



**Adirondack/Glens Falls Transportation Council**  
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A/GFTC Planning Committee Minutes  
Wednesday, June 13, 2018  
Warren County Municipal Center

| Attendees (voting members in bold) | Representing                             |
|------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Ed Bartholomew</b>              | <b>City of Glens Falls</b>               |
| <b>Frank Bonafide</b>              | <b>NYSDOT Region 1</b>                   |
| <b>Deb Donohue</b>                 | <b>Washington County DPW</b>             |
| Ed Doughney                        | Warren County DPW                        |
| Steve Godlewski                    | Creighton Manning                        |
| <b>Kevin Hajos</b>                 | <b>Warren County DPW</b>                 |
| Maiken Holmes                      | Warren County DPW                        |
| <b>Wayne LaMothe</b>               | <b>Warren County Planning Department</b> |
| Emma Lamy                          | Warren County DPW                        |
| Chris Lilholt                      | CHA Companies                            |
| Stephanie Long                     | NYSDOT Region 1                          |
| <b>Laura Oswald</b>                | <b>Washington County EDC</b>             |
| Bob Rice                           | NYSDOT Region 1                          |
| Chris Round                        | The Chazen Companies                     |
| Dan Rourke                         | Barton & Loguidice                       |
| Jason Sableski                     | JMT of New York                          |
| <b>Scott Sopczyk</b>               | <b>Greater Glens Falls Transit</b>       |
| <b>John Strough</b>                | <b>Town of Queensbury</b>                |
| <b>Mike Valentine</b>              | <b>Saratoga County Planning Board</b>    |
| Greg Wichser                       | NYSDOT Region 1                          |

Staff

|                   |        |
|-------------------|--------|
| Aaron Frankenfeld | A/GFTC |
| Jack Mance        | A/GFTC |

- 1. Welcome and Introductions** – Aaron called the meeting to order at 10:05, and acknowledged A/GFTC Policy Committee Chairman John Strough. A quorum of affected parties, identified per A/GFTC practice as representation from Warren, Washington and Saratoga Counties as well as NYSDOT, was noted as present.
- 2. Visitors Issues** - none
- 3. Administrative Items**
  - A. NYSAMPO issues**
    - 1) Air quality conformity determination - Aaron reported no substantive change in status – FHWA staff has stated to A/GFTC staff that a conformity determination based on 1997 standards will not be necessary as part of the A/GFTC LRP Update for 2018
    - 2) MPO allocation (added item from original agenda) – Aaron reported that the formula for distributing planning funds to MPOs in NYS was under review at the request of some other smaller MPO. Scenarios would

redistribute a portion of funds from larger MPO to smaller one to help sustain basic MPO functions. A/GFTC carries a surplus of planning funds and has not strongly aligned with the other small MPOs in the needs category to date. A decision is expected in September.

**B. Performance Based Planning**

- 1) Agreement – Aaron reported the Performance Based Planning Agreement has been signed by A/GFTC, GFGFT and NYSDOT Region 1 and transmitted to NYSDOT, FHWA, and FTA.
- 2) Target support language - Aaron reported that the required statement related to impacts of capital programming in support of safety planning targets has been added to the TIP following committee approval. Having this in place allows FHWA and FTA to process STIP Amendment requests.
- 3) New Planning Targets – Aaron - new performance targets for bridge conditions, pavement conditions, freight (truck travel time), congestion (level of reliability), emissions have been established by NYSDOT – A/GFTC has 180 days to adopt or set its own. Handouts of the NYS fact sheets and targets were distributed for discussion. Conservative targets were set in light of uncertainty regarding data trends and programming discrepancies, not necessarily in anticipation of forecasted decline. To summarize:
  - Pavement: NHS and Interstates, 2- and 4-year targets for percentage good / percentage poor passed on several criteria
  - Bridges - percent deck area SD 10% or less, 2-4 year targets hold line on % poor and anticipate increase in % good
  - Level of Travel Time Reliability – comparison of 50% to 80% percentile travel time, multiplied by traffic volume and occupancy, with reliable miles traveled divided by total overall – interstate and NHS – new data source (one year of data), trend forecast / target is intentionally conservative
  - Truck Time Reliability – Comparison of ratio of 95% travel time to 50% time travel on interstates, weighted by mileage – again, new vendor, conservative target based upon data uncertainty
  - Mobile source emissions – baseline is 2017, applicable to nonattainment areas that have programmed CMAQ

Mike Valentine asked if the performance targets would affect programming practices. NYSDOT and A/GFTC staff responses were that this was unlikely, as targets have been formulated with current programming priorities in mind. Aaron added that the Level of Travel Time Reliability measure could add some priority towards addressing Quaker Road, which features an underperforming coordinated signal system.

Given the lack of capital capacity to influence substantive change on local system components, and the comparatively small subset of eligible facilities subject to local programming, staff advises MPO endorsement of NYS performance targets in all categories.

**A motion was made to transmit A/GFTC endorsement of NYS Performance Targets to NYSDOT.**

Moved by: Mike Valentine

Seconded by: Ed Bartholomew

Motion carried.

- C. Host Agency MOU – Aaron reported that the LC-LGRP, at its meeting of June 12, tabled the staff request to direct its Vice-Chairman to sign the completed MOU, already signed on behalf of A/GFTC by Chairman Strough.

4. **GGFT Update** – Scott Sopczyk reported that an unusual number of personnel issues were impacting operations. Trolley services are to ramp up effective June 23. Services to

Warrensburg will continue this summer. Purchases of 4 large vehicle buses and 6 smaller cutaway buses are being progressed, all are vehicle replacements. A pavement resurfacing at the GGFT facility is being designed by Creighton Manning for a fall 2018 implementation. An RFP is out for a solar array at GGFT facility. Wayne LaMothe asked about services along Route 9 near the Great Escape and the Municipal Center, noting high volumes of pedestrians walking along the roadway. Scott replied that existing regular services are limited to six trips per day and that those trips are typically full; GGFT would provide more services if staffing and resources permitted. Trolley services will provide half-hourly trips.

## 5. UPWP

- A. Hudson Pointe - Halfway Brook Trail – Aaron reported that a contract extension was processed to accommodate scope expansion for additional conceptual cost estimation for a loop facility identified in the public comment phase; Adobe Creative Cloud finally acquired – this will assist in the formulation of the final report
- B. Warren County Bikeway Extension - Aaron reported that outreach to Town and Village boards took place on 5/9 (T of Warrensburg), 5/14 (town of LG), 5/21 Village of Lake George; good feedback was obtained, A public outreach session is scheduled for 7/17 at the Town of LG office to present the recommended route.
- C. Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan - Jack reported that comments were received that required some additional edits / corrections that won't require committee reconsideration.
- D. Long Range Plan update – (moved by Aaron to end of this category)
- E. Argyle pedestrian improvement study – Aaron reported that CHA was selected by the study committee; kickoff meeting and site visit were held on the 11<sup>th</sup>; Miovision cameras set up and running to count pedestrians, tube counts to be deployed to collect for volume and speed, consultant planning on 6-week turnaround with initial recommendations.
- F. Greenwich pedestrian mobility and parking optimization plan – Aaron reported that the RFP generated 5 responses that are being reviewed by the selection committee, including Village officials, NYSDOT, County planning and staff; rating results due by Friday (6/15). In response to a question by Mike Valentine, Aaron noted that the study was to include recommendations for improvements to streetscaping, pedestrian wayfinding, crossing locations, access to the waterfront, and parking availability.
- G. Other activities – (Aaron) - a follow up conversation with Town Supervisor Andrea Hogan regarding the Johnsbury pedestrian access planning effort has affirmed the timeframe for that project as to follow completion of the LRP; staff will be meeting with Warren County GIS staff on Friday to discuss travel demand model update and forecast
- D. Long Range Plan update – Jack started the discussion by distributing a handout depicting the cross tabulation results of aggregating LRP responses into urban and rural input. This was not automated, as the original survey was not set up for this, and the charts likely illustrate the farthest practical extraction of the response data. Notable discrepancies between rural and urban responses were noted. Aaron requested any comments or suggestions to the Planning Principles and Illustrative Projects – changes to include adding Route 9 / Exit 17, deleting complete or programmed bridge projects, continuing to carry Dix Avenue but not as a capacity project, adding Quaker / Aviation signalization issues, and adding 149 in Washington County.

## 6. TIP-

- TIP Amendments –Scott Sopczyk introduced a request to add a project listing to the TIP for informational purchases. 100% NYS funds have been made available to GGFT to allow it to advance improvement of the Beach Road waiting area in LG and to replace the heavy vehicle lift in the GGFT facility, for a total of \$267,069. Aaron

noted that this request did not constitute a TIP amendment as no federal funds are involved.

**A motion was made to add the projects to the TIP for informational purposes.**

Moved by: Frank Bonafide      Seconded by: Kevin Hajos      Motion carried.

Greg Wichser articulated NYSDOT request to add two new rail crossing signalization projects in the Town of Salem to the TIP. HSIP Rail projects do not impact regional letting caps or programming capacity. Aaron noted that these are new, federally funded project and therefore require Policy Committee approval.

**A motion was made to approve the TIP amendment request for public comment in advance of Policy Committee consideration.**

Moved by: Wayne LaMothe      Seconded by: Laura Oswald      Motion carried.

- Project updates from local sponsors (developments on active projects since last meeting)
  - Warren County - Ed Doughney Reported the following:
    - South Johnsbury Road over Mill Creek – consultant procurement advancing, PE authorization expected in October
    - Palisades Road Bridge over Brant Lake Inlet - ROWACQ to be completed by end of July, PSE to follow
    - County Bridge Painting and Asbestos Abatement – under construction
    - Middleton Bridge over the Schroon - no cost time extension has been granted, work continues on work to request a waiver from FHWA on the 10-year rule
  - Washington County – Deb Donohue reported the following:
    - CR 113 over Batten Kill – awaiting signed ROW closing documents, PSE submitted, authorization to advertise to be sought after ROW clearance certificate is received
    - CR 10 over the Poultney River – check issued to Nature Conservancy, awaiting signature on contract; utilities and environmental have been cleared; bid date set for October 11
    - CR 40/75 pavement preservation – no impact on endangered species confirmed by FHWA, draft design report comments received; final design report with design approval request to be submitted on 6/22; bid opening anticipated in August, construction in September
- NYSDOT report – Greg Wichser distributed the updated Regional Director’s commitment list; all ongoing TIP projects are on schedule. A listing of recently completed and upcoming State highway paving projects was distributed, including Route 8 in Johnsbury, Route 9N between Lake George and Lake Luzerne. Newly added projects include Route 22A in Granville and Hampton. And Route 9N in Bolton near Tongue Mountain. The presence of rattlesnakes on Tongue Mountain was noted as caution to NYSDOT to have snakebite remedy on hand for workers. Frank Bonafide added the following:
  - Bridge NY applications are under review; a late summer announcement is possible.
  - PSAP announcements were made on Monday; all four applications from the Capital District received funding; program was oversubscribed statewide
  - TAP/CMAQ – one additional required webinar has been scheduled for 6/18 at 1:00; A/GFTC staff will send around to its members
  - TIP update process will likely commence around October

- Owen Shevlin is retiring; Greg Wichser has been promoted to State Program Coordinator in Region 1; Frank is retiring in August and Bob Rice will be the new Region 1 RPPM; Ed Bartholomew suggested a formal acknowledgement from A/GFTC of Frank's contributions to the MPO.
  - MPO Program Solicitations for FFY 2018-19 – Aaron summarized the following proposed program solicitations and changes from previous:
    - 1) Bridge Preservation – \$2.069M for FFY 18-19; eligible activities expanded upwards to include rehabs and replacements and contracted downwards to de-emphasize bridge washing; scope of program will likely preclude replacement projects
    - 2) Pavement Preservation – \$2.1M for FFY 18-19, \$1.3 for FFY 2020 and FFY 2021; range of eligible activities expanded slightly upwards to include more significant rehabs, and contracted downwards to de-emphasize cracksealing
    - 3) Make the Connection Bicycle and Pedestrian Project Setaside - \$1.185M for FFY 18-19; new clauses include no ROW, project minimum of \$75,000 matched, first-time sponsors may apply for design only, not construction, ADA improvements are eligible. Frank Bonafide suggested a time limit to initiate the project stated in the narrative was in order given past delays. Ed Doughney suggested a checklist in the evaluation phase be expanded to identify potential sources of delay.
7. **Other Items of Interest** – Maiken Holmes asked about the status of the traffic count program. Jack replied that some technical issues had emerged between the count vendor and our software provider and that those were being resolved. Greg Wichser added that NYSDOT will now collect pavement condition data for local system federal aid eligible roadways, starting later this year.

8. **Next Meeting and Adjourn – August 8**

**A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 12:04.**

Moved by: Wayne LaMothe    Seconded by: Kevin Hajos

Meeting adjourned.