

**GENESEE TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL
PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING
Rochester City Hall
30 Church Street, Rochester**

April 12, 2018

PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Scott Leathersich, Monroe County – At-Large (Chairperson)
Angela Ellis, Livingston County (Vice Chairperson)
Mark Assini, Monroe County Supervisors' Association
James Bensley, Orleans County
Timothy Frelier, Monroe County
Erik Frisch, City of Rochester – At-Large
Todd Gadd, Wyoming County
Thomas Goodwin, Monroe County
David Hartman, Yates County
Thomas Hurley, NYS Thruway Authority
Kevin Rooney, Wayne County
David Zorn, Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council

ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT

Eric Farr, Rochester Genesee Regional Transportation Authority (RGRTA), representing Bill Carpenter
David Lindsay, Monroe County – At-Large
James McIntosh, City of Rochester, representing Norman Jones
Elizabeth Murphy, representing Dorraine Kirkmire
Christopher Sheridan, representing James Willer
BJ Scanlon, representing Andrea Guzzetta

PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT AND UNREPRESENTED

Maria Chau, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
Timothy Hens, Genesee County
Samuel Priem, Seneca County
Stephen Golding, Empire State Development Corporation
Steven Urlass, Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)
William Wright, Ontario County
(Vacant), Federal Transportation Administration (FTA)
(Vacant), NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC)

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Albert Blankley, Common Ground Health
Joseph Bovenzi, GTC staff
Michael Godfrey, Fisher Associates
Peter Houseknecht, Orleans County
Alex Kone, GTC staff
Joe Leone, UNiCON Rochester

Lori Maher, GTC staff
Chris Sichak, Erdman Anthony
James Stack, GTC staff
John Thomas, City of Rochester
Benjamin Woelk, Common Ground Health

1. Call to Order & Introductions

Scott Leathersich, Planning Committee Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. Members, Alternates, and others present introduced themselves.

2. Public Forum

No member of the public spoke during the Public Forum.

3. Approval of Minutes

Tim Frelier motioned to approve the minutes from the February 15, 2018 Planning Committee meeting; Jim Bensley seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as presented.

4. Reports and Action on Old Business

- a. Reports on UPWP Projects and Other Activities

GTC

Jim Stack reported:

- GTC Strategic Planning: NYSAMPO has provided a template for an Agreement to document process for conducting performance measurement among MPOs, transit operators, and NYSDOT. The goal is a common approach across the State. NYSDOT has indicated that they would sign Agreements that follow the template. Staff has customized the Agreement for GTC and RGRTA. A draft was shared with RGRTA Legal Counsel on April 11 for consideration. The MPO Directors are meeting April 13 and there is likely to be further discussion. The Agreement and corresponding Resolution will be presented for consideration at the May meeting.
- Regional Traffic Count Collection: Accepted by the GTC Board at its March 8 meeting. This task is complete and will be removed from the next Progress Report.
- Long Range Transportation Plan Update/Implementation: New York State needs to establish Performance Measures and specific targets for Pavement and Bridge conditions, as well as, System Performance by May 20. This will start the 180-day clock for GTC to establish its own Performance Measures and specific targets or agree to accept the State measures and targets. An Addendum for including these performance measures and targets will be presented at the August meeting so that they can be adopted by the GTC Board in September, in advance of the November deadline.
- Advancing Health-Informed Transportation Decision Making: To be presented for closeout under Item 5.c.1.

- Genesee-Finger Lakes Regional Local Bridge Vulnerability Assessment: The consultant and GTC have started debriefings with individual County Highway Departments for feedback before finalizing the analysis.
- Genesee-Finger Lakes Regional TSMO Strategic Plan: The consultant has provided a draft document for GTC staff review and comment prior to a draft document being sent to the Steering Committee. A seminar on updating the Regional ITS Architecture has been scheduled for April 16.
- Vulnerable Users Safety Assessment Program Phases 1 & 2: The second Steering Committee meeting was held March 13. The Steering Committee has narrowed the list of locations to be analyzed to 10. The consultant has started to collect data to prepare for Roadway Safety Audits.
- Congestion Management Process (CMP): GTC staff have integrated the CMP toolbox into LRTP 2040.
- Greater Rochester Regional Commuter Choice Program: ROCeasyride website is being promoted via Twitter. Staff continues work to increase exposure.
- Travel Time Data Collection Program: GTC staff continue to review the data to conduct brief assessments of major incidents and other events as applicable. INRIX has granted GTC trial access to its Roadway Analytics tool. Staff is comparing the results of this tool to the existing tool based on the parameters of past analyses to see if it is a more useful product.
- Lake Ontario State Parkway Lane Transportation Alternatives Feasibility Study: The March 14 Steering Committee meeting was postponed due to inclement weather. The meeting has been rescheduled for April 18. A draft technical memo was prepared for the March meeting and will be discussed at the April meeting. The Steering Committee will also consider various criteria to evaluate alternatives and begin discussion on development of alternatives.
- Transportation Impacts on Economic Development in the Greater Rochester International Airport (GRIA) Area: This project was always envisioned to begin after the first of the year. The Scope of Work is being developed and will likely be presented in May.
- Cross Asset Highway and Bridge Evaluation and Prioritization Tool: No new activity to report.
- Genesee-Finger Lakes Regional Flood Vulnerability Model: A Scope of Work will be presented for consideration under Item 5.a.1.

Angela Ellis reported:

- Livingston County Human Services Trip Planning Website: Due to technical issues, the public launch of the website had to be deferred to April. The website has been operational for testing and debugging. Jim Stack added that GTC has executed the first option to continue use of the software platform that runs the website.

G/FLRPC

David Zorn reported:

- Genesee Finger Lakes Region Local Update of Census Addresses 2020: The Census Bureau's Master Address File (MAF) was received in early-March. There is a 120-day window to provide updates to MAF but G/FL has secured two extra weeks.
- Regional Land Use Monitoring Report: Staff is collecting surveys for the 2017 report from all municipalities. The goal is to get to a 100 percent response rate.

Livingston County

Angela Ellis reported:

- Hamlet of Greigsville Transportation Safety & Access Improvement Plan: The draft report is complete. A closeout presentation is anticipated at the May Planning Committee.

Monroe County

Tom Goodwin reported:

- Monroe County Land Use Monitoring: Progress is being made on collecting 2017 information. Approximately 50 percent of surveys have been collected.

Tim Frelier reported:

- Monroe County Guiderail Inventory Program: Accepted by the GTC Board at its June 8 meeting.
- Monroe County High Accident Location Program: 21 studies were completed over 2017-2018 fiscal year. 49 sites, including both roadway segments and intersections are approved for study this fiscal year.

Ontario County

Jim Stack reported:

- County Road 16 Pedestrian & Bicycle Accommodations Feasibility Study: No progress to report.
- Ontario County Freight Corridor Development Plan: Accepted by the GTC Board at its December 14 meeting.

Orleans County

Jim Stack reported:

- Orleans County Sign Inventory Program: Accepted by the GTC Board at its March 8 meeting.
- Orleans County Guiderail Inventory Program: See the Orleans County Sign

Inventory Program above.

City of Rochester

Erik Frisch reported:

- City of Rochester Comprehensive Access & Mobility Plan: The kick-off meeting is held on February 21. The second steering committee meeting is scheduled on April 18. The Public Involvement Plan and Factbook outline will be reviewed.

Elizabeth Murphy reported:

- City of Rochester Mobility Enhancement Study: Over 400 responses have been received through MetroQuest. Analysis of built environment attributes will be presented in May.

RGRTA

Eric Farr reported:

- RGRTA Regional Operational Service Audit: Accepted by the GTC Board at its June 8 meeting.
- RTS Access Ridership and Facility Evaluation: A kick-off meeting was held on February 20. The consultant has completed the site, building, and operations analyses.
- RTS Route Overhaul and Refinement Analysis: The draft recommendations have been received from the consultant for internal review. The public release is scheduled for May 3.
- Super Transit Zones Development Study: Accepted by the GTC Board at its June 8 meeting.

Wyoming County

Todd Gadd reported:

- Wyoming County Guide Rail Installation Assessment: Accepted by the GTC Board at its December 14 meeting.

Other Agencies

Jim Stack reported:

- Silver Lake Trail Feasibility Study: Accepted by the GTC Board at its March 8 meeting. This task is complete and will be removed from the next Progress Report.
- Irondequoit Bay Outlet Bridge Alternatives Analysis Study: The Town is working with the Consultant on final edits to the report and Executive Summary. The project will be presented for closeout at the May meeting.

- Route 96 Transformative Corridor Strategic Infrastructure Plan: A Steering Committee meeting was held on March 7 where the draft final report was discussed. The Consultant has finalized the report and Executive Summary. The project was presented to the Town Board on March 26. The project will be presented for closeout at the May meeting.
- Uptown Canandaigua Mixed-Use & Transportation Corridor Feasibility Study: The first public meeting was held on March 14 to get input on issues and opportunities. A Steering Committee meeting was held on March 15. The project is progressing.
- Village of Scottsville Zoning Code Update: Accepted by the GTC Board at its December 14 meeting. This task is complete and will be removed from the next Progress Report.
- NYS Route 250 Transit Supportive Mixed Use Development District: Accepted by the GTC Board at its December 14 meeting. This task is complete and will be removed from the next Progress Report.
- Pittsford Active Transportation Plan: The project has been completed. Closeout presentation is expected at the May meeting.
- Geneva Active Transportation Plan: Accepted by the GTC Board at its September 7. This task is complete and will be removed from the next Progress Report.
- Town of Irondequoit Active Transportation Plan: Accepted by the GTC Board at its June 8 meeting. This task is complete and will be removed from the next Progress Report.

b. Any Other Old Business or Announcements

Jim Stack provided the following report:

Federal Legislative and Funding Update

Congress passed and the President signed the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018 on March 23. Included within this Omnibus budget bill is the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies or T-HUD Appropriations bill.

With regard to transportation, highlights include:

- a total of \$9.7 billion in new infrastructure spending, of which \$7.8 billion is for transportation-related activities;
- \$1.5 billion for TIGER, \$1 billion more than in fiscal year 2017;
- \$2.5 billion for Federal Highways to improve roads and bridges;
- \$2.6 billion for transit construction grants;
- a Bipartisan Budget Agreement for 2018 with funding for key transportation programs increased by \$9.9 billion from fiscal year 2017;

- almost \$3 billion in additional FHWA formula funding, which is \$2.5 billion more than the increases included in the Fixing America’s Surface Transportation (FAST) Act of 2015;
- \$9.73 billion for Transit formula grants with additional amounts above the FAST Act levels for certain programs, including:
 - \$400 million for State-of-Good-Repair formula grants; and
 - \$400 million for Bus and Bus Facilities grants;
- the TIGER program includes a 30 percent set-aside for rural projects, up from 20 percent in fiscal year 2017. This will result in \$450 million in new surface transportation projects for rural communities, an increase of \$340 million above fiscal year 2017;
- \$225 million is provided for a new rural bridge program;
- \$1.1 billion for Bus and Bus Facilities Grants, \$400 million more than the authorized level in the FAST Act with a 10 percent rural set-aside. This program funds the repair and replacement of buses and bus infrastructure;
- \$117 million for research and grants related to the safe deployment of Automated Vehicles, a \$111 million increase from fiscal year 2017; and
- language to ensure that research and grants will be conducted and awarded in both rural and urban areas.

As is typically the case with budgets, there were differences between the House and Senate bills. During the Conference process to reconcile the two bills, riders for an FHWA Rescission and the Woodall Amendment were dropped from the final bill. The rescission of FHWA contract authority in the fiscal year 2018 House bill would have cut into highway maintenance and construction funding for states, while the Woodall Amendment would have allowed states to cut pedestrian and environmental protection programs rather than proportional cuts to all funding programs. This provision could have been devastating for environmental protection programs, pedestrians, cyclists, and transportation planning.

Infrastructure

As mentioned at the last meeting, on February 12, the White House released a Legislative Outline for Rebuilding Infrastructure in America. This is the Administration’s vision for a large infrastructure package. Like the budget, it is subject to the Congressional legislative process.

There has not been much progress to implement legislation to enact this infrastructure vision. On April 4, Engineering News Record reported that both the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials and the American Council of Engineering Companies are expecting the infrastructure plan will come in targeted bills, not a wide-ranging one. In a comment attributed to a senior Trump administration official, instead of

pushing for a big infrastructure package, “it makes more sense ... for us to tack on things that the President cares about” to other bills Congress may move.

Keep in mind, the intention of the Administration’s vision is to use \$200 Billion of federal funds to leverage non-federal funds and achieve a total of \$1.5 Trillion in infrastructure investment. However, the federal investment does not represent new funding. Rather, there are cuts proposed to existing programs and a reallocation to the new programs.

Recent activity

On March 12, Lori Maher joined the GTC staff as the Program Manager for Community Engagement. Lori will focus on our interaction with member agencies and other stakeholders, as well as increasing our engagement with community and other advocacy groups. Additionally, she will enhance our media relations and social media activity.

On March 28, Jim Stack participated in a roundtable discussion in Kansas City, MO to discuss rightsizing infrastructure as part of a National Cooperative Highway Research Program study. Jim was invited to talk about the Inner Loop project that is getting significant recognition across the Country.

Besides the research team, the panel included:

- the Chief Engineer for the Missouri Department of Transportation;
- the Deputy Director – Technology & Strategic Planning for the Nebraska Department of Transportation;
- the Chief Capital Projects Officer for the City of Kansas City;
- the President/CEO of the Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce who is also a former Mayor of Kansas City, KS and a former head of Kansas City Area Transportation Authority;
- the Mayor of the City of Ypsilanti, MI;
- the Chief Sustainability Officer for the City and County of Denver; and
- the Executive Director of the Mid-America Regional Council, the MPO for the Kansas City metropolitan area.

To set his frame of mind, Jim worked on a statement of what rightsizing is and the group liked it enough that it will probably be included in the final report. He stated, “The key to rightsizing transportation infrastructure is to understand that this is not change for the sake of change. It is a deliberate exercise to better use our infrastructure to meet current and expected future transportation needs. In areas with aging infrastructure, the typical course of action is to replace the existing features in-kind while meeting current design standards to the extent practical. Considering that much of this infrastructure was built decades ago, it is incumbent upon us to ask what has changed

since the original decisions were made and does that design meet today's conditions and tomorrow's expectations?"

On April 4, Jim Stack was on a panel convened by Reconnect Rochester to discuss infrastructure policy and sustainability. This was part of Reconnect's Street Films program. The evening started with the screening of *Be Prepared to Stop*, a documentary film that talks about these challenges from the perspective of the freight transportation industry. Even though the film was about trucking, the trucking advocates were encouraging investment in transit and alternative modes to encourage fewer automobile trips that can cause challenges.

The panel discussion was moderated by Elissa Orlando from WXXI. The panel also included Jim Hoffman from Stantec, Rich Perrin from T.Y. Lin International, and Enid Cardinal from RIT.

5. Action Items

Scott Leathersich suggested moving item 5.c. forward in the agenda to accommodate the presenters' schedules. No Member or Alternate objected.

- c. Recommendation to the GTC Board concerning **accepting a report as evidence of completion of a UPWP Task**
 1. Recommendation to the GTC Board concerning **accepting the *Advancing Health-Informed Transportation Decision Making as evidence of completion of UPWP Task 5241* / Proposed Council Resolution 18-17 (Common Ground Health, sponsored by the City of Rochester)**

Albert Blankley and Benjamin Woelk from Common Ground Health presented the project findings. They describe the methodology of a Health Impact Assessment (HIA) and described the results of the assessment of the Genesee Valley Greenway and the Rochester Bike Share projects. They also described the insights learned from the process.

They noted that only two HIAs have been completed in New York State prior to this effort. Common Ground will be working with the Pew Charitable Trust to get these reports added to the HIA map and resources managed by Pew.

Erik Frisch motioned to recommend that the GTC Board adopt proposed Resolution 18-17; Angela Ellis seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.

a. Action concerning **consideration of UPWP Project Scope of Work**

Scott Leathersich suggested grouping Items 5.a.1. and 5.a.2. into a single action. No Member or Alternate objected.

1. Task 4103 – **Genesee-Finger Lakes Region Local Update of Census Addresses 2020**

David Zorn presented the proposed Scope of Work and discussed the project.

2. Task 7620 – **Genesee-Finger Lakes Regional Performance Monitoring and Evaluation System**

Joe Bovenzi presented the proposed Scope of Work and discussed the project.

3. Task 8621 – **Ontario Midland Strategic Plan**

Jim Stack explained that Brian Pincelli from Wayne County had planned to present this scope today but a meeting was rescheduled that created a conflict. He has asked that consideration of the scope be postponed until the next meeting.

Tom Goodwin motioned to approve the UPWP Project Scopes of Work for Tasks 4103 and 7620; Jim McIntosh seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.

b. Recommendation to the GTC Board concerning **amending the 2018-2019 Unified Planning Work Program** / Proposed Council Resolution 18-16

1. Recommendation to the GTC Board concerning **amending the 2018-2019 UPWP to reflect the reprogramming of FHWA Metropolitan Planning (PL) funds** / Proposed Council Resolution 18-16 (Orleans County)

Jim Bensley discussed Orleans County's request on behalf of the Village of Medina.

Jim Stack noted that, as mentioned in the transmittal memo, the requested change would reprogram \$15,000 of FHWA Metropolitan Planning (PL) funds allocated to Task 1600 – Program Reserve to Task 8776 – Maple Ridge Road Corridor Pedestrian and Bicycle Accommodations Feasibility Study. Orleans County has committed an additional \$1,000 of in-kind contributions. Task 1600 – Program Reserve is included in the UPWP to allow for changes in funding due to unforeseen expenses associated with existing UPWP projects in order to complete them in a quality fashion.

Jim Bensley motioned to recommend that the GTC Board adopt proposed Resolution 18-16; Dave Hartman seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.

6. New Business

- a. Presentation: Establishing a Regional Planning Framework for Connected and Automated Vehicles (GTC staff)

Joe Bovenzi delivered a presentation on regional planning considerations for Connected and Automated Vehicles.

The presentation is available at <http://www.gtcmpo.org/April2018Meeting>.

7. Public Forum

Mark Assini reported that the Town of Gates is working with the Genesee & Wyoming Railroad to repair crumbling retaining walls along one section of the railroad tracks over Brooks Avenue. He noted that Town crews have had to clean up concrete from the roadway.

- 9. Next Meeting:** May 10, 2018 at Ontario County Emergency Management
2914 County Road 48, Canandaigua

All materials for items to be considered at this meeting should be submitted to GTC staff no later than Friday, April 27, 2018.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:57 a.m.