



Adirondack / Glens Falls Transportation Council

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A/GFTC TAC Minutes

December 8, 2015 10:00 AM

Warren County Municipal Center

Attendees	Agency
Brian Abare	Village of South Glens Falls DPW
Stu Baker	Town of Queensbury Community Development
Ed Bartholomew	EDC of Warren County
Frank Bonafide	NYS DOT Region 1
Rob Cherry	NYS DOT Region 1
Bryan Cross	NYS DOT Region 1
Christina Doughney	CHA
Ed Doughney	Warren County DPW
Steve Godlewski	CME
Steve Haskins	Washington County DPW
Dana Hogan	Town of Kingsbury
Maiken Holmes	Warren County DPW
Laura Oswald	Washington County Planning
Owen Shevlin	NYS DOT Region 1
Gary Tatro, Jr.	NYS Canal Corporation
Mike Valentine	Saratoga County Planning
Greg Wichser	NYS DOT Region 1
Staff	
Aaron Frankenfeld	
Kate Mance	

1. **Welcome and Introductions** - the meeting began at 10:00.
2. **Visitors Issues** - none
3. **Administrative Items**
 - A. Meeting participation -Aaron noted that throughout the past two years, attaining a quorum has been difficult. Lack of substantial capital / transformative projects may have something to do with that. In the past, administrative remedies including rolling quorums and executive committee models have been considered. Today's attendance is an exception; it was suggested that the morning start time may be beneficial. It was agreed that staff will continue the practice of AM meetings during 2016.
4. **UPWP**
 - A. 2015-16 Work Program activities
 - 1) Dix Avenue reassessment - (Kate) - Data collection had been delayed on account of conducting traffic counts during the school year. Data results were not consistent with prior findings; a staff meeting was held to discuss those discrepancies. Materials are scheduled to be distributed to the study advisory

committee on Friday, with a meeting of that committee scheduled for next Wednesday (12/16).

- 2) CR 21 / CR 18 Intersection Analysis -(Kate) - Analysis for a rural intersection in Whitehall through the engineering assistance program. Field visit was conducted with DPW and CME in November. CME is nearing release of the draft memo. Safety issues appear to be related to poor stop compliance.
- 3) Queensbury Title VI Audit / ADA Transition Plan - (Kate) - Staff has been assisting the Town of Queensbury with data collection for its ADA Transition Plan. Stu Baker provided background, stating that all municipal recipients of federal aid will eventually be subjected to compliance audits. Stu estimated that the Town is 85% complete with the Plan. Kate noted that although much effort was expended on refining the methodology, the approach used for Queensbury may not work for other communities with more infrastructure.
- 4) Warren County Safety Report - (Kate) - The draft report is still under review by Warren County DPW and the County Attorney's office.
- 5) White Creek Watershed Infrastructure Assessment - (Aaron) - As discussed at the last meeting, Washington County was seeking a UPWP amendment for A/GFTC assistance to execute a flood vulnerability assessment and mitigation plan for the White Creek watershed in Salem. It was determined that the activity was eligible within the existing work plan, and, with the consent of the committee, A/GFTC refined the RFP and published it to the Contract Reporter in late September with a 10/23 response date. Received 8 proposals; selection committee interviewed three firms and awarded the project to Fitzgerald Environmental Associates, a firm with considerable experience working on the VT side of White Creek. Contract was signed on 12/7 and the project is underway, with a 5/1/16 completion date specified.
- 6) Exit 18 rezoning - (Aaron) -Project to evaluate potential zoning changes near Exit 18 with respect to traffic operation. Since our last meeting, a Town Board workshop was held with CHA on 11/18 to present findings, including:
 - full buildout allowed by revised zoning would likely result in unacceptable delays and would require significant capital mitigation
 - 40-50% of full buildout traffic would be manageable with access improvements to Big Boom and Media Drive
 - proposed changes to the revised zoning were suggested to reduce the potential for large-scale retail development
 - development of a GEIS was identified as cost-sharing measure
 - Findings were generally well-received, but the town has requested additional info from CHA. Conference call with Town of Queensbury, CHA and A/GFTC scheduled for 12/9.
- 7) Moreau trail concept -(Aaron) - Staff met with officials from the Village of Fort Edward and the Town of Moreau to discuss a trail development concept in and around the Town of Moreau Recreation Park and adjacent parcels. While noting that A/GFTC wouldn't have a role in the development of a recreational facility, it became clear during that meeting that a regional transportation facility involving use of the abandoned rail line in South Glens Falls (owned by Saratoga County IDA) as well as the existing trails already in the Park could emerge. Staff indicated our limitations in advancing a design, but offered planning assistance for concept development.
- 8) Rural mobility RFP - (Aaron) - Concurrence on summary of RFP obtained from GGFT. Staff hopes to have workable draft ready for NYSDOT review within the next week.

- 9) Pavement scoring - (Aaron) - CME has completed the data collection for the annual pavement condition report.
- 10) 2016 / 2017 program solicitation - (Aaron)- Program solicitation has been developed and is presented here for your review . Funding is level from the last few years. Program areas are largely unchanged from last year; additional activities have been added under Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning in order to help municipalities advance concepts. Schedule would be to present a draft program to the TAC for approval for public comment in late January, approval in by PC in early March. Staff was directed to issue the program solicitation.

5. Transit

- A. GGFT Update - none provided.

6. FAST Act (Aaron) - signed by President Obama on 12/4, first multi-year bill in 10 years. Some details include:

- \$305B over 5 years, 9.7% increase in highways and 11.7% increase in transit according to NYPTA
- new freight program that may help with NHPP eligible projects
- continues the set-aside for off-system bridges and expands funding available for on-system bridges located off the National Highway System
- converts the Surface Transportation Program (STP) to a block grant program; increases STP suballocation to local governments from 50 to 55 percent
- Rolls the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) into STP
- Reinstates a competitive grant program for bus and bus facilities funds with a 10 percent set-aside for rural projects
- FTA 5340 restored

Initial reaction from NYSDOT Main Office, shared at a meeting of NYS MPO Directors during a meeting on 12/4, was that while funding has increased, the increase is modest. No revisions to the Regional planning targets are to be expected for the ongoing TIP /STIP update.

7.TIP

- A. Amendments and Modifications - none
- B. Project updates from sponsors -
 - Warren County (Ed Doughney) - Valley Road / Combs Road is open; A tentative consultant designation has been made for the Blair Road, with a Spring 2016 construction initiation scheduled; PE is underway for Palisades Road. MTC projects: asphalt multi-se path is complete at 149 / outlets, sidewalk to be completed in Spring 2016; new bikeway connections at Cameron and Lawton Avenues are complete. CR 44 and CR 31/13 painting projects on schedule for March lettings. Pavement preservation projects are progressing.
 - Washington County - (Steve Haskins) - Design for CR 13 is progressing; additional archeological work was required. CR 10 is being led by the State of Vermont; no update was available. Consultant selection is underway for the Center Fall Road / Lower Turnpike painting projects.

- Saratoga County - no active projects. Greg Wichser noted that a kickoff meeting was held for the CR 31 pavement preservation project.
 - City of Glens Falls - Ed Bartholomew noted the recently completed Hudson Avenue project and the opening of the new parking garage.
 - Town of Queensbury - Stu Baker reported that the Aviation / Dixon / Farr project was nearly closed out.
 - NYSDOT - Frank Bonafide reported on the program delivery update, and noted progress on several NYSDOT projects (handout).
- C. Unprogrammed setasides - HSIP and MTC - Aaron noted that there are unprogrammed funds in two program categories in our TIP - Highway Safety Improvement Program and the Make the Connection bike/ped program. After discussion, it was decided to roll the remaining HSIP funds into the new TIP and conduct a project solicitation for MTC.
- D. TIP Development Update - (Aaron) - A discussion on programming for the next TIP was anticipated for this meeting, but the MPOs have received word from NYSDOT Main Office that additional local programming flexibility may be announced soon. Such an announcement would have a substantial impact upon relative levels of bridge and highway programming requested, so it was decided to hold off on determining program splits until additional details were made available. Summary allocations were presented by Frank Bonafide. It was decided to conduct a targeted project solicitation for preservation and system renewal needs among our project sponsors in order to inform the planning process.
- 1) Carryover projects - covered above, no additional discussion.
 - 2) Programming emphasis areas and program transfers -covered above, no additional discussion

8. Other Items - Frank Bonafide reported on a new management structure at NYSDOT, where four new Assistant Commissioners throughout NYS have been appointed. Also, NYSDOT Region 1 Director Sam Zhou is currently serving as the Region 2 Director as well, splitting his time between the two Regions.

9. Next meeting / adjourn - The next meeting will be scheduled for January 13 at 10:00 AM. A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 11:52.

Moved by: Steve Haskins

Seconded by: Stu Baker

Motion carried