



## Adirondack / Glens Falls Transportation Council

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Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, June 17, 2015

1:15 PM

### Attendees

### Agency

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Brian Abare	Village of South Glens Falls DPW
Stu Baker	Town of Queensbury Community Development
Audrey Burneson	NYS DOT Region 1
Frank Bonafide	NYS DOT Region 1
Rob Cherry	NYS DOT Region 1
Tracy Conlon	Trustee, Village of Fort Edward
Chris DeBolt	Washington County Planning Department
Ed Doughney	Warren County DPW
Ben Fischer	FHWA NY Division
Steve Haskins	Washington County DPW
Fred Mastroianni	Greenman - Pedersen Inc.
Dan Rourke	Barton and Loguidice
Greg Wichser	NYS DOT Region 1

### A/GFTC Staff

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Aaron Frankenfeld

Kate Mance

1. **Welcome and Introductions** - The meeting was called to order at 1:15.
2. **Visitors Issues** - no visitors present.
3. **UPWP**
  - A. 2015-16 Work Program activities
    - 1) Dix Avenue reassessment (Aaron): 4 proposals received; proposal review resulted in little score separation; interviews were conducted with Top 3; project has been awarded to The Chazen Companies; contract has been transmitted - completion requested 6 months from contract signature.
    - 2) Exit 18 rezoning analysis (Aaron): The Town of Queensbury has requested an analysis of trip generation impacts of proposed zoning changes at Exit 18; project was circulated to our on-call consultants and awarded to CHA; initial traffic data collection is complete and a meeting is scheduled for next week to confirm development assumptions; project has been fast-tracked at the Town's request.
    - 3) River Street Concept Plan (Kate): The draft final has been subjected to a public review period and was presented during a well-attended meeting of the Warrensburg Town Board. The Town has already endorsed the report. Per

A/GFTC's Public Participation Plan, TAC approval is required in order to finalize the document

A motion was made to approve the River Street Streetscape and Revitalization Plan.

**Moved by:** *Stu Baker*

**Seconded by:** *Chris DeBolt*

**Motion carried.**

- 4) Warren County Safety Analysis - (Kate): The safety scan for Warren County is complete. Warren County has communicated that there are no outstanding issues with the report. Previous safety scans conducted by A/GFTC have been internal documents, but our Public Participation Plan calls for public comment opportunity and committee approval for all A/GFTC technical reports. Kate reported that Warren County DPW had no objection to releasing it for public comment. Committee members present questioned the liability implications of releasing a document that highlighted areas with known crash occurrences to the public. Rob Cherry suggested that not approving the document as final may prevent abuse of the data therein. Chris DeBolt asked Ed Doughney if the document had been circulated to the Warren County Attorney's office for opinion. Greg Wichser noted a NYSDOT disclaimer used in conjunction with crash reporting may be applicable here. Staff noted that the intent of the document was to inform further investigation and programming decisions; no recommended mitigations are included. Chris DeBolt stated that concerns over liability should not dissuade staff from compiling this type of information. No action was taken on the plan. An executive summary will be added to clarify the intent of the report, the document will be shared with the County Attorney for comment, and NYSDOT will provide their disclaimer for illustration and possible inclusion.
  - 5) NCHRP Project - Commercial Vehicles in Smart Growth Environments (Aaron): A workshop was held on May 21 to discuss commercial vehicle operations in downtown GF as a case study for a national research project; participation was great, thanks in particular to the Glens Falls Fire Department, ARCC, the Wood Theater, Independent Drivers Association. Delivery of the report is expected by the end of the year.
4. **GGFT Update** - Scott Sopczyk provided a written summary to Aaron, noting the extension of seasonal trolley services to Warrensburg and Thurman Station, recent delivery of new trolley, and ongoing work on the FFY 2016 grant application to the Federal Transit Administration.
  5. **TIP**
    - A. Bridge Preservation analysis (Aaron): the draft reports for all three counties as well as the regional roll-up were delivered last week; those have been forwarded to the counties asking for comments back to me by June 26 (Saratoga County's comments have been received already).

- B. Amendments and Modifications - no amendments are requested today, but please convey any needed changes prior to the middle of July as Aaron will be away and eSTIP modifications will be a challenge from outside of the office.
- C. Project updates from sponsors
- Warren County - Ed Doughney reported on a number of ongoing federal aid projects (update attached)
  - Washington County - Steve Haskins reported that CR 16 is complete, design work continues on CR 113, and CR 10 has received federal authorization with approval on the interstate agreement with Vermont expected by June 19.
  - Saratoga County / Town of Moreau - no report
  - Glens Falls - no report
  - Queensbury -Stu Baker noted that a Title VI audit is underway for the Aviation / Dixon / Farr Lane project.
  - Fort Edward - no report
  - NYSDOT - Frank Bonafide noted:
    - the letting of approximately 31 lane miles of repaving, including sections of NYS 32 in Queensbury and Kingsbury, NYS 254 in Queensbury, NYS 8 in Thurman and Johnsburg, NYS 40 in Easton, and an additional 5 lane miles of NYS 22 in Granville.
    - three bridges to be replaced under Governor Cuomo's Bridge Scour program - NYS 28 over the Hudson River, NYS 196 over the Feeder Canal and US Route 4 over the Feeder Canal.
    - the Route 9 Gateway Project contract was still being reviewed by the Comptroller's office.
- D. Program solicitation updates
- 1) Bridge and Pavement Preservation programs - based upon discussion at the last meeting and follow-up with the Counties to affirm priorities, staff has identified a funding proposal that would allow for the programming of pavement preservation projects for Bay Road and West Mountain Road in Queensbury and Fortsville Road in Moreau, as well as bridge painting projects for Center Falls Road and Lower Turnpike (see attached). This addresses top preservation program priorities from all three counties; all remaining STP Flex bridge preservation setasides would be converted to STP Off System Bridge funds.

A motion was made to approve the programming changes.

**Moved by:** *Stu Baker*

**Seconded by:** *Steve Haskins*

**Motion carried.**

- 2) FTA 5310 (Kate): Application deadline was June 8. Review committee is in place, although participants have not been contacted by NYSDOT (pending). It is unclear how many applications were generated within the area; only two are known at this point. The compressed timeline may necessitate committee balloting for project approvals to prevent lapsing of FFY 2013 funds.

3) Proposed revisions to the Make the Connection program solicitation (Aaron): The revised Make the Connection solicitation was distributed at the last meeting for committee comment. No comments have been received. The project minimum for construction has been raised to \$75,000 (\$60,000 federal share). Staff would like to make one more attempt at a program solicitation prior to the TIP update. The committee had no objection. Staff will time the new project solicitation to coincide with the onset of the next federal fiscal year.

E. State transportation budget (Aaron): - current federal program extension through 7/31, (33 such extension to date) - 6 year bill sought by administration, \$100B funding gap; Congress looking at repatriation of offshore taxable revenue. Uncertainty at federal level impacts TIP update and State capital programming. Frank noted that level funding appears to be the operating assumption moving forward, but a significant amount of local program projects let during the last few years will have a negative impact on future program balances.

**6. Other Items** - Chris DeBolt raised three issues:

- Concern among members of the Board of Supervisors regarding the long-term plans for the redundant structures bridging US Route 4 over the Champlain Canal to Galusha Island and the relationship to the Champlain Canalway trail.
- The desire for bicycle and pedestrian improvements to be incorporated as part of the CR 113 over the Batten Kill bridge replacement project; discussion ensued; Frank Bonafide noted that the issue was not necessarily the responsibility of Region 1; while cost is always a consideration, the decision on what facilities are to be included in the final design is a function of the locally-administered design process; Aaron noted that it has been A/GFTC's philosophy to programmatically support ongoing major projects to the extent that it can - this doesn't guarantee that funds will be available, but there is preference to get the best possible project from ongoing initiatives.
- The mechanisms for CFA project support letters were discussed. Aaron noted that staff letters of support for were easily done and have been done in the past. Articulating committee support is more challenging, as the State participants would have to abstain, but those too can be done if warranted.

**7. Adjourn** - The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 16.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 2:20 PM.

**Moved by:** *Frank Bonafide*

**Seconded by:** *Steve Haskins*

**Meeting adjourned.**