

**GENESEE TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL
QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING**

**Rochester-Genesee Regional Transportation Authority
1372 East Main Street, Rochester
and via PublicInput.com**

December 14, 2023

GTC BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Todd Campbell, Ontario County
Michael Enslow, Seneca County
Phillip Eygnor, Wayne County
Erik Frisch, City of Rochester – At Large
Daniel Hogan, Monroe County – At Large
David LeFeber (Chairperson), Livingston County
Stephen Schultz, Monroe County Supervisors' Association

ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT

Rochelle Bell, Monroe County Planning Board, representing William Santos
Sean Carrington, New York State Thruway Authority, representing Frank Hoare
Thomas Frys, Monroe County, representing Adam Bello
Stephen Golding, Empire State Development Corporation, representing Hope Knight
Scott Leathersich, Monroe County – At Large, representing Jeffrey McCann
Gary Maha, Genesee County, representing Rochelle Stein
John Papponetti, Orleans County, representing Lynne Johnson
Richard Perrin, City of Rochester – Mayor, representing Malik Evans
Christopher Reeve, NYS Department of Transportation, representing Marie Therese Dominguez
Richard Sutherland, Genesee / Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council, representing Rochelle Stein
Miguel Velázquez, Rochester-Genesee Regional Transportation Authority, representing Donald Jeffries
Timothy Walsh, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, representing Basil Seggos

GTC BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT AND UNREPRESENTED

Leslie Church, Yates County
Michael Culotta, Federal Transit Administration
Sabrina LaMar, Monroe County Legislature
Evelyn Martinez, Federal Aviation Administration
Richard Marquis, Federal Highway Administration
Miguel Melendez, City of Rochester – Council
Rebecca Ryan, Wyoming County

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Jody Binnix, GTC staff	Joel Kleinberg, NYSDOT – Region 4
Joe Bovenzi, GTC staff	Lori Maher, GTC staff
James Brady, Wayne County	Charlie Rieck, GTC staff
Angela Ellis, Livingston County	David Riley, City of Rochester
Wes Grooms, City of Rochester	James Stack, GTC staff
Peter Ingalsbe (Vice-Chairperson), Ontario County	Anonymous viewers on Public Engagement Hub

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chairperson LeFeber called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. Joe Bovenzi, GTC staff, called the roll; a quorum was present.

2. Public Forum

There were no comments.

3. Approval of Minutes

Chairperson LeFeber reported that draft minutes from the August 24, 2023 GTC Board meeting were included in the meeting package.

Daniel Hogan moved to approve the minutes from the August 24, 2023 Quarterly Meeting; Timothy Walsh seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.

Chairperson LeFeber noted that the minutes from the October 12, 2023 Planning Committee meeting and the draft minutes from the November 9, 2023 Planning Committee meeting were provided for informational purposes.

4. Communications and Announcements

- a. James Stack reported one change to the Board membership. Kyle Lovell has been designated the Alternate to Michael Enslow representing Seneca County
- b. James Stack reported that the USDOT Office of the Secretary announced that GTC is a recipient of a Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) grant. GTC applied for the nearly \$1.8 million Planning and Demonstration grant on behalf of the nine Counties and the City of Rochester to advance a 4-year safety planning program that will support planning recommendations, programmatic activities, and funding decisions aimed in reducing fatal and serious injury crashes across all travel modes in the region. The safety planning program will result in Local Road Safety Plans for the City of Rochester and each county, site investigations, Roadway Safety Audits, data collection equipment, public engagement, support for Reconnect Rochester's Complete Streets Makeover program and support for a new Downtown Curb Extension Murals program. The City and each county offered a combined \$250k in cash match, plus in-kind contributions.

5. Reports and Action on Old Business

a. Planning Committee Report

Scott Leathersich reported that the Planning Committee met on October 12 and recommended that the GTC Board:

- Accept five reports as evidence of completion of Unified Planning Work Program tasks:
 - Monroe County Land Use Monitoring Report
 - Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Land Use Monitoring Report

- Arcade Multi-Use Trail Feasibility Study
- Monroe County Comprehensive Active Transportation Plan
- City of Rochester Active Transportation Master Plan
- Modify the *FY 2023-2024 Unified Planning Work Program* to reprogram the source of federal funds on Task 6533 – Joseph Avenue ArtWalk Master Plan from FHWA Metropolitan Planning (PL) funds to the Complete Streets Planning Set-Aside.

Additionally, the Planning Committee met on November 9 and took the following actions:

- Approved three administrative modifications to the *FFY 2023-2027 Transportation Improvement Program* as requested by NYSDOT:
 - Deferring phases of the Rt 14 within former Village of Lyons Preventive Maintenance project
 - Deferring a phase of the Bridge Preventive Maintenance, Regionwide project
 - Increasing the Total Cost of the I-490 Bridges over Erie Canal and Kreg Rd project

b. GTC Staff Report

James Stack provided the following report:

1. GTC Staffing Updates

Jody Binnix has been promoted to Deputy Director for Planning. Joe Bovenzi has been promoted to Deputy Director for Administration & Operations. Charles Rieck joined the staff on August 28 with a focus on Active Transportation.

Due to the staff reorganization, the manager of the Transportation Improvement Program will now be a Program Manager position. This job posting has been advertised.

Given the success of securing the SS4A grant, GTC will be hiring a Program Manager for Special Projects to lead that effort for the duration of the grant.

c. Old Business

1. Accepting the *West Webster Hamlet Revitalization Plan* as evidence of completion of UPWP Task 8553 / Proposed Resolution 23-16

James Stack reported that this project was presented to the board at its August 24 meeting but was tabled due to discrepancies in the language between the Executive Summary and the report, which have since been resolved.

Richard Perrin moved to approve proposed Resolution 23-16; Timothy Walsh seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.

2. Federal Legislative and Funding Update

James Stack reported that, in late September, Congress passed and the President signed a Continuing Resolution to fund the 12 Budget Appropriation for FFY 2024. The CR funded the federal government through November 17. In mid-November Congress passed and the President signed a second Continuing Resolution to fund the federal government. In an unusual approach, the 12 Appropriation bills were "laddered" with two different end dates. Transportation Appropriations are funded through February 2.

Jim highlighted open and anticipated discretionary funding opportunities. He noted that GTC staff can provide letters of support that document how a grant application is consistent with the Long Range Transportation Plan as well as other applicable plans and studies.

3. TIP Staff Modifications Report

Chairperson LeFeber informed the Board that the TIP Staff Modifications report was included in the meeting package and is being provided for informational purposes. There were no questions.

6. Action Items

- a. Accepting reports as evidence of completion of UPWP Tasks / Proposed Resolutions 23-28 through 23-32

Chairperson LeFeber suggested grouping proposed Resolutions 23-28 through 23-32 into a single action; no Member or Alternate objected.

James Stack noted that Proposed Resolutions 23-28 through 23-32 were reviewed and recommended for GTC Board approval by the Planning Committee at its October 12, 2023 meeting.

1. Accepting the *Monroe County Land Use Monitoring Report* as evidence of completion of UPWP Task 4210 / Proposed Resolution 23-28

James Stack reported on the scope and results of the Monroe County Land Use Monitoring Report. This is an annual activity to document land use changes in Monroe County. GTC uses the data for the regional travel demand model. Building permit data was collected for 2022. The top five municipalities with the greatest development distributions were highlighted, including Henrietta, Brighton, Perinton, Greece, and Penfield.

2. Accepting the *Genesee/Finger Lakes Land Use Monitoring Report* as evidence of completion of UPWP Task 4220 / Proposed Resolution 23-29

James Stack reported on the scope and results of the Genesee/Finger Lakes Land Use Monitoring Report. The Genesee-Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council documents land use changes in the eight counties outside of Monroe County. GTC also uses this data in the regional travel demand model. Surveys

were sent out to municipalities and supplemental data from the Census was used when needed. The highest number of residential permits and units were highlighted.

3. Accepting the *Arcade Multi-Use Trail Feasibility Study* as evidence of completion of UPWP Task 6550 / Proposed Resolution 23-30

James Stack reported on the scope of the Arcade Multi-Use Trail Feasibility Study. The objective of the study was to create a trail system in the Village of Arcade. The study included a series of recommended priority routes. The Village is pursuing a grant application through the Transportation Alternatives Program to implement the proposed Java-Arcade trail, following the route of a former Arcade-Attica Railroad line.

4. Accepting the *Monroe County Comprehensive Active Transportation Plan* as evidence of completion of UPWP Task 8768 / Proposed Resolution 23-31

James Stack reported on the scope and highlighted the results of the Monroe County Comprehensive Active Transportation Plan. Many communities in the County already have Active Transportation Plans and this effort built off existing plans. Recommendations include a 500-mile active transportation network, 29 program and policy actions, a facility toolkit, and pedestrian accessibility. These recommendations are complimentary to the City of Rochester's parallel effort.

5. Accepting the *City of Rochester Active Transportation Master Plan* as evidence of completion of UPWP Task 8769 / Proposed Resolution 23-32

James Stack reported on the scope and highlighted the results of the City of Rochester Active Transportation Master Plan. The objective was to create a bicycle and pedestrian master plan to create a safe, healthy, efficient, and equity focused road network in the City of Rochester. This effort also aligned with Monroe County's effort. Recommendations include pedestrian and accessibility projects at intersections and corridors, along with a proposed spine network for bicycles.

Richard Perrin thanked the Council for funding the plan and noted that the City was recently awarded \$3.2 million as part of the SS4A grant. The Active Transportation Plan was used as the qualifying plan for the SS4A grant opportunity.

James Stack noted that the GTC SS4A grant was the third largest in New York State. The City of Rochester's grant was the largest in New York State. Jim thanked the Council for supporting the planning effort and congratulated the City on their award.

Richard Perrin moved to approve proposed Resolutions 23-28 through 23-32; Erik Frisch seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.

b. Amending the *FFYs 2023-2027 Transportation Improvement Program / Proposed Resolutions 23-33 through 23-35*

Chairperson LeFeber suggested grouping Proposed Resolutions 23-33 through 23-35 into a single action; no Member or Alternate objected.

James Stack noted that the timing of these amendments is unusual. Given the project schedules, there was no time for the Planning committee to review these amendments before they were presented to the board. However, the TIP Development Committee (TDC) reviewed Proposed Resolutions 23-33 through 23-35 and did not raise any objections to them. Items 1 and 2 include new funding coming into the region. He noted the following for each of the projects:

1. Amending the FFYs 2023-2027 TIP by adding the Rt 21 from the Village of Manchester to the Village of Palmyra project / Proposed Resolution 23-33

This amendment is requested by NYSDOT-Region 4. This project was selected for funding by NYSDOT Main Office along with seven other projects. This project qualifies for National Highway Performance Program (NHPP) funds, so it must be included in the TIP. These funds cannot be used for any other projects and will not impact the regional Planning Target.

2. Amending the FFYs 2023-2027 TIP by reinstating the Rt 63 FLAP Project – Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge project / Proposed Resolution 23-34

The Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP) was created to fund projects in these types of locations. This project was included in the previous TIP. Bids came in high and were rejected. There was an effort to identify additional funds to keep the project moving. NYSDOT Main Office identified available statewide STPBG - Flex funds that can be used for the project. The action is to reinstate the project and add supplemental construction. These funds are not available to any other project.

3. Amending the FFYs 2023-2027 TIP by changing the Scope of the Bridge Steel Repairs at Various Federal Aid Eligible Locations project / Proposed Resolution 23-35

When this bridge preventive maintenance project was programmed, NYSDOT bundled the project and was initially planning to address 24 bridges. Since then, steel costs have risen dramatically. Additionally, some bridges have deteriorated more than expected and are no longer preventive maintenance candidates. In order to stay within the current programmed amount, NYSDOT is proposing to reduce the scope of the project from 24 to 10 locations. NYSDOT will look for other options to address the remaining bridges.

Rochelle Bell moved to approve Proposed Resolutions 23-33 through 23-35; Christopher Reeve seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.

7. New Business

- a. 2024 Calendar – James Stack shared the planned Board meeting dates for 2024 and offered to send out electronic calendar appointments. The full meeting schedule is in the meeting package.
- b. Peter Ingalsbe asked about the status of the GTC office relocation process. James Stack responded that Jody, Joe, and he toured six office spaces and have asked our broker to seek proposals for four of them. The two other spaces have challenges and are not a good fit. The proposals will seek specific information to make it easier to compare spaces.
- c. Timothy Walsh discussed the Open Space planning process.
- d. Steven Schultz, the Henrietta Town Supervisor, reported that a number of businesses in Henrietta were recently notified by RG&E that there is no additional power available in the town for new development.
- e. Scott Leathersich acknowledged Rochelle Bell’s contributions to the Board on behalf of Monroe County during her career in honor of her pending retirement.
- f. James Stack reported that following the regular board meeting, there will be a workshop on federal funding opportunities. GTC board members and alternates, as well as G/FLRPC board members and alternates, have been invited to participate in this meeting. The workshop will start at 9:45 am.

8. Next Meeting

Chairperson LeFeber stated that the next GTC Board meeting is scheduled for February 29, 2024 at RGRTA.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:27 a.m.