

**GENESEE TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL
PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING**

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

**November 14, 2024
9:30 a.m.**

PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Devin Blue, representing Wyoming County
John Boser, representing the NYS Thruway Authority
Megan Crowe, representing Livingston County
Thomas Frys, representing the Monroe County Executive
Scott Leathersich, Monroe County – At-Large
Yixuan Lin, representing the Monroe County Planning Board
Richard Perrin, representing the City of Rochester Mayor
Kevin Rooney, representing Wayne County
James Smith, Rochester City Council
Richard Sutherland, Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council
Jennifer Terry, Federal Transit Administration

ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT

Eric Farr, Rochester Genesee Regional Transportation Authority, representing Miguel Velázquez
Joel Kleinberg, NYS Department of Transportation, representing Christopher Reeve
Jason Rearick, Seneca County, representing Jill Henry

PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT AND UNREPRESENTED

Ben Fischer, Federal Highway Administration
Stephen Golding, Empire State Development Corporation
Tim Hens, Genesee County
Kevin Kelley, representing the Rochester City Planning Commission
David Lindsay, Monroe County – At-Large
Evelyn Martinez, Federal Aviation Administration
John Papponetti, representing Orleans County
Douglas Rapalee, Yates County
David Riley, City of Rochester – At Large
Bill Wright, Ontario County
Vacant, Monroe County Supervisors' Association
Vacant, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
Vacant, representing the Monroe County Legislature

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Al Bartolotta, GTC staff	Chris Sichak, Erdman Anthony
Jody Binnix, GTC staff	Chris Snyder, GTC staff
Joe Bovenzi, GTC staff	David Staas, GTC staff
James Bragg, Wyoming County	James Stack, GTC staff
Julie Dahlie, City of Batavia	Rachael Tabelski, City of Batavia
Thomas Harvey, Ontario County	Chris Tortora, GTC staff
Henry Litsky, Reconnect Rochester	Joan Vitkus, Creating Healthy Schools & Communities
Lori Maher, GTC staff	Jason Wolfanger, Livingston County
Corinda Reaves, RTS	
Emily Royce, GFLRPC	

1. **Call to Order & Introductions**

Scott Leathersich, Planning Committee Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m. Joe Bovenzi conducted a roll call of Committee members and alternates. The names of other attendees were captured from the meeting login information.

2. **Public Forum**

No one from the public spoke during the Public Forum.

3. **Approval of Minutes**

Thomas Frys moved to approve the minutes from the August 8, 2024 Planning Committee meeting; Joel Kleinberg seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.

4. **Announcements and Old Business**

Jim Stack reported:

- At the August 8 meeting, the Planning Committee considered a TIP Amendment request from Wyoming County and recommended adding a supplemental Construction phase in FFY 2025. Subsequent to the meeting, Wyoming County determined that the additional funds were no longer needed due to favorable bids. The change was not presented to the GTC Board.
- David Staas joined the GTC staff on September 23. Dave has over a decade of experience at other MPOs. His focus will be Active Transportation.
- The renovations of our new office space are complete. The new office furniture is scheduled to be installed on December 19 and 20.

5. **Action Items**

a) Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

1. Action concerning consideration of UPWP Project Scopes of Work
 - a. Task 4221 – Regional Land Use Monitoring Report (LUMR) Data Dashboard

Emily Royce discussed the study objective of developing an interactive dashboard utilizing data from current and historical G/FLRPC and Monroe County Land Use Reports. The dashboard will provide access for analysis, snapshots, and time-series trends for municipalities, sub-regional areas, counties, and the Genesee-Finger Lakes (G-FL) Region, and will provide a more accessible and in-depth interaction with almost 20 years of information on the issuance of building permits in the G-FL Region.

- b. Task 5232 – Genesee-Finger Lakes Regional Population Forecasts – 2030-2060

Richard Sutherland discussed the study objective of developing updated population projections at the county- and municipal-level for the Genesee-Finger Lakes Region to the year 2060. Incorporating data from the 2020 Census, the projections will help meet federal metropolitan transportation planning requirements by assisting in long-term analysis of transportation and regional development patterns. Where necessary, GFLRPC staff will seek guidance and assistance from Cornell's Program on Applied Demographics.

- c. Task 7341 – Ontario County Access Management, Complete Streets, and Resiliency Project

Thomas Harvey reported that the purpose of this project is to assess the need for improvements to how road access is managed within Ontario County on county-owned roads. This project will look at corridors across the county and consider how safety and access management considerations are analyzed in the development review process when requests for access to county roads are received. It will help the county maintain traffic-carrying capacity on its roads. The project will result in a model local law for site plan review, a Complete Streets policy for county facilities, and an official county map that will help the county manage requests for access to county roads. There are two cities and seven villages within Ontario County, and this project will not include them because the county does not operate any facilities within city or village limits. This project could also serve as a model for other counties in the region.

- d. Task 8758 – City of Batavia Active Transportation Plan

Rachael Tabelski reported that the purpose of this project is to develop a citywide Active Transportation Plan to improve transportation options and safety for pedestrians and cyclists throughout the City of Batavia. The plan will identify opportunities for enhanced connectivity between neighborhoods, reduce reliance on single-occupancy vehicles, and ensure that all residents, including those in underserved areas, have access to safe and efficient active transportation options. Expanding the use of non-motorized transportation, including walking, cycling, and multi-modal transportation options, aligns with the goals of the city's 2017 Comprehensive Plan. This plan will also identify connectivity improvements to specific locations, including city parks and the new YMCA facility. It will be coordinated with Downtown Revitalization Initiative projects and brownfield site redevelopment efforts.

Kevin Rooney moved to approve the UPWP Scopes of Work for Tasks 4221, 5232, 7341, and 8758; Richard Perrin seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.

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

- a. Task 4210 – Monroe County Land Use Monitoring Report

Yixuan Lin reported on the completion of the 2023 Monroe County Land Use Report. The annual report tracks building permits issued in Monroe County by type of development (e.g., Commercial, Residential, Industrial, Mixed-Use, Community Services, etc.) at the municipal-level for analysis of land use activity and time-series trends. The report identifies proposed major development projects, residential growth and high-traffic development areas; and assists GTC in the development of land use scenarios for the regional travel demand model.

- b. Task 8534 – Origin & Destination Study

Corinda Reaves reported on the completion of the RTS Origin & Destination Study. A comprehensive transit customer origin and destination (O&D) survey was conducted to assess the travel behavior of transit riders and the effectiveness of links created by the recent redesign of fixed routes (Reimagine RTS) and creation of on-demand zones. The survey findings promote optimization of current transit routes and identification of potential service gaps requiring additional analysis/consideration.

Richard Perrin moved to accept the report as evidence of completion of UPWP Tasks 4210 and 8534, Kevin Rooney seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.

b) Transportation Improvement Program

1. Recommendation to the GTC Board concerning amending the *FFYs 2023-2027 TIP* / Proposed Council Resolutions 24-58 through 24-62

- a. Adding the Rt 404 (Empire Blvd) Resiliency & Safety Enhancement Project / Proposed Council Resolution 24-58

Joel Kleinberg reported that this amendment will add a new “pipeline/seed/shelf” project to the TIP. The scope of this project is to provide resiliency and safety enhancements to NYS Route 404 (Empire Boulevard) in the vicinity of the Irondequoit Creek Outlet. BIN 1051310 and CINs 430076 and 430056 are anticipated for replacement. The funds for this project are new to the region and do not impact any other projects.

- b. Increasing the cost of the Rt 31 over I-490 Bridge Replacement (BIN 1021690) project / Proposed Council Resolution 24-59

Joel Kleinberg reported that this amendment will provide additional funds to help close a gap between the initial Construction phase estimate and the current estimate. The cost change is due to a change in project scope. The funds for this project are new to the region and do not impact any other projects.

- c. Increasing the cost of the I-390 from Canal Bridge (Exit 16) to Route 33A Preventive Maintenance project / Proposed Council Resolution 24-60

Joel Kleinberg reported that this amendment will provide additional funds to help close a gap between the initial Construction phase estimate and the current estimate. The funds for this project are new to the region and do not impact any other projects.

- d. Changing the scope of the Ontario County Bridge Preventive Maintenance project / Proposed Council Resolution 24-61

Jim Stack reported that Ontario County is proposing to remove one of four bridges from this project. When the project was scoped, it included a preventive maintenance project for the East Lake Road over Mill Creek bridge. However, subsequent analysis indicates that full replacement of the bridge instead of a preventive maintenance project is more appropriate. The county will pursue other means of funding the East Lake Road bridge but will continue with the preventive maintenance work on the other three bridges.

- e. Deferring phases of FTA-funded projects / Proposed Council Resolution 24-62

Eric Farr reported that all eight projects being amended under this resolution have the same change. They are being deferred by one year because RGRTA and FTA were unable to complete the obligation of a grant agreement at the end of Federal Fiscal Year 2024. FTA requires that funds appear in the TIP in the year that they will be obligated, so deferring these projects by one year addresses that requirement. There are no changes to the project scopes and budgets, and fiscal constraint is maintained because FTA funds are available over multiple years.

Thomas Frys moved to recommend approval of Resolutions 24-58 through 24-62; Kevin Rooney seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.

c) Long Range Transportation Plan

- 1. LRTP 2050 Update Process

Jody Binnix reported that GTC staff will start working on the update of the LRTP over the coming year. The Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) provides the strategic direction for more detailed planning and implementation of specific transportation projects, programs, and services in the Genesee-Finger Lakes Region over the next 25 years. The plan also guides the development of the UPWP and the TIP. The plan was last updated in June of 2021. The next plan, *LRTP 2050*, must be adopted by June 2026. The development of the LRTP alternates between a full rewrite and an update. *LRTP 2050* is on the "update" cycle which means staff will be updating the content in the current plan.

As with all work products at the MPO, the federal transportation legislation drives the process and outlines planning requirements. The most basic requirements that guide all "metropolitan transportation planning processes" are the ten planning factors. These factors, shown on the screen, must be addressed

through projects and programs at the MPO, including the development of the LRTP.

Additionally, the LRTP reflects the local and regional priorities within the context of the ten transportation planning factors. The GTC Goals and Objectives are presented in the plan. All activities conducted by GTC are guided by these Goals and Objectives, these were provided in your mailing package for informational purposes.

Regional priorities are identified through the Emerging Issues and Opportunities. These were first incorporated into the GTC long range planning process in 2011. With each subsequent LRTP they have been refined and revised based on transportation planning trends and input from the public and our member agencies. The Emerging Issues and Opportunities as presented in *LRTP 2045* are listed on the screen.

Jody noted that staff want to engage our Planning Committee members and ultimately the GTC Board members. The federal legislation guides the planning process, but the LRTP is truly developed with the region in mind. Specifically, staff is seeking Planning Committee input on the following questions:

- Are the identified Emerging Issues and Opportunities still applicable?
- What other transportation-related issues and opportunities does the region need to prepare for over the next 25 years?

Staff does not expect discussion at today's meeting but wanted to plant the seed for more discussion at a future meeting. This is only the start of the process.

Richard Perrin noted that the next LRTP should consider hybrid work, the concept of "hoteling" for work, and housing affordability in relation to demand for trips and land use patterns. Yixuan Lin noted that generational differences and lifestyle preferences should be explored.

d) Related Activities

1. Recommendation to the GTC Board concerning amending the National Performance Measures Report for the GFL Region and the FFYs 2023-2027 TIP by revising the Pavement Condition Performance Targets / Proposed Council Resolution 24-63

Jody Binnix reported that in 2022, NYSDOT reported the first four-year Full Performance Period to Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) for pavement and bridge performance. During the Mid Performance Period Progress Report, due October 1, 2024, states had the option to adjust the four-year targets. NYSDOT elected to amend their four-year target for pavement condition. The pavement condition measures represent the percentage of lane-miles on the Interstate and non-Interstate National Highway System (NHS) that are in good or poor condition.

As a reminder, the MPO is only required to take action on the four-year targets. NYSDOT's four-year amended pavement condition targets are shown on the screen. NYSDOT updated their pavement forecasting model to better align with the pavement performance measure regulations. This resulted in significant changes to the model which in turn changed the statewide condition forecasts that were used to calculate the previous four-year targets. Therefore, the pavement targets were reduced because of the revisions to the model. These targets have been reported to FHWA. However, NYSDOT-Main Office has yet to get formal approval from FHWA. Therefore, the Planning Committee would be conditionally approving these targets to go before the GTC Board in December, pending approval from FHWA.

Richard Perrin moved to recommend approval of Resolution 24-63 on the condition that FHWA formally approves the draft targets as submitted; Richard Sutherland seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.

6. Reports

a) Status of UPWP Projects

GTC - Jim Stack reported:

- GTC Strategic Planning: No activity to report.
- Long Range Transportation Plan Update/ Implementation: Discussed earlier in the meeting under Agenda Item 5.c.1.
- Genesee-Finger Lakes Scenario Tool: No activity to report.
- Staff Technical Assistance: Staff recently met with the team from DeepWalk to understand how to access the data and is completing the report on sidewalk conditions for the Town of Lyons.
- Household Travel Data Collection: No activity to report.
- Active Transportation Program: New staff has been getting up to speed on past and future active transportation efforts.
- Complete Streets Program: No activity to report.
- Safety Planning: No activity to report.
- Security & Resiliency Planning: No activity to report.
- Genesee-Finger Lakes Regional Resiliency Plan: Critical Assets and Hazards Data inventory development is underway.
- Genesee-Finger Lakes Regional Thruway Detour Route Management Plan: A draft RFP has been shared with stakeholders for review and comment.
- Congestion Management Process (CMP): No activity to report.
- Travel Time Data Collection Program: No activity to report.
- Rt 96 over Rt 14 Strategic Divestment Analysis: A public meeting was held on

August 21, where multiple intersection alternatives were presented to the community for feedback. The consultant has provided draft technical memos for Recommendations and Implementation and for the Planning Process & Screening Tool to NYSDOT and GTC for review and comment.

- Greater Rochester Transportation Management Association Feasibility Study: The Project Advisory Committee met on October 1.
- Regional Freight Plan Update: The consultant team conducted several one-on-one meetings in lieu of Focus Groups. The final public meeting was held on October 23. The Steering Committee met on October 31. The consultant provided an initial draft Freight Plan for GTC staff review and comment; Steering Committee members' comments are being incorporated into the final draft.
- Regional Trails Initiative Update: At the last meeting, the budget for this project was increased significantly. Staff is working on a revised scope and RFP to be issued after January 1.

G/FLRPC – Richard Sutherland reported:

- G/FLRPC Regional Land Use Monitoring (CY 2023): Report completion is underway. Anticipated for closeout at next PC meeting.
- Regional Land Use Monitoring Report Dashboard: Scope of Work presented earlier in the meeting under Agenda Item 5.a.1.a.
- Genesee-Finger Lakes Region Population Forecast 2060: Scope of Work presented earlier in the meeting under Agenda Item 5.a.1.b.
- Regional Alternative Fuel Vehicle Infrastructure Tools: Staff is working with regional stakeholders and drafting the deliverable. A draft report is anticipated by the end of the year.

Monroe County – Yixuan Lin, Tom Frys, Chris Synder, and Joe Bovenzi reported:

- Land Use Monitoring (CY 2023): The project was presented for closeout under Agenda Item 5.a.2.a.
- Traffic Signal Preemption Study: The project is wrapping up and closeout is expected in January or February.
- High Accident Location Program: Completed analysis of two Priority Incident Locations (PILs) and analyses of 11 other locations are currently in progress, mainly on the Lyell Avenue corridor.
- Monroe County Comprehensive Active Transportation Implementation Plan: Working on final edits to RFP. A draft RFP is anticipated to be ready for county review by the end of month.

NYSDOT – James Stack, Jody Binnix, and Joe Bovenzi reported:

- TIP Best Practices Study: The consultant is compiling information on national best practices and working with GTC and NYSDOT staff to develop a survey.
- Wyoming County Route 20A Truck Freight Corridor Study: The RFP is on hold until the Mount Road Boulevard Corridor Study Update contracting process

progresses.

- Mount Read Boulevard Corridor Study Update: The RFP was released on October 1 with proposals due on November 22. Fifteen RFP packages have been distributed.

Ontario County – Jody Binnix reported:

- Ontario County Access Management, Complete Street, and Resiliency Project: The Scope of Work was presented under Agenda Item 5.a.1.c.
- Ontario County Freight Rail Corridor Development Plan: The Steering Committee met on August 19 and another meeting is being scheduled. A railroad tour for local elected officials and other stakeholders was held on August 21. A public meeting was held on November 6.

City of Rochester – Richard Perrin and Jody Binnix reported:

- ADA Right-of-Way Transition Plan: The survey of infrastructure will be done by end of November. The City released a public opinion survey that will close on November 27.
- Joseph Avenue ArtWalk Master Plan: A public meeting was held on October 8. Draft concepts/recommendations are under development.
- Genesee Riverway Trail Completion Study: A pop-up outreach event was held on September 15 at the Fringe Festival. The first official public meeting will be held on November 17.
- Inner Loop North Mobility and Development Strategy: The PAC met on October 2 and will meet again on November 20. The first public meeting was held on November 7. The consultant for this effort has been coordinating with the consultant for the Inner Loop North transformation project. Focus group meetings were held in October.
- City of Rochester Alleyway Reactivation and Conversion Program: The City and GTC staff are finalizing the RFP. The RFP release was delayed a bit while the City tracked down existing data on alleys to understand what we will be able to provide the selected consultant.

RGRTA – Eric Farr reported:

- Origin-Destination Study: The project was presented for closeout under Agenda Item 5.a.2.b.
- Service Performance Monitoring and Refinement: Reinstated 15 minute service for Route 22 on Lake Avenue in September. Working on additional changes to implement in January.

Wyoming County – Devin Blue reported:

- Wyoming County Priority Investigation Locations Program: The consultant is working on data collection for corridors and intersections. The consultant will develop recommendations for PAC review, and the first meeting will be held soon.

Other Agencies –

Jim Stack reported:

- Town of Gates Active Transportation Plan: GTC staff is working with the Town of Gates to develop the RFP.
- Hamlet of Ontario Center Active Transportation Plan: This project has not yet started.
- Village of Fairport Zoning Code Update: The Steering Committee met on September 19, October 3, and October 10; a Village Board working meeting was held on October 24.
- Town of Rush Comprehensive Active Transportation Plan: The consultant recently met with NYSDOT – Region 4 Traffic & Safety staff to review initial concepts to ensure no significant concerns. The Consultant is finalizing alternatives to present at a public meeting on November 20.

b) Status of SS4A Program

Jim Stack reported that a fully executed federal agreement for the SS4A program was received on November 12. A Request for Proposals (RFP) for the development of individual Local Road Safety Plans (LRSP) for each county in the region and the City of Rochester (10 individual plans) was released by GTC staff on September 23. Proposals were due on October 24. Seven proposals were received for the West sub-region (Orleans, Genesee, Livingston, and Wyoming counties). Six proposals were received for the East sub-region (Ontario, Yates, Wayne, and Seneca counties). Three proposals were received for the Central sub-region (Monroe County and the City of Rochester).

Evaluation teams comprised of staff members representing the counties in each sub-region and the City of Rochester reviewed and ranked the proposals. Meetings between the individual sub-regions and GTC staff were held to discuss the reviews and to select a preferred firm. In accordance with the guidelines of the RFP, no firm was selected for multiple sub-regions. The selected firms will be considered by the RGRTA Board for approval and contract awards at its meeting on December 5, 2024.

Four Complete Street/Downtown Extension Mural RFP submittals were received by the October 31 deadline. The submittals were reviewed and ranked by GTC staff. The top-ranked firm will be considered for approval and a contract award by the RGRTA Board at its December 5, 2024 meeting.

c) TIP Staff Modifications

Jim Stack reported that since the last Planning Committee meeting, the TIP Development Committee has concurred with eleven staff modification requests. A report was included in the meeting package.

TIP Obligation Performance

Jim Stack reported that NYSDOT Main Office recently released FFY 2024 construction obligation performance data for all MPO areas in the state. This information includes both the number and the value of construction projects obligated in FFY 2024. FHWA is primarily focused on the unamended TIP, which is based on programmed funds as of October 1, the start of the federal fiscal year. However, NYSDOT also measures the amended TIP based on active management throughout the year. Jim feels that the amended TIP performance is more important because it reflects regional efforts to maximize the use of federal funds in any given year while accommodating unforeseen challenges. GTC ranked first in the state in terms of both number and value of obligated projects for the amended TIP. This performance reflects positively on the efforts of the TIP Development Committee and the collaboration of NYSDOT – Region 4 and GTC staff members.

Joel Kleinberg noted that these efforts are important because they lead to additional funding for the region. Based on the performance results of regional efforts to deliver TIP projects, NYSDOT Main Office has provided funding for selected projects that is in addition to Planning Target funds, thus enabling project sponsors to accomplish more work than would otherwise be the case.

d) Federal Legislative and Funding Update

Jim Stack reported that, prior to the end of FFY 2024, Congress passed and the President signed a Continuing Resolution funding the federal government through December 20. With Congress returning from the election recess, there are about five weeks to pass 12 Appropriations for the full FFY or another Continuing Resolution. Given the results of the election, control of the Senate will change sides in January, and Congress is not expected to pass a full-year Appropriations in a lame duck situation. With the White House, the Senate, and the House under one party control, budget priorities are expected to shift.

USDOT Discretionary Programs

Jim Stack provided an overview of discretionary funding opportunities through USDOT. Jim noted two open USDOT grant opportunities with applications due early in 2025.

e) Other GTC Matters

No report provided.

f) Public Engagement Highlights

Jim Stack reported on the various public engagement events that took place over the past few months.

g) Member Agency and Partner Updates

No report provided.

7. New Business

a. 2025 Meeting Calendar

Jim Stack reported that the 2025 GTC meeting calendar was included in the meeting package. This calendar provides the dates, times, and locations for the GTC Board, Planning Committee, and TIP Development Committee meetings.

b. FY 2025-26 UPWP Call for Project-Partnerships

Jody Binnix reported the UPWP kicked off on September 6. Applications were due on October 11. GTC received 15 applications requesting about \$1.5 million, of which approximately \$1 million will be available for new projects. GTC staff will work with the UPWP Development Committee to select projects for funding. The UPWP Development Committee will hold its first meeting for this cycle tomorrow on November 15.

8. Public Forum

No one from the public spoke during the Public Forum.

9. Next Meeting

Scott Leathersich reported that the next meeting is scheduled for January 9, 2025. All materials for items to be considered at this meeting should be submitted to GTC staff no later than Friday, December 20, 2024.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:57 a.m.