



Adirondack / Glens Falls Transportation Council

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MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE A/GFTC TAC October 22, 2012

Attendees

Agency

Members and Participants

| | |
|--------------------|--------------------------|
| Stu Baker | Town of Queensbury |
| Frank Bonafide | NYS DOT |
| Michael Breault | Washington County DPW |
| Mike Fiorillo | Village of Hudson Falls |
| Kevin Hajos | Warren County DPW |
| Wayne LaMothe | Warren County Planning |
| Mary Anne Mariotti | NYS DOT |
| 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 |
| Monika Bulman | A/GFTC |

Minutes of the Meeting

- 1. Welcome & Introductions** – Aaron called the meeting to order at 1:35.
- 2. Visitor Issues** – None.
- 3. MPO Administrative Items Aaron:** the outstanding reimbursements have been paid to the Regional Planning Board. A temporary contract was established and we should be caught up on State reimbursements.

4. Completed/Ongoing Activities

1) Traffic engineering services, Aaron

a. Dix/Sagamore intersection evaluation. Chazen has developed conceptual improvements that were presented to the Glens Falls Common Council last week. Aaron showed the renderings to the Committee. The primary focus of the study was to determine if a traffic signal was warranted. Traffic volume at the intersection easily meets multiple signal warrants. The alignment of the Warren County Bikeway crossing at Dix Avenue was also examined. Chazen came up with two realignment alternatives; one with and one without a traffic signal. The City was presented with the option to pursue this as a *Make Connection Program* candidate at their discretion.

b. Crandall/Orville intersection. The Chief of Police of the City of Glens Falls contacted A/GFTC to request a review of crash history at the intersection of

Crandall and Orville Streets, two blocks south of Sherman Avenue. Both approaches are narrow and sight distance is limited. Most recently, a house was struck by a car as a result of a two-car collision. The Chief wondered what kind of traffic solutions might be available. Chazen will undertake this study as one of A/GFTC's on-call engineering services.

c. Street and subdivisions standards review. A summation of the review was just presented last week by Chazen. Warrensburg has reviewed the first draft. A copy of the summation will be given to Jeff Tennyson.

- 2) Bicycle map - Kate - The map has been sent to the printer; 15,000 copies have been ordered.
- 3) Long Range Plan 2035 survey -Kate - As of today, 102 completed surveys have been received. The majority of the responses have been online but we are getting some paper copies also. The surveys were distributed to County buildings and a mailing with surveys for display/distribution went out to all Towns and Villages.

Jeff Tennyson - regarding outreach, there are a few organized groups that have specific concerns regarding transportation and the survey would be heavily weighted toward those groups. The suggestion was made to get the survey to bus garages and bus drivers (school and Transit).

Scott Sopczyk - suggested using the phone to solicit survey response. A/GFTC will look into the possibility of phone solicitation.

- 4) Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan. Kate - On September 25th the kick-off meeting was held. The meeting was well attended and there was good feedback. The group will meet every other month.
- 5) Countywide accident analyses. Kate - This is ongoing. The accident data from the State web site has been down loaded. We have the counts from Washington County but still need them from Warren County.

Aaron - Going back to Traffic Engineering Services, the contracts lapsed this year, but we are in the process of resoliciting for consultant participation. The applications should be in our hands shortly and will be reviewed internally.

We are working on a crossing guard location evaluation for the Chief of Police for the City of Glens Falls to help the City determine if the crossing guard budget is being used to the best possible extent. Staff has taken on this project and the Glens Falls Hospital Creating Healthy Places to Live, Work and Play program will assist with the data collection.

5. Transit

- A. GGFT Update: Scott Sopczyk - Took delivery of two paratransit vehicles about a month ago. The trolley season is over. It was a strong season in terms of ridership and exceeded last year's numbers. Scott will be re-evaluating the night service that runs basically as a take home service for people who are working and need to get back home. GGFT just finished up with the Special Olympics and some other special events going on in the City.
- B. 5316/17 solicitation. Aaron is still waiting for solicitation instructions from DOT.

6. TIP

A. Make the Connection Program Solicitation. Aaron - Kate has revised the solicitation and some draft copies are available. Would like to get the solicitation out next week. We are doing away with partial funding for projects. If a project sponsor has multiple elements of a proposal, we should receive separate applications. A score sheet will be available to project sponsors also.

B. Amendments and Modifications

- 1) Bridge Project Scope Changes - 197/Hudson, 28N/Hudson- Aaron - We did receive the requisite votes from the Policy Committee to approve the NYSDOT's TIP amendment requests for downscoping the Route 197 bridge over the Hudson and the Route 28N bridge over the Hudson to rehabilitations.

C. NYSDOT TIP/STIP Programming Instructions- Aaron - We can expect that the new TIP is not going to look like the old TIP with regard to the type of projects that we are carrying within it. There have been changes to federal funding eligibilities with regard to respective programs. The state is the fiscal agent for the Federal Highway Program within the state of NY so the responsibility for developing programming criteria largely falls upon them. They have issued the guidance which has been circulated to and discussion items that have been assembled with illustrations of types of capital projects that constitute preservation work. Handouts were distributed.

Frank Bonafide - Under normal circumstances our program update is labor intensive and sometimes complicated, but now we have a new federal act and a program that is going into an entirely new direction. Funding limitations are such that the choice becomes doing one big project or many small projects. Preservation is the preferred strategy. As we begin this TIP update we are asking that on the local side the same tact is taken...preservation. Mary Anne Mariotti will be working with everyone to identify preservation candidates.

Frank reviewed the a Programming Criteria handout. The last four years of the upcoming TIP will have significantly reduced funding. There will be approximately \$116M available for the Region as a whole. The formulas now in use focus on preservation need and the planning target is based on those needs. Within the dollar amounts, 60% was taken and distributed to the Regions for preservation, 10% of total amount went to the Regions for core projects (bridge replacement), 25% of total amount is being held aside for Statewide Priority Program; if the project is beyond preservation and is a competitive candidate (would rank well statewide), the Region will work with sponsors to prepare applications. The deadline is November 9 The region has a cap of \$179M for submissions. Region 1 staff is working to assemble State and local candidates for the new programs.

MAP-21 created the National Highway Performance Program and that includes all the funds that used to go to interstate maintenance, NHS and HBRR. Bridges funded under this program must now be part of the federal aid - eligible roadway system., This is the biggest issue. 15% of the 2009 HBRR funds were set aside for an STP off-system bridge fund. That results in only about 3.5 million dollars a year for the entire region, with 1.6 million dollars going towards off-system bridge inspection costs. Changes in CMAQ do not impact A/GFTC too adversely.

State funds are being reduced; this will result in NYSDOT pursuing more federal funding to execute its program.

It is imperative that project sponsors deliver their existing projects that are programmed for obligation prior to September 30, 2014. If you have a project on the TIP that has not received approval of a BP-1 submission yet, the project can be progressed forward but Marchiselli should not be expected. This will increase the requisite local match from 5% to 20%.

Other discussion focused on the content of the distributed handouts.

D. Project Updates - (new developments only)

- 1) Warren County - Kevin Hajos - Hicks Road and Crane Mountain have both been temporarily delayed because of FHWA review. Federal authorization for the State-owned section of Beach Road has been granted.
- 2) Washington County, Scott Tracy - Truthville Bridge bids came in under estimate.
- 3) City of Glens Falls - no report
- 4) Town of Queensbury, Stu Baker - Aviation Road, letting is anticipated for 2014
- 5) Saratoga County/Moreau/South Glens Falls - Mike Valentine asked about Rte 9 paving project paving. It will begin in Spring 2013.
- 6) NYSDOT, Frank Bonafide - Rte 4 in Hudson Falls has been let.

7. Other Items - Aaron brought up for discussion the possibility of the TAC meeting every other month, what day and time of day works best for committee members. He will get back to members with the results.

Creighton Manning Engineering has been selected from the on-call program to conduct pavement scoring.

There are now 14 MPOs (Watertown is the 14th) competing for funding. Due to PL increases in MAP-21, our MPO will get a small increase in funding.

8. Adjournment - Mike Valentine made a motion to adjourn at 3:25