



Policy Committee Minutes
 Wednesday, June 12, 2019 10:00
 Crandall Public Library, Glens Falls

Attendees (voting members or proxy in bold)	Organization
John Strough, Chairman	Supervisor, Town of Queensbury
Robert Henke, A/GFTC Vice-Chairman	Chairman, Washington County Board of Supervisors
Ed Bartholomew	EDC of Warren County, rep. Mayor Hall
Cassie Fedler	Supervisor, Town of Cambridge
Dennis Dickinson	Supervisor, Town of Lake George
Harry Gutheil, Jr.	Mayor, Village of South Glens Falls
Kevin Hajos	Superintendent, Warren County DPW, rep. Chairman Conover
Todd Kusnierz	Supervisor, Town of Moreau
Wayne LaMothe	Director, Warren County Planning Department
Bob Rice (for Pat Barnes)	RPPM, NYSDOT Region 1, rep. Pat Barnes
Scott Sopczyk	Director, Greater Glens Falls Transit
Frank Thomas	Supervisor, Town of Stony Creek
Mike Valentine	Saratoga County Planning, rep. Chairman Tollisen
Lisa Wallin	MJ ELS
Greg Wichser	Regional Program Coordinator, NYSDOT Region 1

Staff

Aaron Frankenfeld	A/GFTC
Jack Mance	A/GFTC

1. **Welcome and Introductions** – Chairman Strough called the meeting to order at 10:04 AM. Participants introduced themselves.
2. **Visitors Issues** – none present.
3. **Administrative Items**
 - A. Billing transition - Aaron reported that in a continuing effort to leverage organizational resources, LCLGRP staff will be taking over the formatting of monthly reports necessary to obtain State reimbursement for A/GFTC expenses starting with this month's reports.
4. **GGFT Update** – Scott Sopczyk summarized a number of ongoing GGFT activities (see attached handout). Discussion ensued regarding the potential for service costs offsets from Hudson Headwaters, and the ability for GGFT to provide service to Saratoga Hospital's new facility near Exit 18.
5. **Annual Work Program (UPWP) - Ongoing / upcoming projects**
 - A. Fire Road / Webster Avenue intersection analysis - Aaron reported that Creighton Manning Engineering presented initial results to City officials yesterday. There

appear to be several potential improvements to introduce enhanced pedestrian accommodations without detracting from vehicular operations, and a few that would actually improve both. CME is working to refine cost estimates for some of those alternatives.

- B. Bridge Preservation analysis update – Aaron reported that the kickoff meeting for this project, between County DPW staffs, NYSDOT, and GPI will be tomorrow at 1:30. The update to this analysis is driven by the need to incorporate new bridge inspection data reporting methodology, changing structural conditions, and any identified improvements to the preceding effort. The project is to be funded (\$49,000) with capital funds rather than typical PL.
- C. Greenwich parking and pedestrian access plan - Aaron reported that The Chazen Companies and the Village of Greenwich hosted an open house for this project on May 8 that was very well attended. The planning effort seeks to identify parking management, streetscaping, pedestrian mobility and waterfront access improvements. Chazen is working to compile public comments into a draft document for committee review. Bob Henke asked if the scope of the project included the Town or just the Village, noting that Greenwich Supervisor Sara Idleman had an interest in advancing Town objectives. Aaron replied that it was focused on the Village, and that Supervisor Idleman was present at the workshop.
- D. Traffic count program – Jack reported that this year’s round of traffic counts would commence later this summer, with 55 total (25 in Washington County, (30 in Warren County). The cycle will conclude next season with the final 60 counts. Counters presently deployed in rural Warren County are not part of the A/GFTC program
- E. North Creek / Ski Bowl access improvements – Jack reported that representatives from Town, Gore, NYSDOT met last fall to discuss the scope of the project. It had previously been pedestrian-focused, but after discussing the Town’s plans to redevelop the gravel pit into additional park space, plus the other significant development at Gore and Front Street, we decided the best use of A/GFTC resources would be to analyze the potential impact from these developments, as well as determine the potential benefit to creating a 4-way intersection at Route 28 and 28N, to create a direct connection between the hamlet and Ski Bowl. We utilized our engineering assistance program and have selected MJ ELS as the consultant. Project kickoff is anticipated in the next few weeks. Kevin Hajos noted that the County was pursuing a BUILD grant for improvements to Main Street in North Creek.
- F. Adaptive Signal Controls – Queensbury - Jack reported that staff is working with the Town to pursue an opportunity through NYSDOT PON 3833 Improving the Efficiency of New York’s Transportation System. This program is devoted to advancing innovative solutions for mobility and efficient transportation. We identified a potential opportunity for a newer technology called Adaptive Signal Control, which is used all over the world but is not yet widely deployed in NYS. Basically these are “smart” signals that continually adjust to optimize traffic flow. The Town has already begun inventorying the signals along Quaker, so we felt that pursuing a feasibility study for this solution was good timing. The initial draft of the grant materials is complete and will be sent to Town staff for review. The hope is that future rounds of the same program might be used to provide funds for implementation. Discussion ensued regarding potential applicability to other signalized corridors in the region.

6. TIP

- A. Project updates from local sponsors (developments on active projects since February – Kevin Hajos reported on status updates for the CR 57, Palisades Road bridge, Middleton Bridge, Sunnyside Road and Sunnyside East paving projects. Ed Bartholomew provided status updates on the Dix Avenue pavement rehabilitation, Cole’s Woods connections, and Feeder Canal connections projects.
- B. NYSDOT report
- C. TIP Amendment request – NYS 29 over the Batten Kill – Greg and Aaron reported that NYSDOT Region 1 has requested and additional \$1.330 in C and CI for the NYS Route 29 over the Batten Kill bridge replacement. Cost increases are a result of the complexities of the physical environment at and around the bridge. The request was discussed at the Planning Committee; that committee approved the request for a 30-day public comment period, which closed last week with no comments received. IN response to a question from Wayne LaMothe, increasing the amount of programmed funds does not impact other previously programmed projects.

A motion was made to add \$1.330M in construction and construction inspection funds to the A/GFTC TIP for the NYS Route 29 bridge over the Batten Kill.

Moved by: Dennis Dickinson

Seconded by: Bob Henke

Motion carried.

- D. 2019-2024 Transportation Improvement Program
 - 1) Discussion – Aaron reported that the Draft TIP was reviewed extensively by the Planning Committee and approved for public comment period that has now closed. With the help of Region 1, we were able to accommodate all local sponsor project requests that were received. No substantive changes to the project lists have been made since that review other than the addition of the TAP awards to Warrensburg and GF, increasing the total program to 152.307. An updated simplified listing of projects is provided (see attached). This program was developed based upon funding levels expected to result from an anticipated rescission of federal funds. Should Congress act to eliminate the rescission and thus increase the amount of available funds to be programmed, A/GFTC will conduct a smaller scale solicitation for additional projects.
 - 2) TIP project viewer – comments / suggestions - Wayne and Aaron reported that the Warren County Planning Department developed an online TIP application that displays maps and programming information for the TIP projects. We are working to add project photos to that app. This appears to be one of if not the best application of its kind in the State. Discussion ensued regarding potentially expanding the viewer to include status updates for the ongoing projects.
 - 3) Motion to approve

A motion was made to approve Resolution 19-02, approving 2019-2024 TIP as corrected, Air Quality Conformity Determination, and Self-Certification.

Moved by: Bob Henke

Seconded by: Dennis Dickinson

Motion carried.

- 7. **US 9 / Exit 17 congestion issues – discussion** – Aaron introduced the topic by reviewing that In 2014, A/GFTC and Creighton Manning Engineering produced an analysis for the Town of Moreau in anticipation of future traffic impacts associated with the planned expansion of

sewer services. At that time, it was believed that congestion issues could be addressed by a combination of intersection improvements and changes to municipal zoning. Since then, it appears as though the traffic issues may have grown to be more widespread than initially thought, and at a rate that was greater than forecasted. This could impact an upcoming capital project to address the structural condition of the US 9 bridge over I-87 at Exit 17. Mayor Gutheil noted the recurring congestion issues, including traffic stacking back on to the travel lane of I-87, and southbound traffic queues to Butler Road in the AM peak. NYSDOT replied that they are aware of the issues; any operational improvements to Exit 17 that coincide with the planned bridge work will prioritize 'flushing' of the PM northbound traffic to eliminate ramp queueing. Some modifications to Route 9 between Exit 17 and NYS 197 may be necessary, as 20,000 vehicles per day is approaching the upper limit of the existing roadway's capacity. Increasing large truck traffic is an additional complication. Supervisor Kusnierz suggested ongoing coordinated dialogue between NYSDOT and local interests regarding future improvements. Harry Gutheil reiterated a longstanding request to NYSDOT to address the misleading route signing array at the NB approach of Routes 9 and 32 at the intersection with 5th and Main in the Village of South Glens Falls.

8. Other items of interest

9. Next Meetings and Adjourn –Policy Committee October 9, Planning Committee September 11



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Transit Report Summary for June 12, 2019 A/GFTC Policy Committee Meeting

Greater Glens Falls Transit submits the following informational items for the A/GFTC Policy Committee:

Capital Projects:

Over the past 12 months GGFT completed the following capital projects

- Awarded contract for the purchase of three (4) replacement low floor transit buses (November 2019 delivery)
- Installed solar array on garage to reduce electric costs
- Awarded contract to construct new passenger waiting area on Beach Rd. in Lake George (September 2019 installation)
- Purchased replacement portable column vehicle lift
- Repaved parking lot and driveways around facility
- Purchased and put into service 4 replacement small buses and 2 replacement paratransit buses.

Upcoming capital projects

- Completion of open items listed above
- Bidding and award of two new trolley buses to have in service for 2020 season
- Purchase of replacement service vehicle
- Replacement of facility AC system & in-ground vehicle lift repair
- Upgrading of system fare collection system (smart fare boxes)
- Office modifications for new Deputy Director

Operations/Planning Related Projects:

1. In 2018 GGFT carried 304,215 passengers. To date in 2019 the system has carried 86,130 passengers which represents a +1.0% increase over the same period in 2018. FAME paratransit service is up +8.9% over the same period as well.
2. In March 2019 GGFT hired a Deputy Director. The new position has been involved in improving transportation coordination efforts in the region and educating the program staff of many area agencies in ways that they may take best use of available transit service and resources in the area.
3. Involved in discussions with CDTA in Albany to establish a service connection in