

**GENESEE TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL
PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING**

**August 12, 2021
10:00 a.m.**

Due to physical distance requirements during the COVID-19 outbreak, this meeting was conducted online rather than in-person.

PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Angela Ellis, Livingston County (Vice Chairperson)
Rochelle Bell, Monroe County Planning Board
Erik Frisch, Rochester – At Large
Jay Gsell, Genesee / Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council
John Papponetti, Orleans County
Jim Pond, Monroe County Executive
Craig Prior, Yates County
Kevin Rooney, Wayne County
William Wright, Ontario County

ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT

Matthew Durawa, NYS Thruway Authority, representing Sean Carrington
Joel Kleinberg, NYS Department of Transportation, representing Chris Reeve

PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT AND UNREPRESENTED

Uzoma Anukwe, Federal Transit Administration
Bill Carpenter, Rochester Genesee Regional Transportation Authority
Maria Chau, Federal Highway Administration
Stephen Golding, Empire State Development Corporation
George Hebert, Monroe County Legislature
Tim Hens, Genesee County
Norman Jones, City of Rochester Mayor
David Lindsay, Monroe County – At Large
Kevin Kelley, Rochester City Planning Commission
Robert Kiley, Monroe County Supervisors' Association
Evelyn Martinez, Federal Aviation Administration
C. Mitchell Rowe, Seneca County
Vacant, Wyoming County
Vacant, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Josh Artuso, Town of Webster	Tim McElligott, Ontario County
Jody Binnix, GTC staff	Tsakhirmaa Nyamaa, Thruway Authority
Ken Boasi, RGRTA	Terry Rice, Barton & Loguidice
Joe Bovenzi, GTC staff	Chris Sichak, Erdman Anthony
Matt Chatfield, Webster EDA	Emily M Smith, Fisher Assoc
Mike Croce, Bergmann	James Stack, GTC staff
Alex Kone, GTC staff	Chris Tortora, GTC staff
Scott Le Vine from Transpro Group	Bob Williams, GTC staff
Yixuan Lin, Monroe County	Jason Wolfanger, Livingston County

1. Call to Order & Introductions

Angela Ellis, Planning Committee Vice-Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. Alex Kone conducted a roll call of Committee members and alternates. The names of other attendees were captured from meeting login information.

2. Public Forum

Nobody from the public spoke during the Public Forum.

3. Approval of Minutes

Jay Gsell moved to approve the minutes from the May 13, 2021 Planning Committee meeting; Erik Frisch seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.

4. Announcements and Old Business

James Stack did not have any announcements and noted that old business is resolved.

5. Action Items

a) Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

1. Action concerning consideration of **UPWP Project Scopes of Work**

a. Task 7213 – **Route 96 over Route 14 Strategic Divestment Analysis**

James Stack presented the Scope of Work for this project. He noted that the Route 96 bridge was identified by Region 4 as being in need of repair. The project was initially submitted as a TIP application but was withdrawn so the intersection can be evaluated as a strategic divestment project. Rather than assume the current grade-separated intersection is the best design, it will be analyzed to determine the feasibility of other designs that may be more appropriate for the setting, reduce life-cycle costs, and improve asset management. The study will include Ontario County Planning and the Town of Phelps to examine land use opportunities that may arise from a smaller intersection footprint.

The location will be used as a case study for how to examine existing infrastructure from a strategic divestment perspective. A companion document will be developed so that the process can be replicated at other locations in the region. The document can be used in other regions or states, if desired.

b. Task 7706 – **West Webster Hamlet Revitalization Plan**

Josh Artuso presented the Scope of Work for this project. He reported that the Town of Webster, with the Webster Economic Development Alliance, is seeking to strengthen the identity of the West Webster Hamlet as a

neighborhood center. The study will address transportation and land use development needs in the West Webster Hamlet and the adjacent Route 404 Corridor. The Study will include recommendations for land use, development, and transportation enhancements - specifically including bicycle and pedestrian connections. A total of three public meetings will be held over the course of the study.

Additionally, the hamlet center contains a concentration of poverty. New multi-modal connections and land use regulations will aim to make the hamlet and surrounding study area more amenable to those without access to a personal vehicle.

The Town has already conducted a public visioning exercise to determine future needs within the hamlet. The Study will continue the work that has already commenced.

c. **Task 8543 –RGRTA Regional City and Village Local Service Study**

Ken Boasi presented the Scope of Work for this project. He reported that the study will identify the best way to serve smaller cities and villages outside of Monroe County, and whether those best practices match the service currently provided in the study areas. RTS is also interested in pursuing other modes of transit currently not offered in any of its regional operations, such as on-demand ride hailing, on-demand ride sharing, and point deviated service. This study should also identify the feasibility of starting such services within the specified service areas.

d. **Task 8768 – Monroe County Countywide Active Transportation Master Plan**

Yixuan Lin presented the Scope of Work for this project. She reported that the plan will establish a clear vision for a safe, comfortable, and connected active transportation network for Monroe County, discover opportunities for network expansion and improvement, and develop implementation strategies. The planning process will develop a comprehensive plan to guide the County and its municipalities in implementing a countywide network of cycling and pedestrian facilities, programs, and policies so that residents of every ability can move between destinations safely, efficiently, affordably, and in a way that can benefit their health and the environment. Completion of the Plan will result in a document that stitches together existing mobility and active transportation plans and complements transit routes and schedules, to create an accessible and equitable countywide transportation system for all users.

Jim Pond motioned to approve the UPWP Project Scopes of Work for Tasks 7212, 7706, 8543 and 8768; Jay Gsell seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.

2. Recommendation to the GTC Board concerning **accepting reports as evidence of UPWP Tasks**

a. **Monroe County Land Use Monitoring Report** (UPWP Task 4210) / Proposed Council Resolution 21-52

Yixuan Lin of Monroe County presented the findings of the Monroe County Land Use Monitoring Report for 2020. It identifies proposed major development projects on an annual basis. The process includes outreach to all towns, villages and cities in Monroe County. The data presented in the Report is used for updating the land use data in GTC's travel demand model and the analysis of economic activity and trends.

There were 97 major projects that were given permits in 2020. The Towns of Henrietta and Greece continued to have the most permits. Across the County, there was an increase in residential permits but the total still remains lower than ten years ago. The impacts of COVID-19 are being monitored but the effects will likely take a couple of more years to be made clear.

Jay Gsell asked how a mixed-use project would be counted. Yixuan replied that there is a new category for mixed-use projects and that these will be shown in future reports. They are currently shown as commercial or residential.

Jay Gsell recommend approval of Resolution 21-52; Joel Kleinberg seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.

b) Transportation Improvement Program

1. Action concerning modifying the *FFYs 2020-2024 TIP*

Angela Ellis noted that PC Resolution 21-24 will now be discussed under proposed Council Resolution 21-78. She suggested grouping the following Items a through g and i through q into a single action. No Member or Alternate objected.

- a. **Deferring phases of the Rt 18 over Northrup and Smith Creeks Bridge Replacements project** / Planning Committee Resolution 21-17 (NYSDOT)
- b. **Deferring phases of the Rt 96 from Ontario CL to Garnsey Rd project** / Planning Committee Resolution 21-18 (NYSDOT)
- c. **Deferring a phase of the Rt 14 over CSX Bridge Deck Replacement project** / Planning Committee Resolution 21-19 (NYSDOT)
- d. **Deferring a phase of the I-390 over Erie Canal Barrier and Fascia Replacement project** / Planning Committee Resolution 21-20 (NYSDOT)
- e. **Deferring phases of the Bridge Joint Replacements at 18 Locations project** / Planning Committee Resolution 21-21 (NYSDOT)

- f. **Deferring phases of the Rt 250 over Thomas Creek Bridge Replacement project** / Planning Committee Resolution 21-22 (NYSDOT)
- g. **Deferring a phase of the I-590 Bridges over Rt 31 and Allens Creek Rd project** / Planning Committee Resolution 21-23 (NYSDOT)
- h. **Advancing phases of the Rt 15 (W Henrietta Rd) Preventive Maintenance from Rt 253 to Rt 252 project** / Planning Committee Resolution 21-25 (NYSDOT)
- i. **Advancing phases of the I-490 Preventive Maintenance (Garnsey Rd to I-90) project** / Planning Committee Resolution 21-26 (NYSDOT)
- j. **Advancing phases of the Gananda Pkwy (CR 205a) Preventive Maintenance (Rt 441 to Eddy Rd) project** / Planning Committee Resolution 21-27 (Wayne County)
- k. **Advancing phases of the CR 22 Preventive Maintenance (CR 4 to Rt 21) project** / Proposed Planning Committee Resolution 21-28 (Ontario County)
- l. **Advancing phases of the CR 8 Preventive Maintenance (Rt 96 to Wayne CL) project** / Planning Committee Resolution 21-29 (Ontario County)
- m. **Increasing the Construction cost of the Park Rd Preventive Maintenance project** / Planning Committee Resolution 21-30 (Town of Batavia)
- n. **Increasing the Construction cost of the Main Street Streetscape, Phase 2 project** / Planning Committee Resolution 21-31 (City of Rochester)
- o. **Increasing the Construction cost of the Farmington Rd Bridge over Ganargua Creek project** / Planning Committee Resolution 21-32 (Wayne County)
- p. **Increasing the Construction cost of the CR 62 (Bronson Hill Rd) Rehabilitation project** / Planning Committee Resolution 21-33 (Livingston County)

Angela asked if any members had questions on any of these projects. There were no questions.

Jay Gsell moved to approve Planning Committee Resolutions 21-17 through 21-23 and 21-25 through 21-33; Bill Wright seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.

2. Recommendation to the GTC Board concerning amending the *FFYs 2020-2024 TIP*

Angela Ellis noted that proposed Council Resolution 21-73 has been modified and Resolutions 21-78 through 21-80 have been added to the agenda per the request of NYSDOT and Ontario County. She suggested grouping the following

Items a through t and v into a single action while Items u and w through y would be a separate action. No Member or Alternate objected.

- a. **Advancing the Construction of the S Lyon St over Tonawanda Creek Bridge Replacement project** / Proposed Council Resolution 21-53 (Genesee County)
- b. **Deferring phases of the Bridge Steel Repairs at 24 Locations project** / Proposed Council Resolution 21-54 (NYSDOT)
- c. **Combining the Rt 31 from Rt 19 to west of Salmon Creek Rd & Rt 260 (Sweden Walker Rd), from Rt 31 to Rt 104 projects** / Proposed Council Resolution 21-55 (NYSDOT)
- d. **Deferring phases of the I-390 at Rt 383 Intersection Safety Improvements project** / Proposed Council Resolution 21-56 (NYSDOT)
- e. **Deferring phases of the Rt 204, Rt 33A to Rochester City Line project** / Proposed Council Resolution 21-57 (NYSDOT)
- f. **Increasing the cost of the State Street Reconstruction project** / Proposed Council Resolution 21-58 (City of Rochester)
- g. **Increasing the cost of the Pavement Markings (2023 & 2024) project** / Proposed Council Resolution 21-59 (NYSDOT)
- h. **Decreasing the cost of the I-390 over Plaza Drive Bridge Deck Replacement project** / Proposed Council Resolution 21-60 (NYSDOT)
- i. **Changing the scope of the Rt 31/Rt 64/Rt 96 Preventive Maintenance project** / Proposed Council Resolution 21-61 (NYSDOT)
- j. **Changing a source of Federal funding of the Highway Preventive Maintenance #9 project** / Proposed Council Resolution 21-62 (GTC on behalf of Monroe County)
- k. **Changing the scope of the Highway Preventive Maintenance #10 project** / Proposed Council Resolution 21-63 (Monroe County)
- l. **Changing the scope of the Large Culvert Replacement/ Rehabilitation project** / Proposed Council Resolution 21-64 (NYSDOT)
- m. **Increasing the cost of the Large Culvert Replacement/ Rehabilitation project** / Proposed Council Resolution 21-65 (NYSDOT)
- n. **Adding the I-390 Overhead Sign Structure Replacement project** / Proposed Council Resolution 21-66 (NYSDOT)
- o. **Adding the Structures Preventive Maintenance project** / Proposed Council Resolution 21-67 (NYSDOT)
- p. **Adding the Guiderail Preventive Maintenance project** / Proposed Council Resolution 21-68 (NYSDOT)
- q. **Adding the Rt 31 over the Erie Canal (Lyons) Bridge Deck Replacement project** / Proposed Council Resolution 21-69 (NYSDOT)

- r. **Adding the Rt 531 from Rt 259 to I-490 Preventive Maintenance project** / Proposed Council Resolution 21-70 (NYSDOT)
- s. **Adding the Rt 590 from Blossom Rd to Titus Ave and Rt 104 from Culver Rd to the Irondequoit Bay Bridge Preventive Maintenance project** / Proposed Council Resolution 21-71 (NYSDOT)
- t. **Adding the LOSP from Payne Beach Rd to Rt 390 project** / Proposed Council Resolution 21-72 (NYSDOT)
- v. **Deleting Railroad Crossing Improvement Project at Quaker Rd and Canandaigua Road project** / Proposed Council Resolution 21-74 (NYSDOT)

Jay Gsell moved to recommend approval of Resolutions 21-24 through 21-52 through 21-72 and 21-74; Joel Kleinberg seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.

- u. **Deferring the Construction of the Rt 63 Federal Lands Access Project – Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge project** / Proposed Council Resolution 21-73 (NYSDOT)

Joel Kleinberg reported that this project will be delivered by FHWA. Due to differences in accounting systems between NYSDOT and the Eastern Federal Lands office, additional time is required to process payments.

- w. **Increasing the Total Cost of the Rt 408 at I-390 Interchange project** / Proposed Council Resolution 21-78 (NYSDOT)

Joel Kleinberg reported an additional culvert accomplishment would be added to the project. NYSDOT Main Office is providing additional funding and the relatively small remainder would come from regional Planning Target funds.

- x. **Increasing the Total Cost of the Rt 15A (E Henrietta Rd), from I-90 (Thruway) to I-390 project** / Proposed Council Resolution 21-79 (NYSDOT)

Joel Kleinberg reported an additional culvert accomplishment would be added to the project. NYSDOT Main Office is providing the additional funding and no funds will be needed from regional Planning Targets.

- y. **Deferring phases of the Lakeshore Drive and Route 364 Sidewalks project** / Proposed Council Resolution 21-80 (Ontario County)

Tim McElligott reported that negotiations to secure needed right-of-way for the project are taking longer than anticipated and may potentially delay submission of the Plans, Specifications, and Estimates documents needed before construction obligation can occur. This may need happen before the submission deadline for the current federal fiscal year. He added that the project is using TAP funds that are not available to any other project.

Jay Gsell moved to recommend approval of Resolutions 21-73 and 21-78 through 21-80; Rochelle Bell seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.

w. Recommendation to the GTC Board concerning amending the ***TIP Procedures Manual***

Alex Kone reported that the proposed changes to the TIP Procedures Manual are the result of a series of conversations with the TIP Development Committee since the last update to the manual in 2018. He noted that those conversations were focused primarily on TIP Management but that GTC staff took the opportunity to refresh other sections of the Manual to update references to Federal regulations, air quality conformity status, and GTC planning documents.

He presented the updated Exhibit 4, Types of Amendments, and explained the changes to the table and respective actions for modifications to the TIP. The primary changes were related to the Change in Project Cost. The distinction between regional Planning Target and statewide Main Office funds was delineated and thresholds for amendments and modifications were revised. Other changes to the Exhibit were primarily clarifications.

Jay Gsell moved to recommend approval of Resolution 21-75; Jim Pond seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.

c) Long Range Transportation Plan

(No Action Items)

d) Related Activities

1. Recommendation to the GTC Board concerning **amending the *National Performance Measures Report for the Genesee-Finger Lakes Region*** / Proposed Council Resolution 21-76

Alex Kone reported the proposed amendments would update the highway safety targets for 2022 and adopt the transit safety measures and targets. He noted that transit safety targets are the last to be implemented from the performance measures required by the FAST Act. These targets were provided by RGRTA and are included in the Public Transit Agency Safety Plan, a product required of all urban service providers.

With regard to highway safety, Alex noted that New York State had not met targets for the Number and Rate of Serious Injury crashes in 2019. He stated that refined distinctions in reporting of Injuries based upon severity thresholds and more robust reporting in some areas of the State were driving a significant share of the year-over-year increase. NYSDOT will be submitting a Highway Safety Improvement Program Implementation Plan as a result. Alex stated that GTC will share that when available.

Bill Wright moved to recommend amending of the *National Performance Measures Report for the Genesee-Finger Lakes Region*; Erik Frisch seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.

2. Recommendation to the GTC Board concerning **adopting the *adopting the Genesee-Finger Lakes Region Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan Update*** / Proposed Council Resolution 21-77

Bob Williams described the federal requirements for coordinated plans and this Coordinated Plan Update development effort. The staff-designed planning process assembled an advisory committee comprised of representatives of each County in the region plus regional agencies including RGRTA, G/FLRPC, and Common Ground Health. A spatial analysis was conducted at the Census block group level, which examined concentrations of seniors, persons with disabilities, low-income households, and households without vehicle access. Key destinations for those who typically require specialized transportation were overlaid on composite demographic maps to better understand spatial mismatches.

Primary stakeholder outreach took the form of a questionnaire with a 40 percent response rate. Stakeholder agencies identified desired destinations of clients and barriers to accessing those destinations. Agencies also described their transportation provision efforts, funding sources, and barriers to expanding their offerings. Feedback was synthesized by County within the report.

The plan update contains ten recommendations:

- Mobility Managers
- Centralized Information and Reservation Platform
- Innovative Transit Service
- Contracted Service
- Vehicle and Administration Sharing
- Voucher Programs
- Private Partnerships
- Employment Access
- Education and Travel Training
- Environmental Barrier Mitigation

Stakeholders and the advisory committee were reengaged to prioritize recommendations. Over seventy percent of respondents considered mobility managers, a centralized platform, and innovative transit service to be high priorities. Over fifty percent of respondents considered employment access and voucher programs to be high priorities. These levels of prioritization are indicated in the strategy summary/implementation plan within the final report.

Jay Gsell asked if Department of Social Services – Office of the Aging funds could be also used for transportation. Angela Ellis noted that Livingston County agencies pool rides for clients and later picks the appropriate funding to reimburse for them.

Jay Gsell moved to recommend approval of Resolution 21-77; Joel Kleinberg seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.

6. Reports

a) Status of UPWP Projects

GTC - Jim Stack reported:

- GTC Strategic Planning: Staff is staying informed of the Biden Administration and Congressional negotiations to pass an infrastructure stimulus program and new surface transportation legislation to succeed the FAST Act. He noted that he will have more to report on legislation later in the meeting.
- Long Range Transportation Plan Update/Implementation: The LRTP 2045 was adopted by the GTC Board on June 10.
- Genesee-Finger Lakes Scenario Tool: GTC staff have been working with Genesee County on various scenarios for the County Comprehensive Plan and the City of Rochester in support of the West Main Street study.
- I-490 Integrated Corridor Management (ICM) Plan: Staff have discussed recommendations with RTOC staff. The steering committee has reviewed various alternatives. The consultant is preparing the final report.
- Travel Time Data Collection Program: Staff have met with INRIX staff on analyses that can be conducted in support of planning for the 2024 Eclipse.
- Genesee-Finger Lakes Regional Performance Measurement Monitoring & Evaluation System: Staff have been coordinating with RTOC staff and the consultant on database development, template design, and function development.
- Cross Asset Highway and Bridge Evaluation and Prioritization Tool: No new activity

G/FLRPC – Jay Gsell reported:

- Regional Land Use Monitoring – The final data collection is underway and the close out is expected at the October meeting.
- Implementing Complete Streets in the G-FL Region; A Guidebook: The final guidebook is being developed.
- Regional Fleet Electrification Study: New pilot projects are being discussed with prospective partners.

Livingston County – Angela Ellis reported:

- Livingston County Mobility Management Strategy: The final draft report is being reviewed by the Steering Committee and is expected to be presented to the Planning Committee in October. The Mobility Management service is currently out for procurement.

Monroe County – Rochelle Bell reported:

- Land Use Monitoring: This project was discussed earlier in the meeting under Item 5.a.2.a.

Monroe County – Jim Pond reported:

- Monroe County High Accident Location Program: Eight additional locations have been evaluated since the last meeting, which completes the twenty-eight locations for 2020-2021. The first three of thirty-four locations for the 2021-2022 list are also complete.
- Monroe County Traffic-Signal/Sign Pole Asset Management: The consultant has completed data collection on the assets. The report detailing the findings is expected later this month.

NYS DOT – Joel Kleinberg reported:

- Ramp Reconfiguration Study: The third Steering Committee meeting was held on June 28 to review the draft report detailing the findings of the Needs Assessment. The next Steering Committee meeting will be held in August/September to discuss alternatives and modeling results..

Ontario County – Jody Binnix reported:

- State Route 332 & Route 96 Sub-Area Study: The final report has been received and the recommendations presented at a public meeting on August 17.

City of Rochester – Erik Frisch reported:

- West Main Street Multimodal Transportation and Placemaking Study: The project team conducted five pop up events in July to collect feedback on corridor concepts. The preferred concepts are being refined in advance of a public meeting in September.

RGRTA – James Stack reported:

- RTS System Redesign: The redesigned RTS system was launched on May 17th. The fixed route services are going well. There are growing pains with RTS On Demand, where demand is exceeding anticipated ridership in a number of zones. RTS is exploring options to expand service in those zones.

Wayne County – Jody Binnix reported:

- Ontario Midland Strategic Plan: The recommendations were finalized and a public meeting was held on June 8. The consultant provided a draft final report on August 6. A final steering committee meeting is being scheduled, likely before the end of the month.

Other Agencies – GTC staff reported:

- Village of Waterloo Circulation, Accessibility and Parking (CAP) Study: The consultant prepared recommendations and concepts that the Project Advisory Committee reviewed at a meeting on August 5.
- Village of Perry Transportation Safety and Access Study: Staff used PublicInput.com to support the study. The public site went live in mid-June. A public survey went live on July 6. A public meeting is being held this afternoon.
- Beh Industrial Park Traffic Optimization Study: The consultant met with businesses in the industrial park to better understand issues and concerns. The consultant prepared a technical memo documenting the Needs Assessment. The steering committee met August 11 to review the findings.
- Canandaigua Waterfront Active Transportation Plan: A public workshop to present alternatives and obtain feedback on June 14, the workshop was simultaneously in-person and remote. The consultant sought feedback from the steering committee on July 13 before documenting preferred alternatives in a draft report. The draft report is expected later this month.

Completed Projects:

- Wayne County High Accident Locations Program
- Livingston County Downtown Wayfinding Master Plan
- Route 390 Multi-Use Trail Restoration and Safety Improvement Study
- Lake Ontario State Parkway Transportation Alternative Feasibility Study
- Mt. Morris-Leicester Route 36 Corridor Study
- O'Rorke Bridge Operations and Maintenance Analysis and Strategy
- Gananda Parkway Pedestrian & Bicycle Active Transportation Plan
- Middle Cheshire Road & Health Care Services Corridor Active Transportation Plan

b) TIP Staff Modifications

Alex Kone reported that since the last Planning Committee meeting that there were five Staff Modifications:

Add New Non-Federal Funding

- Park Rd Preventive Maintenance (Town of Batavia)

Reduce Phase Costs

- City of Batavia Highway Preventive Maintenance (City of Batavia)

Modify Phases with no change in Total Cost or Federal Share

- County Line Rd over Jeddo Creek Bridge Replacement (Orleans County)

Correct typographical errors

- Rt 390 Preventive Maintenance and Bridge Rehabilitation from Lexington Ave to Rt 104 (NYSDOT)
- Stones Falls Rd Over Mill Creek Superstructure Replacement (Livingston County)

c) Federal Legislative and Funding Update

James Stack reported that on August 10, the US Senate passed HR 3648, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). The bipartisan infrastructure framework agreement between the President and a bipartisan group of Senators formed the foundation for the Act. The final vote was overwhelmingly bipartisan with 69 ayes to 30 nays.

The bill provides \$383 billion in contract authority from the Highway Trust Fund for the 5-year surface transportation bill. The current FAST Act expires on September 30. The IIJA would succeed the FAST Act. IIJA also provides an additional \$184 billion in advance appropriations for transportation programs to be released in equal installments on October 1 of each year for the next five years. This amounts to \$567 billion in guaranteed funding over five years, which is a \$274 billion over a 5-year projection of the final year of the FAST Act.

With Senate passage the bill will now be sent to the US House of Representatives. Although the House is on a scheduled recess until September 20, Leader Steny Hoyer has indicated he will bring the House into session the evening of August 23 to take up the bill and will stay in session until the business is concluded. The House needs 281 votes to pass the bill assuming there are no changes. If the House makes changes, there will be a need for a Conference Committee to work out the differences.

Highlights of the bill include:

- \$318.6 billion for Highways from the Highway Trust Fund, an increase of 41% over the FAST Act
- \$70.0 billion for Transit Formula from the Highway Trust Fund, an increase of 43% over the FAST Act
- \$15.0 billion for Transit Capital Investment Grants from the General Fund, an increase of 30% over the FAST Act

More specifically, the bill includes:

Formula Programs

- \$5.5 billion per year for Bridge Formula
- \$2.05 billion per year for Transit Infrastructure grants
- \$5 billion for EV Charging Infrastructure
- \$4.75 billion for State of Good Repair grants

Discretionary Programs

- Discretionary grants from the HTF for a Bridge Investment Program starting at \$600 million in FFY 2022 increasing to \$700 million in FFY 2026
- The Transportation Alternatives Program is being increased from \$850 million in the final year of the FAST Act to \$1.384 in the first year of IIJA and \$1.498 billion in the final year while expanding eligibility to include Safe Routes to School and Vulnerable Road User safety projects

Competitive Programs

- \$1.847 billion per year from the General Funds for the same Bridge Investment Program noted above
- \$640 million per year for INFRA grants for freight projects
- \$100 million per year for a Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program
- \$3 billion for a Railroad Crossing Elimination grant program
- \$5.25 billion for a Low-No Emission Bus grant program
- \$8 billion for a Capital Investment grant program

New Programs

- \$1 billion per year for a National Infrastructure Project Assistance competitive grant program
- \$1.5 billion per year for a Local and Regional Project Assistance competitive grant program
- \$5 billion for a Safe Streets and Roads for All competitive grant program
- \$1 billion for a Culverts competitive grant program
- Establishes a Carbon Reduction Program with 65% of a State's funds suballocated to urbanized areas by population
- Establishes the Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-saving Transportation or PROTECT program. Our adopted vulnerable critical transportation infrastructure studies help position our region for this program

d) Other GTC matters

There were no other matters to report.

e) Public Engagement Highlights

Jim Stack reported there were two new and ongoing public involvement opportunities in the region in the month of August. These included both GTC-led initiatives and local agency projects. He requested that project sponsors keep Lori Maher informed of any additional public input opportunities so that GTC staff can support promotion of them.

f) Member Agency and Partner Updates

No member had any updates.

7. New Business

Active Transportation Advisory Group

James Stack reported that he had continued discussion with Rochester City Council member Mitch Gruber about establishing an Active Transportation Advisory Group, facilitated by GTC staff. He requested the Planning Committee's recommendation to the Board to establish the Advisory Group.

Erik Frisch welcomed the new Advisory Group and promised City staff participation. He noted his appreciation for the broader focus since many issues extend across jurisdictional lines.

Bill Wright asked if such an Advisory Group would be duplicative of opportunities for stakeholders and public input are already available. He inquired about the process for advancing input and recommendations to the Planning Committee and then Board. Angela Ellis stated that it may be an additional layer of review that is not necessary.

Joel Kleinberg asked how the upcoming Monroe County and City of Rochester Active Transportation Plans would coordinate with the Advisory Group. He requested that GTC staff review similar committees at peer MPOs and present that with a proposal at the next Planning Committee meeting.

James Stack noted that, to satisfy the GTC By-Laws, the Board could direct the Planning Committee to define the Advisory Group and its specific functions. He proposed seeking that authorization at the August 26 Board meeting then presenting a review of peer MPO approaches and full proposal at the October 14 Planning Committee meeting.

The members present concurred with that proposal.

8. Public Forum

No member of the public spoke during the Public Forum.

9. Next Meeting

Angela Ellis noted that the next meeting is scheduled for October 14, 2021 at NYSDOT-Region 4.

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:12 PM.