTC TAC March 27, 2013

Attendees	Agency
<u>Members and Participants</u>	
Brian Abare	Village of South Glens Falls DPW
Ed Bartholomew	City of Glens Falls
Frank Bonafide	NYS DOT
Robert Cherry	NYS DOT
Dick Doyle	Washington County DPW
Kevin Hajos	Warren County DPW
Karen Hulihan	NYS DOT
Wayne LaMothe	Warren County Planning
Larry Mulvaney	NYS DOT
Scott Sopczyk	GGFT
Jeff Tennyson	Warren County DPW
Scott Tracy	Washington County DPW
Michael Valentine	Saratoga County Planning

Staff

Aaron Frankenfeld	A/GFTC
Kate Mance	A/GFTC

Minutes of the Meeting

1. Welcome and Introductions - Aaron called the meeting to order at 1:32.
2. Visitor Issues - none
3. Administrative Items - Aaron reported that a draft resolution was sent regarding the proposed changes to the Ethan Allen rail service. One alternative entails elimination of service to Fort Edward. There are not yet enough votes to process the resolution. Several municipalities have passed their own resolutions regarding the proposed change. Two abstentions were noted, from NYS DOT and the Thruway Authority. Aaron noted that the procedure for dealing with abstentions is unclear, and no action can be taken until enough votes are received. Ed Bartholomew noted that the City of Glens Falls is planning on passing its own resolution regarding maintaining the Ethan Allen service, and requested an updated version of the draft resolution from A/GFTC.
4. UPWP
 - A. 2013-14 Unified Planning Work Program - Aaron reported that this has been approved and staff has begun implementing tasks.
 - B. Completed / Ongoing Activities
 - 1) Coordinated Human Services Transportation Committee - Kate reported that the group met a few weeks ago. Although attendance at the meetings is light, the members express appreciation for the group in

terms of networking and linking resources. The group is interested in Mobility Management activities, so staff is putting together a proposal to create a web application/map which would allow residents to access information regarding available transportation services based on location, availability, or service providers. This would take the place of creating a Mobility Management Plan on the A/GFTC work plan. Initial feedback from the CHSTC indicates that the group supports the application/map idea.

- 2) Crash History Scans - Kate reported that draft safety screening documents were sent to the TAC last week for Washington County and the Town of Moreau. Warren County's document will be initiated once traffic count data is available. Staff is looking for comments on the documents over the next few weeks, prior to the reports being made available for public review. Rob Cherry noted that DOT is conducting a County Counts initiative, funded by SPR. This will increase the number of counts taken off of the State system. DOT is looking to partner with counties to get these counts completed. The counties would be reimbursed for each count. This data could then be used to help apply for HSIP (safety) funding in the future.
- 3) Planning for Electric Vehicles - Kate reported about a presentation at the recent Clean Communities meeting, which outlined a study in Albany to determine good locations for electric vehicle charging stations. The Albany study was very involved and covered topics such as local codes. However, it may be possible to adapt the charging station location methodology as a staff mapping exercise for the urbanized area. Although there is not currently a large demand for electric vehicles in the A/GFTC area, it might be a good idea to be prepared once demand begins to rise.
- 4) On-call assistance projects
 - a. Fire Road Ped improvements - Aaron reported that requests for Letters of Interest for this project have been sent out and are due on the 28th. Once the deadline passes, staff will share the results with the City and select a consultant.
 - b. Chestertown intersections - Aaron noted that staff needs to meet with the Supervisor and Warren County Planning to identify the project scope. This is largely dependent on the Supervisor's schedule and desire to get started.
- 5) Exit 17 Land Use study - Aaron noted that a meeting was held with the Supervisor and Saratoga County Planning to refine the scope of this project. An RFP will be developed after the draft TIP is complete.

5. Transit

- A. GGFT Update - Scott Sopczyk reported no additional updates since last meeting.
- B. 5316/5317 Solicitation - Aaron reported that no applications were received for the A/GFTC area. This is not uncommon, as it is difficult to solicit interest in these programs due to the level of administration required compared to the funding available. The funds will either lapse or return to the statewide pool. In the future, we will be looking to fold in these grants into the annual funding received by GGFT.

6. TIP

- A. Amendments and Modifications - Aaron reported that the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) projects need to be added to the TIP. There are two projects which were

awarded SRTS funding - Fort Edward and Warrensburg. These are funded at 100% and will not affect the financial aspect of the TIP.

MOTION TO AMEND THE TIP TO INCLUDE THE WARRENSBURG AND FORT EDWARD SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL PROJECTS:

MOVED BY: Wayne LaMothe SECONDED BY: Frank Bonafide MOTION CARRIED

- B. Review and approval of Draft TIP - Aaron noted that the goal was to go through the roster of projects and note any technical questions such as project costs, dates, and so forth. This will allow staff to prepare a draft for public comment, with the goal of a May approval by the Policy Committee. Specific discussion items included:
- 1) Transit Projects: The spreadsheet includes carryover funds from previous years, and fits into the fiscal constraint requirements. These projects maintain the existing fleet and operational capacity. No TIP changes noted.
 - 2) SAR 115/104342: Discussion regarding the specifics of this project. Frank Bonafide noted that it is a preservation project. No TIP changes noted.
 - 3) WAR 100/175527: This project has been placed in Post-TIP. Jeff Tennyson noted that the project is being held up by discussion among state agencies and cannot move forward at this time. Aaron noted that if the project is expected to become active in the future, it may affect the fiscal constraints, since it is not a preservation project. The group discussed whether it might be possible to use preservation funds to remove the bridge entirely, if needed. No TIP changes noted.
 - 4) WAR 147/175907: The group discussed the timing of this project. Although the sponsor expressed a desire to construct in 2013-14, since it is a preservation project, the construction has been moved out to 2014-15. Ed Bartholomew asked what would happen to the project timing if any other projects were pushed/removed from the TIP. Karen Hulihan stated that the project could then be in line for advancement and moving it up in this situation would probably not affect preservation targets. No TIP changes noted.
 - 5) WAS 126/175725: This project is being split with Vermont, and the matched share for Washington County will be around \$500,000. The TAC agreed to transfer the balance of funds (approximately \$1.1M) to the preservation program, with 70% towards pavement and 30% towards structures.
 - 6) WAS 101/175532: The group discussed the potential for this project to get SPP funding. If SPP funding is awarded, it will potentially free up capital \$ allotted to this project for other uses. If SPP funds are not awarded, the project can still be kept on the program.

The group had a general discussion about the TIP, including maximizing NHPP funds and ensuring programming design phases for bridge and pavement preservation.

MOTION TO OPEN THE DRAFT TIP TO PUBLIC COMMENT:

MOVED BY: Wayne LaMothe SECONDED BY: Mike Valentine MOTION CARRIED

7. Other Items:
 - A. Karen Hulihan presented the current list of projects for the region. This year's list of projects includes a 10% "slush" allowance for cost overages, and a 30-day window for PS&E. DOT staff worked hard with the sponsors and consultants to come up with a realistic list for the Commissioner to sign. Jeff noted that he would like to see more realistic goals for turnaround times built in. Project sponsors and DOT may be doing all they can to turn things around, but other agencies and consultants may not. It would be helpful to have data on the average turnaround time for the various project phases prior to construction, which could inform schedules more accurately.
 - B. Ed Bartholomew reported that the Broad Street project finally received a waiver for environmental issues related to the Indiana Bat.
8. Next meeting and adjourn - The next meeting will be held June 19th. The meeting was adjourned at 2:47 p.m.