

**GENESEE TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL
PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING**

**CityPlace
50 West Main Street, Rochester
and via PublicInput.com**

**January 5, 2023
10:00 a.m.**

PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

John Boser, NYS Thruway Authority
Devin Blue, Wyoming County
Dominic Fekete, City of Rochester – At Large
Tom Frys, Monroe County Executive
Kevin Kelley, City of Rochester – Planning Commission
Scott Leathersich, Monroe County – At-Large (Chairperson)
Gautam Mani, Federal Highway Administration
John Papponetti, Orleans County
Richard Perrin, City of Rochester – Mayor
Kevin Rooney, Wayne County
C. Mitchell Rowe, Seneca County
James Smith, Rochester City Council
Miguel Velázquez, Rochester Genesee Regional Transportation Authority

ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT

David Dunning, Monroe County Supervisors' Association
Yixuan Liu, Monroe County Planning Board, representing Rochelle Bell
Joel Kleinberg, NYS Department of Transportation, representing Chris Reeve
Tim McElligott, Ontario County, representing Bill Wright

PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT AND UNREPRESENTED

Uzoma Anukwe, Federal Transit Administration
Angela Ellis, Livingston County
Stephen Golding, Empire State Development Corporation
George Hebert, Monroe County Legislature
Tim Hens, Genesee County
David Lindsay, Monroe County – At-Large
Evelyn Martinez, Federal Aviation Administration
Douglas Rapalee, Yates County
Richard Sutherland, Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council
Vacant, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Jody Binnix, GTC staff	Lori Maher, GTC staff
Joe Bovenzi, GTC staff	James Stack, GTC staff
James Bragg, Wyoming County	Mary Staropoli, Reconnect Rochester
Eric Farr, RGRTA	Bob Williams, GTC staff
Alex Kone, GTC staff	

1. Call to Order & Introductions

Scott Leathersich, Planning Committee Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 10:02 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

Joel Kleinberg moved to approve the minutes from the November 10, 2022 Planning Committee meeting; Richard Perrin seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.

4. Announcements and Old Business

GTC Office

James Stack reported that the GTC office will be moving in early 2023 to the 5th floor within the CityPlace building owned by Monroe County.

2023 NYSAMPO Conference

James Stack reported that the New York State Association of MPOs is sponsoring its bi-annual MPO conference in Syracuse in May. He noted that member agencies and their staff are welcome to attend. There is no registration fee.

2024 Eclipse Workshops

James Stack reported that the local planning task force will be meeting again on January 11. He also noted that the Governor's office has initiated convening a multi-agency task force for statewide planning.

BRIDGE NY

James Stack reported that the NYSDOT solicitation for bridge and culvert projects was shared with jurisdictions across the region. Staff from GTC, NYSDOT-Region 4, and local jurisdictions will comprise a local evaluation team. The recommended projects will be reviewed by the TIP Development Committee and Planning Committee prior to GTC Board consideration in June.

Joel Kleinberg confirmed that the deadline for culverts is January 13 and bridges is January 20.

AMPO Policy Committee

James Stack reported that he has been appointed to the national Association of MPOs Policy Committee. He will serve a three-year term that starts this month. He noted that he will be part of a committee that helps formulate positions related to transportation

policy and helps inform congressional committees and their staff on transportation legislation and rule-making issues.

PC Resolution 23-1

James Stack reported that the proposed UPWP modification was presented at the November meeting but action was deferred. The modification would utilize some of the funding under the Complete Streets Program (Task 5540) to support Reconnect Rochester Complete Streets Makeover program. He provided a clarification that while the budget is \$60,000, \$51,292.40 is the IIJA-required set-aside for Complete Streets planning. He noted that FHWA will be tracking this 2.5% amount separately from other Metropolitan Planning funds and these should be distinguished in the UPWP.

He noted that the proposed modification would specify support for Reconnect Rochester's Complete Street Makeover program as part of Task 5540.

Mary Staropoli from Reconnect Rochester provided an overview of the program. She highlighted the design charettes with neighborhood partners to identify issues and proposed unique solutions. The significant change in speeds, as a result of the projects, have been a success. At the most recent installation at Orange and Orchard Streets, the average speed on Orchard Street decreased 20%, the 85th percentile speed declined 28%, and maximum speed declined 26%. She emphasized that reducing speeds can reduce the potential of crashes and reduce the severity of those that occur.

Mary stated that past pilot installations have provided a basis for the City of Rochester to make permanent street design improvements. Parsells Avenue, which was the site of the first project in 2018, now has permanent raised crosswalks at two locations. On North Clinton Avenue, which was the site of the second project in 2019, there are now crosswalks where they were none previously. She noted that the intersection of Arnett Boulevard and Warwick Street will be the next installation.

She acknowledged the financial and pro bono contributions of Stantec, Common Ground Health, and GTC to date. She expressed her appreciation for consideration of a financial contribution through the UPWP to provide more funding stability for the program.

Tom Frys asked how soon after the projects were completed were the speed studies conducted. Bob Williams confirmed that they were approximately one month after installation. He noted that these installations were temporary and removed for the winter seasons but that the raised crosswalks on Parsells Avenue could be studied for longer-term effects.

Joel Kleinberg asked if the proposed action would be for one year or a longer term. James Stack responded that the action would only modify the existing UPWP and that future years would follow the UPWP Call for Project Partnerships process.

Gautam Mani confirmed that GTC is coordinating with NYSDOT Main Office on the proper accounting of the Complete Streets set-aside in the UPWP and NYSDOT's financial system while further guidance from FHWA is pending. He also confirmed that supporting a 501(c)3 organization, such as Reconnect Rochester, is an eligible use of these funds.

James Stack informed the Planning Committee that \$8,153.75 cents, is the proposed GTC contribution, representing 25% of Reconnect Rochester's estimated staff time.

Kevin Kelley moved to approve Planning Committee Resolution 23-1; James Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.

5. Action Items

a) Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

1. Approval of the Draft *FY 2023-2024 Unified Planning Work Program* for Public Review

Jody Binnix reported the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), is the program of federally-funded transportation planning activities to be undertaken by GTC staff, its member agencies, and other jurisdictions in the nine-county Genesee-Finger Lakes Region. The Fiscal Year 2023-2024 UPWP will support planning activities for the period beginning April 1, 2023 and ending March 31, 2024. Projects included in the current UPWP that are not complete as of March 31, 2023 will be rolled over into the FY 2023-2024 UPWP.

GTC staff solicited UPWP proposals on September 9. The deadline for applications was October 14. Staff worked with the UPWP Development Committee (UDC), consisting of representatives of the member agencies in the Metropolitan Planning Area, to prioritize project proposals.

An updated UPWP application was used for this cycle of funding. The new application considers the ten planning factors identified in federal transportation planning guidance that MPOs must address and asked applicants to consider the recommendations presented in the Long Range Transportation Plan for the Genesee-Finger Lakes Region 2045 (LRTP 2045) as they related to their proposal.

About \$1.1 million was made available for new projects. GTC received applications for 20 projects requesting about \$1.5 million dollars or around 30 percent more federal funds than available.

The UDC met in November and December. The efforts of the UDC resulted in a recommended project list, provided in the meeting package, for your consideration for public review along with a full draft UPWP document, that was also included in the meeting package. Jody highlighted the new project proposals that were recommended to be funded.

All UPWP applicants have been notified of the UDC's decision regarding their application and information on the UPWP public review process. Applicants that did not receive funding, were given a brief explanation as to why their application was not successful and GTC staff have offered to meet with them once the UPWP and funding decisions have been finalized.

GTC staff will be adding a clarification to the Draft Project List. The Regional Land Use Monitoring Report application for 2023 is currently listed as not recommended for funding. However, this application was actually withdrawn by Genesee-Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council, as the project is able to be funded through existing balances already assigned to the Task.

Jody noted that, upon Planning Committee approval of the draft project list and draft UPWP, a 30-day public review will commence on Monday, January 9 and end on Wednesday, February 8. GTC will be conducting the public review process virtually, using the Public Input platform. Any comments received will be shared for the Committee's consideration at the February 9 meeting.

The GTC Board is expected to adopt the UPWP at its February 23 meeting so that it can be transmitted to NYSDOT-Main Office, FHWA, and FTA ahead of the March 1 deadline. The UPWP will go into effect on April 1, 2023. Jody thanked members of the UDC for the assistance and time during the UPWP development process.

Richard Perrin moved to approve the Draft *FY 2023-2024 Unified Planning Work Program* for Public Review; Tom Frys seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.

2. Action concerning consideration of UPWP Project Scopes of Work
 - a. Task 5701 – Regional Safety Plan

Alex Kone presented the Scope of Work for this project. This project will develop a regional safety plan that aligns the NYSDOT *Strategic Highway Safety Plan* and local initiatives to guide GTC and its partners' planning recommendations, programmatic activities, and funding decisions to reduce fatal and serious injury crashes across all modes for Federal, State, Regional, and Local objectives.

The project Tasks are derived from the Comprehensive Safety Action Plan framework from the US Department of Transportation's Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) program. The project is intended to create a regional framework for multi-modal safety strategies that align local engineering, enforcement, education, and emergency response (4 E's) initiatives to achieve regionally adopted safety targets.

The consultant will conduct analysis of the transportation network to identify existing crash patterns and identify additional areas of potential risk for vulnerable road users. The analysis is intended to align with the NYSDOT Annual Work Program and provide a region-wide focus for safety management per the AASHTO Highway Safety Manual. The Steering Committee will review the screening results and discuss any technical issues, planned projects, or other issues to develop a GTC Annual Work Program.

In consultation with the Steering Committee, the consultant will develop recommendations for capital projects, programs, and other strategies to help achieve the targets approved by the GTC Board.

b. Task 8611 – Genesee-Finger Lakes Regional Freight Plan Update

Jody Binnix, GTC staff, presented the Scope of Work for this project. The purpose of the Regional Freight Plan Update is to update the original 2012. The 2012 plan was the first comprehensive freight plan conducted for the nine-county Genesee-Finger Lakes Region.

The Freight Plan Update will explore the changes that have taken place over the past decade in the context of goods movement regarding the economy, consumer demand and expectations surrounding e-commerce, physical improvements to the freight transportation network, supply chain disruptions - particularly disruptions and lessons learned from the pandemic, workforce development opportunities, and emerging technologies including connected, autonomous and automated vehicles.

A primary objective of the 2012 plan was to develop goods movement strategies that would position the regional transportation system as a distinguishing factor in retaining and attracting both traditional and emerging-technology manufacturing firms, as well as enhancing the viability of agriculture. This objective remains relevant and will be continued with the Update. An additional objective will be to explore opportunities in workforce development in the freight sector. The needs of the freight sector are changing, and skilled workers are needed in both the logistics and manufacturing industries, while the trucking industry's workforce continues to age and lacks qualified drivers.

The tasks in the Scope of Work closely align with the original 2012 plan, as this project is meant to be an update not an entirely new process. Future freight flows will be projected out to 2050 to align with the development of the next Long Range Transportation Plan that also has a horizon year of 2050. The original plan aligned the needs assessment with the Long Range Transportation Plan's goals and objectives at the time. The update will instead, align the needs assessment with the five recommendation groups identified in the current Long Range Transportation Plan as they relate to goods movement: 1. Health and Safety, 2. Access and Equity, 3. System Management and Maintenance, 4. Sustainability and Resilience, 5. Economic Development. This will help the staff transfer the components of the Freight Plan Update, being a major systems plan, to the next Long Range Transportation Plan development process.

This project is classified as a Planning/Policy project. Throughout the planning process, special emphasis will be placed on engaging private sector to solicit input on the needs and resulting recommendations. An on-going challenge, as with any freight related planning project, is to engage the

private sector in the planning process. Jody asked Committee members to share any private sector freight contacts with GTC staff to assist with the public engagement process.

Tom Fry moved to approve the UPWP Scopes of Work for Tasks 5701 and 8611; **Joel Kleinberg** seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.

3. Recommendation to the GTC Board concerning accepting reports as evidence of UPWP Tasks / Proposed Council Resolution 23-2
 - a. Task 7620 – Genesee-Finger Lakes Regional Performance Management Monitoring and Evaluation System / Proposed Council Resolution 23-2 (GTC)

Joe Bovenzi, GTC staff, presented the Executive Summary for this project. He reported that the purpose of the project was to establish a program for evaluating transportation system performance data generated at the Regional Transportation Operation Center (RTOC) and reporting performance measures based on that data.

The project was advanced in two phases. In Phase I, the focus was on understanding the RTOC's needs in terms of performance measurement, including analyzing what operations data is being collected and stored and how it is being used. In Phase II, the focus was on developing and implementing a performance measurement system that combined service dispatching with performance data generation. A Steering Committee was formed with representatives of the New York State Department of Transportation-Region 4 (NYSDOT-R4), the Monroe County Department of Transportation (MCDOT), and the Genesee Transportation Council (GTC). The study was focused on the RTOC facility. This project emphasized maximizing the use of data collected as part of the RTOC's routine activities instead of bringing in additional sources of external data.

Phase I involved three main tasks. First, an inventory of transportation operations data collection and management practices at the RTOC was developed. Second, a needs assessment that identified the RTOC's data management and analysis requirements was prepared. The inventory included a review of best practices in transportation operations data collection and management from states and metropolitan areas around the country. Third, an alternatives analysis that identified desired performance measures and the system capabilities required to track and report those measures was completed.

The results of Phase I led to the development of Phase II, which produced a web-based system that combines the RTOC's dispatching services with the ability to readily extract operations data for performance measurement. Based on the findings of Phase I, the project team determined that implementing a system that combined these functions was the optimal approach as it would ensure that performance metrics were derived directly from operations data.

The system is organized as follows: When operators log into the system, they land on the Dashboard, which provides them with a summary of current conditions on the transportation system and access to a series of modules for specific functions. The dashboard includes a list of active incidents, a map view of ongoing activities, and a messages section. From the dashboard, operators can access individual modules, including Ticketing, Supervisor Notices, Phone Directory, Driver (for HELP truck dispatching), Intelligent Transportation System, Work Zone, Digsafe, Reports, Settings, and Logout.

The core function of the system is the Ticketing module, which enables operators to track problems from initial detection through to resolution. An operator creates a "ticket" when an issue is reported or detected. This ticket helps operators monitor the response to an issue and provides a way of ensuring that operators maintain situational awareness of active issues. Tickets provide operators with up-to-date information on the status of an incident that they can use to respond to agency requests for information about an event. Ticket types include, but are not limited to: Crash, used to report crashes and monitor incident response activities; Roadway/ Infrastructure, used to report problems such as potholes or debris in the road; and Signals, used to report malfunctioning traffic signals. Data from the ticketing module can be used to identify trends in service calls, potential improvements to incident responses, or problem areas on a specific stretch of roadway. Through the Reports module, operations data can be exported to PDF or Excel format to allow for more detailed analysis of service trends.

This project should be understood as a work in progress. The initial system development has been completed, but the system is designed so that the current modules can be modified, and additional modules added on an as-needed basis. This can be done internally by the RTOC staff without the need for external support. RTOC staff anticipate that this system will enable significant improvements in service delivery by providing more efficient dispatching and enhancing data-driven decision-making.

Tom Fry moved to recommend approval of Resolution 23-2; Rich Perrin seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.

b) Transportation Improvement Program

(No Action Items)

c) Long Range Transportation Plan

(No Action Items)

d) Related Activities

(No Action Items)

6. Reports**a) Status of UPWP Projects**

GTC - Jim Stack reported:

- GTC Strategic Planning: Jim Stack is working on a 3-5 year Strategy for the organization for concurrence by GTC leadership.
- IIJA/BIL Implementation: No activity to report.
- Long Range Transportation Plan Update/Implementation: No activity to report.
- Staff Technical Assistance: Task is complete for FY 2022-2023.
- Household Travel Data Collection: Staff has been gathering information on various data sets that are available and can be integrated into an updated Travel Demand Model.
- Active Transportation Program: No activity to report.
- Complete Streets Program: GTC staff are waiting on guidance from FHWA before advancing too much on this task; however, increased support of Reconnect Rochester's Complete Streets Makeover program was discussed under Old Business.
- Safety Planning: Scope of Work considered under Item 5.a.1.
- Genesee-Finger Lakes Regional Resiliency Plan: Staff is developing a Scope of Work based on guidance associated with the discretionary portion of the PROTECT grant program. I am hopeful we can present the scope in February.
- Congestion Management Process: No activity to report.
- Travel Time Data Collection Program: No activity to report.
- Rt. 96 over Rt. 14 Strategic Divestment Analysis: Three proposals were received by the December 16 deadline. Staff is working with the Evaluation Team to schedule a meeting to discuss and pick firms to interview.
- Genesee-Finger Lakes Regional Performance Measurement Monitoring & Evaluation System: Project was presented for closeout under Item 5.a.2.
- Transportation Performance Management Enhancement Project: RFP is currently being finalized and is expected to be released this month.
- Genesee-Finger Lakes Regional Freight Plan Update: Scope of Work considered under Item 5.a.1.

G/FLRPC – Richard Sutherland reported:

- Regional Land Use Monitoring (2022): The 2022 Regional Land Use Monitoring Project will start sending out the survey by the beginning of February.
- The Last Mile (or less): Site Plan Review for Multimodal Transportation: Staff is completing the inventory and analysis spreadsheet. They are working on a survey on municipal site plan review process to be sent out to planning boards or other applicable departments in January.

Livingston County – Joe Bovenzi reported:

- Lakeville Corridor Strategic Plan: Data collection and inventory development are underway. The first Steering Committee meeting was held December 1. A project site walkabout was conducted following this meeting.

Monroe County – Yixuan Lin and Tom Frys reported:

- Land Use Monitoring (2022): The 2022 permit survey will be sent to jurisdictions in February/March.
- Monroe County High Accident Location Program: Evaluations at 33 of 36 locations on the 2021 list are complete. 50 new locations, including 18 intersections, have been identified for the next HAL list.
- Monroe County Comprehensive Active Transportation Plan: The Implementation Strategies are being developed. Two more Project Advisory Committee meetings are scheduled. The final report is expected to be complete in May.

NYS DOT – Joe Bovenzi reported:

- Regional Traffic Operations Center (RTOC) Strategic Plan: The consultant prepared a draft Needs Assessment for Steering Committee review and comment. The draft was discussed at the December 12 meeting.
- City of Rochester Downtown Sign Assessment: The first Steering Committee meeting was held December 7. Data collection and inventory development are underway.

Ontario County – Jody Binnix reported:

- Ontario County Freight Rail Corridor Development Plan - Area 2: A pre-project meeting was held December 20 to review comments on draft RFP and discuss project expectations. The RFP is being finalized.

City of Rochester – Dominic Fekete reported:

- City of Rochester Active Transportation Master Plan: The Existing Conditions analysis is complete and committee comments are addressed. Recommendations are being reviewed by City Staff. A Project Advisory Committee meeting will be held in February prior to public review.

RGRTA – Eric Farr reported:

- RTS System Performance Monitoring and Refinement: Quarterly fixed-route adjustments were undertaken in early December. On Demand service changes will be taking effect in January.
- Rural Village and City Local Route Study: The project is expected to be completed in March.
- Rural On Demand Transit Study: Three proposals were received and interviews with firms were held on January 4.
- On Route Charging Feasibility Study: The final draft is under development and

includes an addendum of an electrical load study with RG&E to understand how much load can be added to RGTRA Main Campus.

Wyoming County – Alex Kone reported:

- Wyoming County High Accident Locations Program: County facilities are being screened using CLEAR. The RFP will be released in January.

Other Agencies – GTC staff reported:

- Arcade Multi-Use Trail Feasibility Study: The consultant has requested data from the County and the Village. The first Project Advisory Committee was held on December 2.
- Canal Ponds Business Park Connectivity Study: A project kick-off meeting is scheduled for January 10.
- West Webster Hamlet Revitalization Plan: The next Steering Committee meeting is scheduled for January 18. The project is nearly complete.
- Village of Warsaw Active Transportation Plan: The consultant held an early discovery meeting with the County and Village on November 30 to discuss initial issues related to roadway widths, potential links, tree canopy, etc. A Project Advisory Committee kickoff meeting is scheduled for January 17.

b) TIP Staff Modifications

Alex Kone reported that since the last Planning Committee meeting there were four projects modified. A report was included in the meeting package.

c) Federal Legislative and Funding Update

James Stack reported that Congress passed and President Biden signed an Omnibus appropriation bill that covers the 12 appropriations on December 23. This bill included a Continuing Resolution through December 30 to allow the transmittal process to the President to happen. He noted that there is \$106 billion in funding for USDOT, a little more than \$3 billion higher than the previous year. He added that all the previous year's funding programs are continued.

d) Other GTC matters

James Stack noted that there not any other GTC matters to report.

e) Public Engagement Highlights

Lori Maher reported that GTC hosted three stakeholder meetings regarding the 2024 total solar eclipse that were very well attended. She noted that the events attracted a wide array of attendees from sectors such as the public health sector and from counties outside the GTC region. The meetings provided an overview of the solar even and its potential impacts on the transportation system.

f) Member Agency and Partner Updates

There were no member agency and partner updates.

7. New Business

There was no New Business.

8. Public Forum

Lori Maher reported that there were no public comments received from observers online.

9. Next Meeting

Scott Leathersich noted that the next meeting is scheduled for February 9, 2023.

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:33 PM.