



Adirondack/Glens Falls Transportation Council
11 South Street, Suite 203
Glens Falls, NY 12801
p: (518) 223 – 0086 f: (518) 223 – 0584
www.agftc.org

A/GFTC Planning Committee Minutes

Wednesday, September 11, 2019

Warren County Municipal Center, Queensbury

Attendees (voting members or proxy in bold) Representing

Stu Baker	Town of Queensbury
Deb Donohue	Washington County DPW
Ed Doughney	Warren County DPW
Allison Gaddy	LC-LGRP
Beth Gilles	LC-LGRP
Steve Godlewski	Creighton Manning Engineering
Harry Gutheil, Jr.	Village of South Glens Falls
Chris Harrington	Town of Queensbury Water Department
Maiken Holmes	Warren County DPW
Jeremy Hughes	Barton & Loguidice
Wayne LaMothe	Warren County Planning Department
Stephanie Long	NYS DOT Region 1
Laura Oswald	Washington County Economic Development
Laura Sanda	McFarland Johnson
Scott Sopczyk	Greater Glens Falls Transit
Mike Valentine	Saratoga County Planning Board
Greg Wichser	NYS DOT Region 1
Staff	

Aaron Frankenfeld

A/GFTC

- 1. Welcome and Introductions**
- 2. Visitors Issues and General Discussion Items** - Chris Harrington raised the issue of construction phasing and water line relocation in the context of the NYS 9L resurfacing project, citing a prior lack of notification of ongoing developments. Greg Wichser replied that it was believed recommended placement of the water line had been resolved to the Town's satisfaction, but would look in to the matter further.

Harry Gutheil asked NYS DOT about any developments in the Exit 17 vicinity. Greg Wichser updated the committee on the upcoming bridge replacement project and associated ramp reconfiguration. He also noted that NYS DOT had installed cameras to record traffic observations that confirmed recurring congestion that was particularly acute during traditional peak period. The Town of Moreau has been encouraged to pursue funding support for congestion-related improvements that would be outside of what the scope of the bridge project could be expected to address.

- 3. GGFT Update –**
Aaron reported that staff had prepared two poster-size transit maps for display at SUNY Adirondack and the new Lake George bus shelter. These integrate recent route changes and

were converted to graphic design software (Adobe Illustrator) to facilitate future changes and re-prints. Scott Sopczyk reported on end-of-summer season ridership, the relocation of the Beach Road trolley stop in Lake George, the anticipated delivery of 4 new full size transit vehicles, new operations of Route 5, ongoing travel training and an upcoming passenger survey.

4. Update on UPWP Projects –

Aaron reported on the following:

- a) Greenwich pedestrian and parking study – A draft of the final report was circulated to the project steering committee on August 8 for comments through August 23rd. With no substantive comments received, we held a presentation with the Village Board on Monday, September 9 to present the final concepts. There was a good turnout and a thorough discussion of the plan. The draft has been circulated to the Planning Committee; an email ballot will be sent next week to approve opening the document up for a 14-day public comment period, in anticipation of approval by the Policy Committee in October. Village Trustee Vandewater has requested agenda time at the Policy Committee meeting to discuss Village-related issues. Laura Oswald raised the issue of coordination with the Village’s consent order to address water line issues. Greg Wichser replied that coordination between State paving projects and local projects is improved.
- b) North Creek / Ski Bowl access – This study is intended to identify a conceptual alternative for access between North Creek and the Ski Bowl recreation area while considering site development potential there. MJ ELS was selected from proposals from our on-call participants to conduct the study. A kickoff meeting was held in July with NYSDOT, ORDA, and Town representative in attendance. Preliminary alternatives were reviewed and a data collection strategy was considered. MJ has completed data collection (traffic counts & turning movements) as of early August and is completing an existing conditions analysis. Next meeting has not been scheduled but will probably take place in late September or early October.
- c) Fire Road / Webster Avenue signals analysis – CM was selected to conduct an assessment of the Glen Street intersections with Fire Road and Webster Avenue that consider pedestrian access and vehicular operation improvements. Delays were encountered with traffic data collection, but a meeting was eventually held in June to present initial conceptual alternatives. There are three basic improvement types – pre-timed signal, actuated signal, and actuated signal with a new SB RT lane to Fire Road. Initial cost estimates are complete and the assessment is expected by the end of the week. Ensuing discussion included light volumes of observed pedestrian traffic and operational issues associated with the current signals.
- d) Ridge Street Stewart’s – Traffic Assessment review – CHA was selected to conduct a Traffic Assessment review for the Stewart’s Shops expansion proposal for its Ridge Street location in Glens Falls. thanks to Sarah Bowman for being responsive to the quick turnaround. CHA’s review of the materials was submitted to the planning board on August 28. CHA concurred with the core findings of the Stewart’s TA (done by CM), suggesting only an additional queue analysis for left turns into the site and a confirmation of sufficient green time to allow for ped crossings at the adjacent traffic signal.
- e) Glens Falls Bikeshare research - On August 6, a technical memo was submitted to the City of Glens Falls to provide context for the feasibility/potential scope of a bike share system for the Glens Falls area. This memo was prepared by staff; it provides an overview of current bike share systems (for example: docked vs. dockless systems, bikes vs. e-bikes vs. e-scooters), the factors which influence the viability of bike share

programs (land use, demographics), and future considerations/next steps such as project partners. This information can help inform the City for future efforts to request proposals from bikeshare vendors. Scott Sopczyk asked if it was reasonable to include Lake George in the planning effort; Aaron replied that the draft to the City included that recommendation.

- f) Traffic counts – Staff has received 49 of 55 counts so far for 2019. These were reviewed by county DPW and no errors were found. The remaining counts will be coming in the next few weeks. After review, the data will be finalized and added to A/GFTC’s online portal. The final 63 counts (mostly locations in northern Warren County) will be collected next year, which will give us coverage of most rural County highways in Warren & Washington Counties
- g) Bike maps – Staff has received an additional 3,000 copies of the regional bicycle map, and will print limited additional copies as needed until a revision is necessary, likely to coincide with developments along the Empire State Trail.

5. TIP

- A. Bridge preservation analysis (Aaron) - A kickoff meeting was held on June 13; discussion yielded a slightly different emphasis, focused more on potential consequences of delayed action rather than absolute costs ; draft data modules have been provided to the Counties for review and feedback by September 20.
- B. Updates from project sponsors (new developments since May 2019)
 - 1) Warren County – Ed Doughney updated the committee on the Palisades Road and Middleton bridge replacements, Sunnyside and Sunnyside East resurfacing projects, and the Bay Road / Halfway Creek and CR 57 over Mill Creek culvert / bridge projects.
 - 2) Washington County – Deb Donohue updated the committee on the CR 46 and CR 40/75 resurfacing projects, as well as the CR113, CR 61, CR 26, and Doc Johnson / Cemetery Road bridge projects.
 - 3) Saratoga County – Mike Valentine updated the committee on the Clark Road and West River Road bridge preservation projects, the CR 28 resurfacing project, and the CR 31 culvert / bridge project.
 - 4) City of Glens Falls – no report
 - 5) NYSDOT – Greg Wichser updated the committee on the Empire State Trail, preliminary analysis of the Route 4 bridge over the Hudson at Northumberland, and resurfacing projects along sections of Routes 8, 28, and 22. Questions to NYSDOT included the status of the Route 67 bridge replacement and striping on Route 9 in Warrensburg and Lake George.
- C. TIP amendments / modifications (Aaron) - all requested modifications have been processed; thank you to this committee for affording staff the flexibility to make the changes to the Palisades Road bridge listing to enable that project to advance

- 6. **2020 NYSDOT Safety Targets** – NYSDOT Safety Planning Targets were distributed last week. These are updated annually; 2020 targets are lower (better) for three of the five categories, while # and rate of serious injuries have been set higher than 2019. Policy Committee has assigned responsibility for adopting targets to Planning Committee. Staff continues to recommend that A/GFTC adopt State targets.

A motion was made to adopt the 2020 NYSDOT Safety Planning Targets.

Moved by: Wayne LaMothe

Seconded by: Laura Oswald

Motion carried.

- 7. **Next meeting and adjourn – Planning Committee 12/11, Policy Committee 10/9; meeting adjourned at 11:08.**