

Policy Committee Minutes - draft
Wednesday, September 14, 2022 10:30
Meeting facilitated by Zoom; no in-person participation

1. Welcome / Acknowledgment of Participants — Aaron Frankenfeld listed attendees. Chairman John Strough called the meeting to order at 10:35.

Attendees	Organization (voting members or proxy in bold)
Patrick Barnes, A/GFTC Secretary	Regional Director, NYSDOT Region 1
Cassandra Becker	Deputy Director, GGFT
Evera Sue Clary	Supervisor, Town of Salem
Deb Donohue	Superintendent of Public Works, Washington County
Cassie Fedler	Supervisor, Town of Cambridge
Kevin Hajos	Superintendent of Public Works, Warren County (for K.Geraghty)
Samuel J. Hall, A/GFTC Vice-Chairman	Chairman, Washington County Board of Supervisors
Maiken Holmes	Warren County Department of Public Works
Dave O'Brien	Chairman, Lake Champlain – Lake George Regional Planning Board
John Strough, A/GFTC Chairman	Supervisor, Town of Queensbury
Mike Valentine	Sr. Planner, Saratoga Co. Planning Department (for Chrm. Kusnierz)
Jeremy Schneible	City Engineer, City of Glens Falls
Scott Sopczyk	Transportation Director, GGFT
Lisa Wallin	MJ ELS
Greg Wichser	Regional Program Coordinator, NYSDOT Region 1
Tim Zinn	Washington County Department of Public Works
Staff	
Aaron Frankenfeld	A/GFTC
Jack Mance	A/GFTC

2. Visitor Issues – No visitors present

3. Administrative actions

a) Approval of June 2022 meeting minutes - Chairman Strough requested a motion to approve the June 2022 minutes as final.

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the June 2022 meeting as final.

Moved by: Dave O'Brien Seconded by: Mike Valentine Minutes approved

b) 2023 Safety Performance Measures – Aaron summarized that per the Highway Safety Improvement Program federal rule, MPOs are required to establish safety targets by either developing localized quantifiable targets or concurring with those targets developed by the State. The targets are related to 5 measurements – fatalities, fatality rates, serious injuries, serious injury rates, and non-motorized fatalities and serious injuries. This is an annual requirement; A/GFTC has previously

opted to sign on to the State targets. The 2023 targets were sent to the committee last week. Chairman Strough requested a motion to adopt NYSDOT's targets.

A motion was made for A/GFTC to adopt the NYSDOT 2023 Safety Targets.

Moved by: Dave O'Brien Seconded by: Pat Barnes Motion carried

4. Transit

- a) GGFT report Scott Sopczyk reported on behalf of GGFT. Bid advertisements will go at this week for two replacement transit buses. The projected delivery date for those buses is November 2023. Facility improvements including a lift replacement are currently under design. The summer operational season is completed. Skilled labor recruitment was challenging; CDTA was able to provide additional drivers to round out the GGFT schedule. In conjunction with Warren County, ARPA funds were used to provide bus passes to the J-1 visa workers. 670+ passes were distributed to foreign workers and an additional 100 passes were distributed to locally-based seasonal workers. As a consequence, trolley ridership on the Lake George to Glens Falls run was up by 64% over the previous year. Additionally, drivers observed reduced bicyclist and pedestrian activity in areas where few accommodations exist. GGFT has applied to repeat the program next year; employers will be approached regarding sponsorship opportunities. Overall system ridership is up 18% over the previous year and has recovered ~68% of pre-Covid 19 totals. Governor Hochul has announced the suspension of the mask requirement – masks are still encouraged but not required. While there were Covid cases among staff, those cases did not appear to be acquired or transmitted through passenger interactions. Mike Valentine asked about the impact of the pass-subsidized riders on the next GGFT budget. Scott replied that it was revenue-neutral; the ARPA funds help recover the expense at the fare box and the additional ridership generates additional operating assistance funds. While ARPA funds are not permanent, it is hoped that program will be sustainable in the future with employer contributions.
- b) Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan Jack Mance summarized the document status. The CHSTP is a federally-required document with a four-year update cycle, providing a framework for coordination of transportation operations among human services agencies with a particular focus on elderly and disabled clients. Cassandra Becker at GGFT developed an online survey that was distributed to approximately 70 service agency staffpersons. Twenty-two responses were received. The document was updated based upon those responses, demographic changes, and impacts of Covid-19 on operations. A 30-day public comment period has closed with no comments received. Chairman Strough requested a motion to approve the CHSTP as final.

A motion was made to approve draft CHSTP as final.

Moved by: Dave O'Brien Seconded by: Pat Barnes Motion carried

5. Staff report – planning projects and activities

a) Salem pedestrian connections – Jack reported that plan has been completed. Its focus was on pedestrian-based improvements at and around the intersection of Main Street and Broadway in the former Village of Salem. Significant stakeholder outreach and steering committee review was conducted. One comment was received during the public comment period and the final version reflects that recommendation. The concept plan will allow the community to pursue design and implementation funds. Jack noted that Supervisor Clary has already initiated efforts to pursue concept implementation. Supervisor Clary thanked the Council, staff and LaBella Associates for their efforts. Chairman Strough requested a motion to accept the plan as final.

A motion was made to accept the Salem Pedestrian Connections Plan as complete.

Moved by: Pat Barnes Seconded by: Mike Valentine Motion carried

- b) Mill Pond pedestrian improvements Jack reported on the engineering assistance program project to identify the feasibility of a pedestrian crossing of NYS Route 8 between the Horicon Volunteer Fire Department and Mill Pond, as well as a pedestrian facility to encircle Mill Pond. The project consultant (Barton & Loguidice) has met with town officials, conducted a site visit and data collection, and is currently revising a draft report based upon staff comments.
- c) Glen Street / Sanford Street / Grant Avenue pedestrian improvements Jack reported on the engineering assistance program project to identify improvements to the subject intersection to improve pedestrian operations, particularly for the high volume of public school students that use the intersection daily. Barton& Loguidice has delivered a draft report that will be circulated to the Glens Falls Police Department for review prior to release to a broader public audience.
- d) Other staff activities Jack reported on other ongoing staff activities, including the Rural Workforce Mobility Study, assistance to the Town of Queensbury for the NYSERDA and NYSDOT funded Adaptive Signal Controller Feasibility Study for Quaker and Aviation Roads, and the joint grant application with LC-LGRPB for Safe Streets For All (ss4a) Planning Funds.

6. Transportation Improvement Program -

- a) TIP project sponsor summaries
 - i Warren County Maiken Holmes reported on the following projects:
 - South Johnsburg Road bridge over Mill Creek
 - Palisades Road bridge
 - Bay Road over Halfway Creek bridge replacement
 - Johnsburg bridge replacements
 - CR 19 reconstruction
 - Quaker Road pavement rehabilitation
 - Oxbow Hill / Moon Hill Road reconstruction
 - State-funded culvert replacements
 - ii Washington County Tim Zinn reported on the following projects:
 - CR 61 (Shushan) bridge over the Battenkill
 - CR 37 pavement preservation
 - CR 35/36 pavement preservation
 - Church Street over the Mettawee River
 - CR 61 (Batten-Dugan) over the Battenkill
 - iii Saratoga County Mike Valentine reported on the CR 24 culvert project.

- iv City of Glens Falls Jeremey Schneible reported on the following Projects:
 - Feeder Canal connections
 - Cole's Woods Connector
 - Webster Avenue rehabilitation
- v NYSDOT Pat Barnes reported on the following projects:
 - Exit 17 over Intestate 87
 - Interstate 87 over Route 9

Pat also noted that review of inflation rates yielded inflation rates varying between 15 and 25 percent that will have an impact the timely letting of projects.

b) TIP modification request – Warren County – Johnsburg bridges - Aaron summarized the modification request. Warren County DPW is requesting a TIP modification to add \$715,000 to the Construction and Construction Inspection phases of project 1761.43 to replace the Dippikill Road and Glen Creek Road bridges over Glen Creek in Johnsburg. The increases are necessary due to a change in the project sequencing that no longer allows for concurrent construction (which adds time) and increased work item costs. While the amount requested is within the amount that could be approved by the Planning Committee, time sensitivity requires that this request come to this committee directly. As noted by Pat Barnes earlier, inflation has resulted in a number of sizeable TIP modifications and amendments. The impacts of these increases will likely be seen in the delayed initiation and delivery of out-year projects; A/GFTC's commitment has always been to deliver the projects that are underway. Chairman Strough requested a motion to approve the additional funds for the project.

A motion was made to approve the TIP modification for PIN 1761.43.

Moved by: Pat Barnes Seconded by: Dave O'Brien Motion carried

- c) Other federal transportation funding opportunities Aaron noted some of the additional pending funding opportunities established by the federal infrastructure law, including the previous mention Safe Streets For All, Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-saving Transportation (PROTECT), and Carbon Reduction programs
- **7.Other items of interest** no additional items raised.
- 8. Next meeting and adjourn next Policy Committee meeting 2/15/23 (tentative); next Planning Committee 11/9/22; Chairman Strough requested a motion to adjourn the meeting.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 11:25 AM.

Moved by: Dave O'Brien Seconded by: Pat Barnes Meeting adjourned.