

**GENESEE TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL
QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING**

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

February 29, 2024

GTC BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

David LeFeber (Chairperson), Livingston County
Todd Campbell, Ontario County
Anthony Verno, Wayne County
Miguel Melendez, City of Rochester – Council
Erik Frisch, City of Rochester – At Large
David Watson, Rochester City Planning Commission
Rochelle Stein, Genesee County

ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT

Yixuan Lin, 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
Saúl Maneiro, Monroe County Legislature, representing Yversha Román
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
Miguel Velázquez, Rochester-Genesee Regional Transportation Authority, representing Donald Jeffries
Timothy Walsh, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, representing Basil Seggos
Jennifer Terry, Federal Transit Administration, representing Michael Culotta
Chris Bollin, Monroe County – At Large, representing Daniel Hogan

GTC BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT AND UNREPRESENTED

Leslie Church, Yates County
Evelyn Martinez, Federal Aviation Administration
Richard Marquis, Federal Highway Administration
Rebecca Ryan, Wyoming County
Stephen Schultz, Monroe County Supervisors' Association
Michael Enslow, Seneca County

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Emily Royce, Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning
Council
Angela Ellis, Livingston County
Jim Brady, Wayne County
Peter Ingalsbe (Vice-Chairperson), Ontario County
Joel Kleinberg, NYSDOT – Region 4
Lori Maher, GTC staff

Charles Rieck, GTC staff
Jody Binnix, GTC staff
Joe Bovenzi, GTC staff
James Stack, GTC staff
Al Bartolotta, GTC staff
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 December 14, 2023 GTC Board meeting were included in the meeting package.

Richard Perrin moved to approve the minutes from the August 24, 2023 Quarterly Meeting; Thomas Frys seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.

Chairperson LeFeber noted that the minutes from the January 11, 2024 Planning Committee meeting and the draft minutes from the February 15, 2024 Planning Committee meeting were provided for informational purposes.

4. Communications and Announcements

- a. James Stack reported that Yversha Román was elected the President of the Monroe County Legislature. She is now a member of the GTC Board. Saúl Maneiro has been designated as her Alternate.
- b. James Stack reported that Anthony Verno was appointed Chairman of the Wayne County Board of Supervisors. He is now a member of the GTC Board. James Brady continues as the designated Alternate.
- c. James Stack provided an update on the status of the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Grant program. A national webinar for new awardees was held on January 23, 2024. The process for developing and executing an agreement with FHWA was explained. This process will likely take a few months. Staff is coordinating with the NY Division office of FHWA to prepare our federal agreement. Staff has been researching requirements and is drafting RFPs. These efforts will allow us to proceed as quickly as possible once the agreement is fully executed, and there is potential that we can release the RFPs before the agreement is fully executed to save even more time. The 10 Local Road Safety Plans will be developed under 3 separate contracts. One will be for Monroe County and City of Rochester, the second will be for Orleans, Genesee, Wyoming, and Livingston Counties, and the third will be for Wayne, Ontario, Seneca, and Yates Counties.

5. Reports and Action on Old Business

a. Planning Committee Report

Scott Leathersich reported that the Planning Committee met on January 11 and recommended that the GTC Board:

- Adopt the *FY 2024-2025 Unified Planning Work Program*
- Accept four reports as evidence of completion of Unified Planning Work Program tasks:
 - The Last Mile (or less): Site Plan Review for Multimodal Transportation
 - City of Rochester Downtown Sign Assessment
 - Lakeville Corridor Strategic Plan
 - Village of Warsaw Active Transportation Plan
- Amend the *FFYs 2023-2027 Transportation Improvement Program* as requested by the Federal Transit Administration
- Amend the *National Performance Measures Report* and the *FFYs 2023-2027 TIP* by revising the Highway Safety Performance Targets and the Transit Safety Performance Targets

Additionally, the Planning Committee took the following actions:

- Approved the *Draft FY 2024-2025 UPWP* for Public Review
- Approved scopes of work for two UPWP Tasks:
 - Task 7707 – Inner Loop North Mobility and Development Strategy
 - Task 8741 – Genesee-Finger Lakes Regional Trails Initiative Update
- Approved two administrative modifications to the *FFYs 2023-2027 Transportation Improvement Program* as requested by NYSDOT:
 - Modifying phases of the Rt 31, Rt 31A, and Redman Rd Intersection project
 - Deferring phases of the Rt 19 over Black Creek Bridge Replacement project

b. GTC Staff Report

James Stack provided the following report:

➤ New Office Space

The management team worked with CBRE to screen 22 locations. Seven locations were selected for in-person tours. Proposals were then sought for five spaces. Based on the proposals received, a consensus recommendation was provided to the Executive Committee. Assuming that there are no objections after the Executive Committee tours the space this morning, GTCS Inc. will seek authorization to enter into a lease at the March 14 RGRTA Board of Commissioners meeting.

c. Old Business

1. Federal Legislative and Funding Update

James Stack reported that, in mid-January, Congress passed, and the President signed a two-tiered, laddered, Continuing Resolution (CR) to fund the Housing and Transportation Appropriations through March 1. On February 28, congressional leadership from both houses and both parties issued a joint statement indicating agreement on funding for the rest of the fiscal year. A one-week extension of the CR allows the House and Senate Appropriations to finalize the deal and give Representatives and Senators the required 72 hours to consider a bill before voting.

2. 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. Adopting the *FY 2024-2025 Unified Planning Work Program* / Proposed Resolution 24-01

Jody Binnix noted that the Unified Planning Work Program, or 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 2024-2025 UPWP will support planning activities for the period beginning April 1, 2024 and ending March 31, 2025. Projects included in the current UPWP that are not complete as of March 31, 2024 will be rolled over into the FY 2024-2025 UPWP.

The solicitation for projects was released in the fall of 2023. GTC received applications for 18 projects requesting about \$1.3 million dollars. About \$1.1 million was made available for new projects.

GTC staff worked with the UPWP Development Committee, or UDC, consisting of representatives of the member agencies in the Metropolitan Planning Area, to prioritize project proposals. The UDC met during November and December to review applications. This effort resulted in a project list and a complete draft UPWP document for public review. At its January 11 meeting, the Planning Committee approved the project list and a complete draft UPWP, for a 30-day public review from January 15 through February 14.

During this public review, GTC received several comments from a member of the public and a letter from Reconnect Rochester. GTC staff responded via email to all the public comments received. As part of the public review process, GTC received editorial comments concerning the UPWP narrative from the New York State Department of Transportation Planning Bureau. After the public review period

closed, GTC received a Letter of Support from UNiCON on February 19, 2024. All of the public comments and letters were provided in the meeting package.

Once the UPWP is approved it will take effect April 1, 2024.

James Stack noted that GTC really appreciates the efforts of the UPWP Development Committee for their participation in the process. Additionally, unsuccessful applicants have been offered project debriefs with GTC staff.

Timothy Walsh moved to approve proposed Resolution 24-01; Christopher Reeve seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.

- b. Accepting reports as evidence of completion of UPWP Tasks / Proposed Resolutions 24-03 through 24-06

Chairperson LeFeber suggested grouping proposed Resolutions 24-03 through 24-06 into a single action; no Member or Alternate objected.

James Stack noted that Proposed Resolutions 24-03 through 24-06 were reviewed and recommended for GTC Board approval by the Planning Committee at its February 15, 2024 meeting.

1. Accepting *The Last Mile (or less): Site Plan Review for Multimodal Transportation* as evidence of completion of UPWP Task 5362 / Proposed Resolution 24-03

James Stack reported on the scope and results of The Last Mile (or less): Site Plan Review for Multimodal Transportation. This project was conducted by the Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council. The purpose of the project was to develop guides, and provide associated training opportunities, for municipalities to use during the site plan review process when considering active transportation trips. The process included: a survey sent to municipalities across the region with over 100 responses; a session as part of Monroe County land use training; and a session as part of the G/FLRPC Local Government Workshop. The primary product is a guidebook documenting site plan review procedures throughout the region including compilation of best practices that municipalities may consider adopting and other relevant resources.

2. Accepting the *City of Rochester Downtown Sign Assessment* as evidence of completion of UPWP Task 61216 / Proposed Resolution 24-04

James Stack reported on the scope and results of the City of Rochester Downtown Sign Assessment. This project was conducted by the New York State Department of Transportation. The purpose of the project was to study the existing signage for I-490, the Inner Loop expressways, and NYS touring routes throughout and surrounding the City of Rochester's downtown core.

The process included an inventory of the existing signs, their condition, and their appropriateness given current conditions; identification of major traffic generators to inform future sign needs; and recommendations for replacement

and/or relocation of signs. Additionally, the future Inner Loop North Transformation project and the future removal of the Broad Street bridge were also reviewed to assess impacts on future signs. The primary product is a listing of recommendations of the type and location of future signs to direct motorists.

3. Accepting the *Lakeville Corridor Strategic Plan* as evidence of completion of UPWP Task 7578 / Proposed Resolution 24-05

James Stack reported on the scope of the Lakeville Corridor Strategic Plan. This project was conducted by the Town of Livonia. The purpose of the project was to develop a streetscape/design plan that focuses on access management, stormwater mitigation, and active transportation improvements for Route 20A corridor from West Lake Road to East Lake Road in the Hamlet of Lakeville.

The process included an inventory of the existing conditions; engagement with area residents and businesses to understand concerns and desire for the area; and identifying recommendations to address needs in the area. The primary product is a strategic plan that identifies recommended capital projects, services and programs, and policy and planning efforts.

4. Accepting the *Village of Warsaw Active Transportation Plan* as evidence of completion of UPWP Task 8752 / Proposed Resolution 24-06

James Stack reported on the scope and highlighted the results of the Village of Warsaw Active Transportation Plan. This project was conducted by the Village of Warsaw. The purpose of the project was to develop a forward-thinking and achievable Active Transportation Plan that reflects the community's need to increase pedestrian/bicyclist mobility through a safe, comfortable, and interconnected multi-modal network for people of all ages and abilities.

The process included an inventory of the existing conditions; engagement with area residents and businesses to understand concerns and desire for the area; and identifying recommendations to address needs in the area.

The primary recommendations are land use and zoning updates that encompass multimodal travel; adding multiple trail access points and developing an inclusive bicycle network; installation of streetlights and street trees to enhance the pedestrian realm; and physical changes in the central business district to improve movement of people.

Thomas Fry moved to approve proposed Resolutions 24-03 through 24-06; Erik Frisch seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.

- c. Amending the *FFYs 2023-2027 Transportation Improvement Program* / Proposed Resolution 24-07

- 1. Deferring select phases of FTA-funded projects / Proposed Resolution 24-07

The Federal Transit Administration has indicated the need for the schedule on 11 projects to be amended. These projects were originally anticipated to be included in a grant agreement by September 30, or in FFY 2023. This did not happen and that FFY has closed. The funds are not available to any other projects. The proposed change will allow RGRTA and Lifespan to move forward with these projects. Since Federal Transit funds are allowed to rollover, fiscal constraint is maintained.

Scott Leathersich moved to approve Proposed Resolution 24-07; Christopher Reeve seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.

- d. Recommendation to the GTC Board concerning amending the *National Performance Measures Report* and the *2023-2027 Transportation Improvement Program* by revising the HSIP and Highway Safety Performance Targets and the Transit Safety Performance Targets / Proposed Council Resolution 24-02

Jody Binnix reported the Highway Safety Improvement Program Report and the Highway Safety Strategic Plan are updated annually by New York State Department of Transportation and the NYS Governor's Traffic Safety Council, respectively. They collaborate on setting statewide targets. GTC has previously agreed to support the State's targets and include them in the *National Performance Measures Report* and the *FFYs 23-27 TIP*. The Highway Safety Targets are updated annually.

The Targets for 2024 were shown in the slideshow. They are based upon a five-year history of crashes through 2021. NYSDOT-Main Office noted that a conservative target of a 0.50% decrease between 2021 and 2024 was selected due to the impacts of COVID on crashes and vehicle miles of travel.

The Transit Safety targets were provided by RGRTA and are included in the Public Transit Agency Safety Plan, a product required of all urban service providers. In December 2023, the RGRTA Board of Commissioners approved the 2023-2024 Public Transit Agency Safety Plan. GTC has previously agreed to support the RGRTA's targets and include them in the *National Performance Measures Report* and the *FFYs 23-27 TIP*. The Van Pool Mode of Transit Service ended and has been deleted from RGRTA's FTA National Transit Database profile, therefore the Van Pool target is being removed from the table shown on the screen.

Thomas Frys moved to approve Proposed Resolution 24-02; Christopher Reeve seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.

7. Election of Officers

GTC Chairperson David LeFeber turned the meeting over to Scott Leathersich to conduct the Election of Officers. Pursuant to the GTC By-laws, officers (the Chairperson and Vice

Chairperson) must be elected from among the voting Board members to serve two-year terms. The elections are to occur at the Annual Meeting, defined as the first quarterly meeting of the calendar year. The last election of officers was held on February 24, 2022.

In accordance with the GTC By-laws, GTC Chairperson David LeFeber appointed a Nominating Committee in January 2024 to nominate candidates for the offices of Chairperson and Vice Chairperson. The Committee included Angela Ellis (Livingston County and Planning Committee Vice Chairperson) and Scott Leathersich (Monroe County and Planning Committee Chairperson), and Richard Perrin (City of Rochester).

The Nominating Committee offers the following candidates for your consideration and action at today's meeting:

- Honorable Peter Ingalsbe for Chairperson
- Honorable James Brady for Vice Chairperson

Scott asked for any nominations from the floor. Hearing none, he asked for a motion and a second.

Richard Perrin moved to approve the recommendation of the Nominating Committee as new Officers; Thomas Frys seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.

James Brady recounted his first GTC meeting when he was the Wayne County Highway Superintendent and thanked the Board.

James Stack noted that GTC has a cooperative process and noted the strong relationships between the rural counties and the City of Rochester. These relationships have led to collaboration over the years to support the interests of the region. He then thanked David LeFeber for his tenure as the Chairperson, especially through challenging times. David thanked the committee. Peter Ingalsbe also thanked David for his guidance and leadership.

8. New Business

- a. No report provided.

9. Next Meeting

Chairperson Ingalsbe stated that the next GTC Board meeting is scheduled for June 13, 2024 at RGRTA.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 a.m.