



Adirondack / Glens Falls Transportation Council

Washington County Municipal Center
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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE A/GFTC TAC April 24, 2007

Attendees	Agency	Phone	Fax
Members			
Brian Boucher	Town of Fort Edward	747-5501	
Michael Fiorillo	Village of Hudson Falls	747-4544	747-5597
Willy Grimmke	Washington County DPW	746-2440	746-2441
Dan Hajeck	Village of Lake George	668-5771	
Wayne LaMothe	Warren County Planning	761-6410	761-6411
William Lamy	Warren County DPW	761-6556	623-2772
Mayor Bob Phinney	South Glens Falls	793-1455	793-3063
David Rettig	NYS DOT	388-0456	388-0430
Scott Sopczyk	GGFT	792-1086	792-7952
Others			
Lisa Penistan	Warren County DPW	761-6556	623-2772
Staff			
Aaron Frankenfeld	A/GFTC	746-2199	746-2441
Kristina Hong	A/GFTC	746-2199	746-2441
Monika Bulman	A/GFTC	746-2199	746-2441

Minutes of the Meeting

1. Welcome & Introductions –TAC Chair Willy Grimmke called the meeting to order at 1:37.

2. Visitor Issues – None

3. Administrative Items –A. Approval of last meeting's minutes

A motion was made to approve the February 28th meeting minutes.

MOVED BY: Mayor Phinney **SECONDED BY:** Bill Lamy **MOTION CARRIED**

4. Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

- A. *Transit Report GGFT-* Scott Sopczyk: The Glens Falls road closures are being dealt with better than anticipated; have three new trolleys going into service; Rte 4 construction may necessitate the use of the Northway for one of the legs of trips due to resultant congestion at Exit 20; hiring has gone well; FTA will be coming for review around the middle of May.
- B. *Consultant Projects, Aaron*
 1. Access Management Study, Consultants are completing the educational slide show; working on traffic build outs for the demonstration corridors assuming that there are access management improvements in place; next meeting is rescheduled for May 29; RSG has been great to work with.
 2. Aviation Road Corridor Study, there was a meeting on March 26 with the school to discuss their concepts; they are looking at access modifications from Aviation Road. WSA is modeling the potential impacts of those modifications. The contract extension to West Mountain Road was approved.

3. Traffic Count Program, Our first year counts resubmitted (prior formatting issues) to us from Lochner Engineering; we have given them a schedule for the second year counts and are seeing if it will be possible to include the needed counts for Beach Road (Warren County).

C. *Staff Activities, Aaron*

- Warren County accident analysis draft has been completed and mailed to DPW. The results were very different than those for Washington County.
- Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan is moving along; Scott Sopczyk and Aaron were invited to speak to Warren County department heads and told them about the upcoming survey. The Warren and Washington County administrators distributed the surveys to their department heads that offer human transportation services meeting. We have received 15 completed surveys from Warren County and 8 from Washington County. We will follow up with the County administrators. Processing of the survey results has begun.

D. *Make the Connection Program, Aaron*

A draft of the bicycle and pedestrian Make the Connection program was mailed to committee members. This is modeled very closely to CDTC's Spot Improvement Program and was in the 2005-2010 TIP for 2 rounds of STP funding at \$250K a piece. The first round was supposed to be this year. We need to get a program in place to identify project selection procedure. Aaron asked for comments. Project candidates were requested to not depend on actions from other municipalities. This will be forwarded to Region 1 to determine the mechanism to administer this program.

E. *On-call engineering services RFP, Aaron*

The RFP went out last week and proposals are due back to us May 7. Not many incoming calls yet from engineering firms.

Aaron indicated that no comments on the draft TIP have been received which leads him to believe that the funding assumptions and project costs that we had been working with were fairly accurate.

Prior to going to the TIP issues Dave Rettig shared some information with the Committee. All of the Regions handed in their programs. Mr. Rettig felt Region 1 was in pretty good shape, but statewide there are programming issues. When doing the TIPs we updated the costs and in previous years we were overspent. There were setasides for armor coating projects, traffic signal improvements but a lot of state projects had to be pushed out. When doing the TIP at A/GFTC and CDTC no local projects were pushed but Mr. Rettig now feels that this will have to be done. Two time frames are being looked at, up to April 2010 and to April 2012. A/GFTC's TIP is top heavy, front loaded. The statewide overprogramming amounts to approx. 7-8 billion dollars over a five year program. We are overprogrammed in Federal funds but underprogrammed in State funds. This gets more confusing when the finance plan/Governor's budget is factored in. The Finance Plan is based on \$ that DOT anticipates receiving in Federal dollars. This number is lower than what is authorized in the Transportation Bill. This is good news because we ended up getting a little more Federal money. Region 1 is still overprogrammed by about 10%. A decision has been made to increase the amount of advance construction of Federal dollars that we use. STP funds will also be used to address a shortfall in SDF. Willy Grimmke noted that it would appear that at the state level there was a lack of strategic planning.

Two TIP amendments were brought to the table by Mr. Rettig that convert SDF projects to STP but yet will not hurt A/GFTC allocations because advance construction funding will be used. Mr. Rettig acknowledged that this is an awkward process of deferring locally administered projects while using newly available federal money for state jobs.

Aaron asked if we would have a better idea of our standing before the final TIP has to be approved. Mr. Rettig replied that that is largely dependent upon on how the Main Office reacts to Region 1's strategy. Short-term, the Policy Committee meeting on May 9 will need to be postponed in favor of another TAC meeting.

The TIP request from DOT would shift funding for 2 projects (Rt. 22: Rt. 40 to Rt. 4 resurfacing, and Rt. 9: Glens Falls City Line to Round Pound Road) from SDF to STP Flex.

A motion was made to approve the funding source change

MOVED BY: *Mayor Phinney* **SECONDED BY:** *Wayne LaMothe* **MOTION CARRIED**

5. TIP

A. 2007-2012 TIP Development, Aaron

1. Draft document comments - adjustments will be made resulting from the information shared at this meeting.

Administratively an adjustment was made to *WAR 127* to add \$40K in construction costs.

2. Self-Certification/SAFETEA compliance, Aaron

Draft self-certification was faxed to committee members. This is a required annual document to show that we are meeting federal planning requirements.

A motion was made to refer the Self Certification Draft to the Policy Committee for approval

MOVED BY: *Mayor Phinney* **SECONDED BY:** *Wayne LaMothe* **MOTION CARRIED**

The Draft SAFETEA Compliance Plan was distributed at the meeting. FHWA had asked the MPOs to put together a strategy to address the various requirements in SAFETEA. Aaron took the final rule section-by-section and addressed the areas that we were either in compliance with or listed actions necessary to become compliant. Aaron reviewed the 10 steps to SAFETEA Compliance outlined on page 8 of the draft document. There was a brief discussion regarding the date the LRP needs to be submitted.

B. TIP amendments (already covered)

C. Project Updates

1. Warren County, Lisa Penistan

- Grist Mill and Tannery Bridge-Draft design report went to DOT and APA for approval. Comments were received and sent to the consultant. Ready to submit final design report
- Woolen Mill Bridge (Milton St.)-Preparing for bid. ROW is being worked on.
- Corinth Road-ROW for the county is taking place. Utility easements are still are questionable. Need to get a firm decision who will be paying for them. Everything else is ready to go.

Bill Lamy added that there are still problems between the Town and the utility companies. The utilities wish to wait until the lawsuit is settled before going ahead with the work.

- Beach Road is in the scoping phase. NYSDEC has agreed to participate in the project.
 - Middleton Bridge and Harrington Rd. Bridge are in the scoping phase.
2. Washington County, Willy Grimmke
 - Covered bridges are proceeding with construction and seem to be ahead of schedule. Should be complete late June or July.
 - Whitehall Railroad Bridges-Utility coordination meeting is Thursday.
 - County Route 21-winter shutdown is over and work is progressing
 - County Route 12-draft design report has been sent to DOT for comment
 - County Route 42-bid opening is in two weeks
 3. Town of Moreau – no report
 4. Glens Falls- Aaron, roundabout is on schedule, we need to identify TAC representation from the city
 5. Queensbury – no report
 6. NYSDOT-Dave Rettig
 - Before July 4th work between Exit 26-28 should be completed
 - Rte 4 in Fort Edward-working on utilities, water and sewer work will progress
 - Hudson Falls-work on the retaining wall on 254 has begun
 - Clay Hill Road work has begun
 - Rte 372, Rt. 29, 74A – the costs are getting out of control and the project may need to be scaled back. Mary Ricard is the new project manager.

7. **Next meeting/adjourn** – The next meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, May 24th at 1:30 pm in the 2nd floor classroom at Washington County Municipal Center.** The meeting adjourned at 3:02.