



## Adirondack / Glens Falls Transportation Council

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### MEETING MINUTES OF THE A/GFTC TAC

August 18, 2010

Holden Room, Crandall Public Library

251 Glen Street, Glens Falls

#### Attendees

#### Agency

##### Members

Brian Abare	Village of South Glens Falls DPW
Stu Baker	Town of Queensbury Community Development
Ed Bartholomew	City of Glens Falls
Mike Fiorillo	Village of Hudson Falls DPW
Bob Hansen	NYS DOT-Region 1
Wayne LaMothe	Warren County Planning Department
Jeff Tennyson	Warren County DPW
Scott Tracy	Washington County DPW
Mike Valentine	Saratoga County Planning Department

##### Others

Kevin Hajos	Warren County DPW
David King	Lake George RV Park
Mary Anne Mariotti	NYS DOT-Region 1

##### Staff

Aaron Frankenfeld	A/GFTC
Sarah Gebbie-Measeck	A/GFTC

**1. Welcome / Introductions** – Aaron Frankenfeld called the meeting to order at 1:05 PM.

#### 2. Visitor Issues

- A. Dave King of the Lake George RV Park – wants to be involved in the discussion of and offer his knowledge on the proposed Chocolate Moose RV Park on Route 149 in the Town of Fort Ann. Mr. King stated that from his experience the proposed entrance design is inadequate for the standing and storing of inflow traffic during peak times. A 600 ft, 2-lane entry is proposed and he would expect traffic to back up onto Route 149 as well as lack of access for emergency vehicles during peak days and hours. This congestion is also made dangerous with the existing intersection of Tripoli Rd, the curve and limited sight distance and the set speed of the Route 149.

Mr. King pointed out that due to the existing land use across from the proposed RV park (mini-golf and ice cream parlor) that people will still attempt to cross the road regardless of the pedestrian rules the RV park puts in place. This has potential for pedestrian accidents.

The Chocolate Moose is proposed as a seasonal RV park as opposed to one that caters towards shorter-term visits, but elements of their proposed development do not appear to be consistent with that model.

The traffic impacts and resulting congestion during peak times will decrease the ability of emergency services to reach their destinations on an already congested corridor. Mr. King suggested that creating a longer interior access road to the back of the property would better handle the stacking of inflow traffic. The longer road as well as appropriate screen along Route 149 would also discourage people from attempting to cross Route 149 to access other attractions.

Discussion among the TAC included what action is Mr. King asking the TAC to take, that the TAC was asked by the Town of Fort Ann at the last meeting to support requesting DOT to do a speed/safety study for the 149 corridor, if there is anything that can be done now since the Town Planning Board has already granted site approval, if A/GFTC's Access Management Guide could be used in this situation and if a traffic impact study is needed. Mike Valentine sought assurance that these concerns were not being raised by Mr. King on account of him owning a potentially competing operation. Mr. King stated that these issues were not raised out of any sense of economic self-interest.

A motion was made to encourage the Department to require that a traffic study that better quantified both the site-specific and corridor-wide traffic impacts of the proposed development be conducted prior to the issuance of the driveway permit, and that that responsibility be placed on the applicant.

**MOVED BY:** Wayne LaMothe **SECONDED BY:** Ed Bartholomew **MOTION CARRIED**  
Bob Hansen abstained

A motion was made to send a letter to the Town of Fort Ann Planning Board and offer assistance with future site plan reviews of regional impact and c.c. the Washington County Planning Board Chairman.

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

### 3. Administrative Items

- A. TAC structure / meeting administration – Aaron – We are currently without a TAC chair and TAC co-chair due to Willy Grimmke's departure and Bill Lamy's retirement. Past committee chairs have felt it was harder to be involved in TAC discussions while also running the meeting, but there is some value to filling the position as it is periodically necessary to process ongoing MPO activities.

A motion was made to recommend to the Policy Committee that Aaron would chair the TAC for the purpose of running meetings, while a TAC member would be appointed Co-Chair that could handle occasional administrative items or run meetings in Aaron's absence.

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

- B. Sustainable Communities Grant Application Resolution – Aaron – the City of Glens Falls is applying for a regional grant and the MPO is a required participant. The Policy Committee approved and signed a resolution for A/GFTC's participation and the contribution of in kind services as needed to the project. Mr. Bartholomew stated that most municipalities are on board and a few more will be approached for resolutions this week. They are looking at a more regional approach (like the A/GFTC structure) to planning and economic development. GGFT and SUNY Adirondack are also both on board. Aaron noted the City of Glens Falls is also applying for a HUD Community Challenge grant for that A/GFTC has also sent a letter of support.

#### 4. UPWP

##### A. Consultant / Staff Activities

- 1) GIS Services – Sarah – Fountain Spatial is working out the last few bugs with the Traffic Count Viewer and we hope to make it available on our website soon. They are also working on the pavement scoring application, which we hope to start using this fall. Mr. Tennyson noted that Warren County would like to be involved in the data collection and work together with A/GFTC to cover the entire County system. Ms. Mariotti wanted to make sure we will be standardizing the data and perhaps receiving training. Mr. Tennyson also noted pavement scoring training with PDHs was available.
- 2) iPoolNorth contract – Sarah – we are having issues with the lack of scalability of pricing and no longer being able to communicate with *ipool2* due to an upgrade on their part. We have asked Ecology & Environment to look into scaling the maintenance fee we pay for iPoolNorth to reflect the fewer users we have compared to *ipool2* in the Capital District. We will wait to hear from Ecology & Environment before pursuing other options.
- 3) Road Safety Assessment training – Sarah – the 2-day workshop was offered by FHWA and was well received by the participants. Mr. Baker noted the outdoor case study was very helpful. Aaron would like to require Road Safety Assessments for each TIP highway project. Mr. Tennyson agreed as long as it was offered to non-TIP projects as well. Aaron noted that it was already in our UPWP to offer RSAs to non-TIP projects at the request of the project owner. Mr. Hansen noted that identifying needed safety improvements could help projects get partially funded by safety funds.

A motion was made to require Road Safety Assessments for each TIP project.

**MOVED BY:** Stu Baker **SECONDED BY:** Mike Valentine **MOTION CARRIED**

- 4) Travel Demand Modeling – Aaron – Aaron, Marc Warner of Warner Transportation Consulting Services, Chris O'Neill of CDTC and Nathan Erlbaum of DOT met recently to discuss the model for A/GFTC and issues that Marc Warner is encountering with model calibration. We hope to receive a final model by the end of this year.
- 5) Local Traffic Engineering Assistance Program
  - a. Lake George Gateway Corridor – Aaron – Chazen Companies is working with the Town of Lake George to plan improvements to the entrance/gateway corridor from Exit 21 north into the Village along Route 9. A public meeting has been held and a second public meeting is scheduled to coincide with the Town Board meeting in September. The result will be a conceptual map, list of recommendations and a firm list of funding sources.
  - b. Residential Traffic Calming Demonstration Project – Aaron – The City of Glens Falls is requesting assistance with a traffic calming demonstration project on a residential street. Lincoln Avenue residents approached the City's Board of Public Safety with concerns about vehicle speed and children walking to the nearby schools. Aaron disclosed that he lives on Lincoln Avenue but was not involved in his neighbors' efforts to raise the issue. The residential traffic calming demonstration project was offered to the City of Glens Falls when Scott Sopczyk was A/GFTC Director but the City never acted on the original offer. The \$20,000 study budget could potentially allow for analyses of multiple locations.

A motion was made to accept the City of Glens Falls request to conduct a residential traffic calming demonstration project and to share the study results with other municipalities.

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

- c. Greenwich Bicycle/Pedestrian Assessment – Sarah – As part of our UPWP and part of the Healthy Communities Coalition of Washington County we are providing a bicycle/pedestrian assessment to the Village of Greenwich. Mr. Tennyson noted that the Town of Queensbury had approached him about bicycle improvements and stated that if there were bicycle improvement funds available the County could potentially make use of them. Aaron noted that we do have the Make the Connection program specifically for filling in gaps in the bicycle and pedestrian network. There is also potential for A/GFTC to offer staff resources to help municipalities complete ADA transition plans.

B. Transit

- 1) GGFT Update - none provided

**5. TIP**

A. 2007-2012 TIP

1) Project Updates

- a. Warren County – Kevin Hajos - Corinth Road, Alder Brook Bridge, Tannery Street Bridge and Milton Street Bridge are all on schedule and under construction. Mr. Tennyson asked about the Beach Road right of way acquisition. Aaron noted it was held up by miscommunication on the E-STIP. He will check with DOT on the STIP approval. Aaron relayed GGFT's concern about maintaining trolley service during the construction of Beach Road. Mr. Tennyson noted there would be an 8:30 AM meeting on August 19<sup>th</sup> with primary stakeholders.
- b. Washington County – Scott Tracy – Clinton Street and Division/Saunders Street Bridges in Whitehall are slated to be completed by late 2010. A public meeting for CR 61 over the Batten Kill (Buffum's or Tackle Box Bridge) will be held soon and the final design will be done soon after that.
- c. Saratoga County – Mike Valentine – None, but eagerly anticipating the Spier Falls intersection improvements.
- d. NYSDOT – Mary Anne Mariotti – Construction is underway the aforementioned Route 9 / Spier Falls Road intersection project. Exits 18 – 24 on I-87 are also under construction with 1R resurfacing and replacement of rustic rail. Route 4 in Hudson Falls has a letting date of November 2011. The design is underway, but the northern project limit has not been defined yet due to potential drainage issues in the design process. Construction is anticipated for 2012.

Mr. Hansen noted that the constraints on the DOT budget are forcing state and local system letting targets to be combined. DOT will have to decide the appropriate splits. Scheduling will be more of an issue now. FHWA reviews will lead to changes in construction management plans. Some discussion ensued on eSTIP communication protocol. Warren and Washington County are late in submitting ARRA 1R bills. The Regions have been directed to identify any potential savings in ARRA projects.

2) Amendments and Modifications - None

B. 2010-2015 TIP – None

**6. Other Items** - None

**7. Next meeting schedule and adjourn** – Aaron – the next meeting will be scheduled for mid October.

A motion to adjourn at 3:10 PM was made.

**MOVED BY:** Mike Valentine **SECONDED BY:** Mike Fiorillo **MOTION CARRIED**