

Meeting minutes - A/GFTC Planning Committee meeting

Remote Access via Zoom

Wednesday, August 9, 2023 10:00 AM

1. **Welcome / Acknowledgment of Attendees** – Aaron initiated the meeting at 10:00 and listed the following attendees (voting members / proxy in **bold**):

Tom Baird	Barton & Loguidice
Stu Baker	Town of Queensbury Community Development
Dan Barusch	Town of Lake George Planning and Zoning
Chris Cate	McFarland – Johnson Inc.
Deb Donohue	Washington County Department of Public Works
Allison Gaddy	Lake Champlain – Lake George Regional Planning Board
Ethan Gaddy	Warren County Planning Department
Chris Geroux	Creighton Manning
Kevin Hajos	Warren County Department of Public Works
Celeste Harp	NYSDOT Region 1
Mary Hastings	Greater Glens Falls Transit
Maiken Holmes	Warren County Department of Public Works
John Huggins	Glens Falls Hospital
Kelley Kircher	NYSDOT Region 1
Kim Lambert	Saratoga County Planning
Wayne LaMothe	Warren County Planning Department
Zachary Luckin	Federal Transit Administration
Kristen Morris	NYSDOT Region 1
Laura Oswald	Washington County Economic Development
Megan Quirk	Capital District Transportation Authority
Bob Rice	NYSDOT Region 1
Dan Rourke	Barton & Loguidice
Edmund Snyder	Greenman – Pedersen Inc.
John Strough	Town of Queensbury
Greg Wichser	NYSDOT Region 1
Tim Zinn	Washington County Department of Public Works
Aaron Frankenfeld	A/GFTC
Jack Mance	A/GFTC

2. **Approval of Release for Draft Long Range Plan for Public Review and Comment** – Aaron noted that the draft LRP was emailed to committee members in advance of this meeting.

A motion to open the draft document for a thirty day public comment period in advance of Policy Committee consideration at its September 20 meeting.

Moved by: Bob Rice

Seconded by: Stu Baker

Motion carried

Aaron offered to take back to this group for consideration the reforming of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee. A/GFTC used to have one but it was disbanded by staff on account of unproductive activity and behavior. With more structure, it could be productive. Bob Rice noted that the input from that aspect of the community with the parameters of what the MPO can influence or control would be productive. John Strough noted the ongoing efforts of the Adirondack Cycling Advocates and the Warren County Planning Department and suggested that there would be a number of interested participants. Laura Oswald added the Bikes Bring Business would be a valuable contributor. John and Ethan Gaddy noted that survey responses and outreach efforts indicate that this is a growing and supported focus area. Greg Wichser noted that new and emerging funding and program opportunities could also contribute to more productive collaborative efforts. The general concurrence of the Planning Committee is to forward this matter to the Policy Committee for consideration of re-establishing this committee.

6. **Unified Planning Work Program Project Updates:** Aaron briefly summarized updates on the Fort Edward Old Junction Locks, Fort Ann/ Empire State Trail connection, Rural Workforce Transportation Plan, White Creek pedestrian and parking plan, Argyle pedestrian plan, and Glens Falls sidewalk / ADA / pavement assessment projects.
7. **Update to Adjusted Urban Area Boundary** – Jack reported on the process to update the Adjusted Urban Area Boundary based upon the Census 2020 results. Maps were displayed showing the former boundaries, the new Census 2020 Urbanized Area, and the proposed new adjusted area boundary that is required to include the Census Urbanized Area in its entirety. The proposed boundary, already sent to NYSDOT for review based upon external timetables, now includes portions of the Town of Bolton and a small sliver in the Town of Fort Ann both by necessity. Laura Oswald noted that different agencies had different programmatic eligibility requirements based upon urban and rural designations and asked if there would be external implications of the adjusted boundary. Jack Mance and Bob Rice replied that there would not be – the direct result of this would be minor changes to federal aid eligibility based upon Functional Classification changes to a handful of Rural Collectors that would now be Urban Collectors within the new boundary. Maiken Holmes requested a more detailed map showing urban / rural transitions for County staff review.
8. **Transportation Improvement Program**
 - A. Project sponsor updates
 - 1) Warren County – Maiken Holmes provided updates on the Johnsbury bridge replacements, Olmsteadville Road reconstruction, Quaker Road rehabilitation, Adirondack bridge replacements, Hudson Street over Mill Creek bridge replacement, and Culvert NY projects.
 - 2) Washington County – Tim Zinn reported on developments on the CR 61 Batten – Dugan bridge replacement, Church Street bridge replacement, CR 37 pavement preservation, Gray Lane bridge replacement, Lock 8 bridge replacement and CR 3 bridge replacement projects.
 - 3) Saratoga County – Kim Lambert reported that there were no updates.
 - 4) City of Glens Falls – no report
 - 5) NYSDOT – Bob Rice reported on the Exit 17 bridge replacement, Exit 24 bridge replacement, NYS 254 emergency repair, Route 4 / Hampton resurfacing, and Gurney Lane 149 resurfacing projects. Celeste Harp and Kristen Morris have joined R1 Planning and Program Management and Randy Milano will join staff at the end of the month. Mark Pyskadlo will be retiring from NYSDOT and Sam Zhou is leaving NYSDOT to join the MBTA in Boston. Based on ensuing conversation, Bob offered to follow up with Wayne LaMothe on the status of the I-87 over Route 9 bridges in Lake George.

B. TIP amendments and modifications - Greg Wichser reviewed the listing of projects scheduled for obligation in FFY 2023 and FFY 2024, asking sponsors to consider deliverability of those projects and identify any candidates for deferral until FFY 24-25. Greg also noted that deferred projects could be readvanced if obligation was possible before September. Kevin Hajos noted that the Warrensburg sidewalks project appeared to be underway (*note – this was confirmed after the meeting*). In response to a question from Deb Donohue, Greg affirmed that this exercise applied only to construction obligation dates, not preliminary phases.

9. **Other Items of Interest** – Aaron reported that Wayne LaMothe has informed staff that this is his last meeting with A/GFTC.

10. **Next Meeting and Adjourn** – Policy Committee meeting on September 20, next Planning Committee is November 8.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 11:30 AM.

Moved by: Wayne LaMothe Seconded by: Kevin Hajos Meeting adjourned.