



Adirondack/Glens Falls Transportation Council
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A/GFTC Planning Committee Minutes

Wednesday, December 15, 2021

Zoom Meeting – all participation from remote locations

Attendees (voting members or proxy in bold)	Representing
Nick Bodkin	Mayor, Village of South Glens Falls
Joe Cimino	CHA
Deb Donohue	Washington County DPW
Ed Doughney	Warren County DPW
Jeff Flagg	City of Glens Falls
Allison Gaddy	Lake Champlain–Lake George Regional Planning Board
Chris Geroux	Creighton Manning
Beth Gilles	Lake Champlain–Lake George Regional Planning Board
Norabelle Greenberger	LaBella Associates
Wayne LaMothe	Warren County Planning Department
Laura Oswald	Washington County EDC
Bob Rice	NYS DOT Region 1
Laura Sanda	McFarland Johnson
John Strough	Supervisor, Town of Queensbury
Dan Rourke	Barton and Loguidice
Ayla Schermer	Federal Transit Administration
Scott Sopczyk	Greater Glens Falls Transit
Mike Valentine	Saratoga County Planning Department
Lisa Wallin	MJ ELS
Greg Wichser	NYS DOT Region 1
Tim Zinn	Washington County DPW

Staff

Aaron Frankenfeld	A/GFTC
Jack Mance	A/GFTC

1. **Welcome / Municipal Roll Call** – Aaron opened the meeting at 10:02 and listed municipal participants present.
2. **Visitor Issues** – no visitors present.
3. **Administrative Items**
 - A. Approval of November 2021 meeting minutes – **a motion was made to accept the draft minutes of the November 2021 Planning Committee meeting as final.**

Moved by: Mike Valentine

Seconded by: Bob Rice

Minutes approved

- B. Host Agency contract renewal – Aaron reported that Beth Gilles, Executive Director of the Lake Champlain – Lake George Regional Planning Board, has informed him that

the Host Agency contract is on schedule to be approved by the LC-LGRP by mid-January.

- C. CY 2022 Draft Meeting Calendar – Aaron requested of the committee any known conflicts that would alter the draft schedule of meetings for calendar year 2022. No conflicts were reported.
4. GGFT Report – Scott Sopczyk reported that NY State capital funding would facilitate rehabilitation of wheelchair lifts on three 2018 trolleys. Due to supply and procurement issues, the project would likely be completed in the fall of 2022. GGFT is also implementing a new fare collection service from Token Transit that will allow users to purchase passes through a phone app rather than be required to produce exact fare. This system is more economical than electronic fare boxes.
5. **TIP Updates from project sponsors (major developments since last meeting)**
- 1) Warren County – Ed Doughney provided updates on the South Johnsbury Road over Mill Creek bridge, Bay Road over Halfway Creek bridge, and East River Drive Call Street pavement projects.
 - 2) Washington County – Tim Zinn provided updates on the Church Street over the Mettawee River bridge, CR 61 over the Battenkill (Shushan) bridge, and CR 37 pavement projects.
 - 3) Saratoga County – Mike Valentine provided updates on the CR 31 bridge project.
 - 4) City of Glens Falls – Jeff Flagg provided updates on the Cole’s Wood Connections and Feeder Canal connections projects.
 - 5) NYSDOT – Bob Rice provided updates on the I-87 over Route 9 bridge project as well as the Bridge NY and TAP / CMAQ solicitations. He also noted that no specific appropriations are yet available to accompany the bipartisan infrastructure bill. There are several new discretionary programs with guidance that is pending. Ed Doughney asked about the 10-year rule regarding PE and whether that had been eliminated in the new law. Bob responded that while it is hoped that future application is less restrictive, a final interpretation has not been issued. Wayne LaMothe noted that there was guiderail work underway near the I-87 bridges over Route 9 and asked if that was part of the project noted previously. Greg Wichser responded that it was an unrelated project that could be re-installed if it were to be in conflict with the bridge project.
6. **TIP Amendments – Call Street / East River Drive paving project** - Ed Doughney provided background information on the requested TIP amendment, seeking an additional \$0.524M in funds to complete guiderail work and address estimate shortfalls for PIN 176146. The change in scope to a full-depth reclamation has rendered much of the associated guiderail as substandard. Additionally, much of the existing guiderail has been damaged by crashes. A completed inventory of the guiderail was accompanied by a recommendation to replace or reinstall a significant portion (6300’) of the worn, damaged, and out-of-spec sections. Wayne LaMothe asked what if any projects would be impacted by this funding change. Aaron and Greg Wichser responded that the impact would be either carried forward into the programming capacity of the new TIP or be absorbed by savings on other projects within the region. **A motion was made to approve the funding request.**

Moved by: Wayne LaMothe

Seconded by: Mike Valentine

Request approved

7. **TIP Update** – Aaron reported that there **was** no official word from NYSDOT on the TIP solicitation to date. As discussed at our last meeting, we will begin assembling lists of capital project needs from sponsors independent of capital planning targets. The application materials from the last TIP will be recycled for this purpose. Greg Wichser concurred with this approach. Aaron said that the solicitation will be distributed to federal aid – eligible infrastructure owners next week. Ed Doughney asked if the prioritization of preservation projects over reconstruction projects would be continued. Aaron replied that hard and fast percentages of project types for local sponsors had seemingly been de-emphasized. Greg Wichser stated that preservation-first projects are still encouraged but the sponsors should submit their federal aid priorities as they see fit. Ed replied that experience has shown that preservation projects are difficult to program in advance as deterioration advances over time and that rehabilitations and reconstructions are a better use of the federal aid process.

8. **UPWP**

A. Staff and Consultant Projects

- 1) Glen Street intersections – Aaron reported the Barton & Loguidice’s pedestrian access improvements project is complete (no additional comments since last meeting) save for incorporation of comments from Glens Falls Board of Public Safety.
- 2) Greenwich / North Road multi-use trail – Jack reported this project is almost complete. Jack and Dan Rourke from Barton & Loguidice attended an in-person meeting of the Greenwich Town Board to present the study. No comments were received during the subsequent public comment period.
- 3) Carey Road access analysis – Aaron reported that Creighton Manning is analyzing record plans, crash histories, anticipated future developments, and initializing modeling of the corridor.
- 4) Greenwich zoning and code review – Jack reported that the code modifications were complete. We are waiting to hear back from the Village Mayor regarding scheduling of meetings and training sessions. Laura Oswald noted the CFA award to the Village of Greenwich.
- 5) Salem pedestrian connections – Jack reported that further committee review of the conceptual alternatives has resulted in a scope expansion for the project that was approved by LC-LGRP. The additional scope will include a design workshop facilitated by LaBella Associates (formerly Chazen) to refine those concepts.

B. 2022-23 UPWP

- 1) Updated financial status – Aaron reported that IJA has provided a much-needed infusion of new FHWA PL funds that will help return our program to close to what we typically expect. At the last meeting it, the potential for a lean upcoming year was noted, but with the new funds (\$50,665 additional for a total of \$366,865) we should be able to advance a meaningful planning program. FHWA carryover at this point is projected to be somewhere between \$20k and \$30k (last year it was almost \$60k); that added to the increased new funds would be slightly more than what was programmed for this year. There is no significant increase in FTA MPP funds (\$46,784 from last year’s \$46,472) but carryover here is expected as well.
- 2) Results of planning program solicitation – Aaron reviewed a revised list of projects initially received that was emailed on Monday, with a couple of projects added to that list since Friday. This is not a final list; staff expects to reduce this list by necessity due to resource limitations, eligibility for planning funds, and

redundancy (the concept has already been addressed or can be addressed elsewhere) and assemble a draft list for review by this committee in January. There was no ensuing discussion.

9. **Other Items of Interest** – Laura Oswald asked about the status of FTA 5310. Jack replied that he had been informed that a solicitation announcement was expected in January.
10. **Next Meeting and Adjourn** – January 12 (Planning Committee) moved to 1:30 PM
February 16 (Policy Committee) 10:00

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 10:50 AM.

Moved by: Wayne LaMothe

Seconded by: Mike Valentine

Meeting adjourned