

**GENESEE TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL
PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING
CityPlace
50 West Main St., Rochester
and via PublicInput.com
May 29, 2025
9:30 a.m.**

PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

John Boser, representing NYS Thruway Authority
Megan Crowe, representing Livingston County
Tom Frys, representing Monroe County – Executive
Craig Lane, representing Orleans County
Scott Leathersich, representing Monroe County – At Large (1)
Yixuan Lin, representing Monroe County – Planning Board
David Lindsay, representing Monroe County – At Large (2)
Kabutey Ocansey, representing City of Rochester – Mayor
David Riley, representing City of Rochester – At Large
Kevin Rooney, representing Wayne County
Richard Sutherland, representing Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council
Laura Wadhams, representing Genesee County

ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT

Eric Farr, representing Rochester-Genesee Regional Transportation Authority
Jason Rearick, representing Seneca County

PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT AND UNREPRESENTED

Devin Blue, representing Wyoming County
Ben Fischer, Federal Highway Administration
Stephen Golding, Empire State Development Corporation
Kevin Kelley, representing City of Rochester – Planning Commission
Christopher Reeve, representing NYS Department of Transportation
Evelyn Martinez, Federal Aviation Administration
Douglas Rapalee, Yates County
Yversha Roman, representing Monroe County Legislature
James Smith, representing City of Rochester – Council
William Wright, representing Ontario County
Vacant, representing Federal Transit Administration
Vacant, representing Monroe County Supervisors' Association
Vacant, representing NYS Department of Environmental Conservation

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Julie Barry, Ontario County Planning	Lori Maher, GTC Staff
Jody Binnix, NYSDOT	Jen Rickert, City of Rochester
Joe Bovenzi, GTC Staff	Lorenzo Rotoli, LaBella Assoc.
Edward Company Livingston County	Chris Snyder, GTC Staff
Tyler Carey, G/FLRPC	David Staas, GTC Staff
Cody Donahue, Reconnect Rochester	Jim Stack, GTC Staff
Joe Guest, member of the public	Chris Tortora, GTC Staff
Jeffrey Jamberdino, NYSDOT	Jason Wolfanger, Livingston County
Dave Kubiak, Monroe County DOT	Other anonymous viewers on Engagement Hub
Henry Litsky, Reconnect Rochester	

1. Call to Order & Introductions

Scott Leathersich, Planning Committee Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 9:30 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 April 24, 2025 Planning Committee meeting; David Riley seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.

4. Announcements and Old Business

No report provided.

5. Action Items

a) Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

1. Action concerning consideration of UPWP Project Scopes of Work

a. Task 8141 – Just Transition Workforce Development Plan

Tyler Carey with G/FLRPC presented an overview of the project. The purpose of the project is to support the Rochester-Genesee Regional Transportation Authority (RGRTA) in streamlining and sustaining their internal workforce training system as they incorporate a new apprenticeship program and transition their fleet toward clean energy systems (e.g., electric and hydrogen). The project will identify contractors that can provide technical training to RGRTA personnel. It will produce an internal onboarding handbook and reference guide for new apprentices, hires, and internally transitioned employees.

b. Task 8782 – Nunda Active Transportation Plan

Megan Crowe, Livingston County Planning Director, presented an overview of the project. The purpose of the project is to establish a baseline for data-driven recommendations for pedestrian and other multi-modal transit improvements in the Village of Nunda, the Hamlet of Dalton, and adjacent areas in the Town of Nunda in southern Livingston County. The plan will identify ways to provide safe opportunities for walking, biking, and taking transit that connect people to the destinations they need to reach, including schools, employment, shopping, dining, trails and parks, and other community destinations. The plan will ensure that all neighborhoods in the Village and adjacent residential and commercial development in the Town have options

for walking, biking, and transit. The plan will identify ways to reduce climate-changing emissions and improve pedestrian and bicycle traffic safety for all users. The plan will provide a resource for Nunda to receive competitive grant funds for multi-modal and pedestrian transportation projects. A stakeholders group including representatives from the town, village, county, and other local agencies will be established to oversee work on the project.

Yixuan Lin moved to approve the UPWP Scope of Work for Tasks 8141 and 8782; Thomas Frys 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 8622 – Ontario County Freight Rail Corridor Development Plan: Area 2

Julie Barry with the Ontario County Planning Department presented an overview of the project. The goals of the project were to analyze opportunities and constraints and develop a series of recommendations and implementation strategies for rail-enabled development in Town and Village of Phelps and City and Town of Geneva; identify existing and potential locations suitable for development or redevelopment along rail corridor; evaluate impact of functional closure of rail line from the City of Geneva to Lyons; and explore feasibility of relocating a rail yard on Routes 5 & 20 in the City of Geneva and identify strategies to mitigate its impact on the community.

The project included extensive stakeholder and public engagement, with six steering committee and three public meetings, an inventory and analysis of current development conditions along the corridor, and an analysis of the current locations and economic impacts of rail lines and yards. The impacts of the closed Norfolk Southern rail line between Geneva and Lyons on freight movement, options for relocating rail lines, and concepts for relocating the rail yard along Routes 5 & 20 to a new site north of Geneva were all considered.

Plan recommendations included safety improvements, rail access and optimization linked to potential development sites for businesses that require rail access, and a range of aesthetic and community impact mitigation improvements, including a reduction of noise and light pollution. Coordination with municipalities on updates to comprehensive plans and zoning regulations to support railroad-related redevelopment projects was also undertaken.

Thomas Frys inquired if quiet zones were considered. Julie responded that noise was a concern expressed throughout the project, and that while quiet zones were not looked at as part of this project, they can be considered as part of future implementation.

James Stack asked if the County was aware of the upcoming CFA and other funding sources. Julie replied in the affirmative and noted that they are pursuing funding opportunities.

David Riley moved to recommend the approval of Resolution 25-08 as evidence of completion; Laura Wadhams seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.

3. Recommendation to the GTC Board concerning amending the FY 2025-2026 Unified Planning Work Program to reflect the contribution of action FY 2024-2025 rollover amounts

James Stack presented the budget amendment for the FY 2025-2026 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). The UPWP includes estimated rollover amounts for several projects that were not expected to be completed by March 31, 2025. These estimated rollover amounts were based on actual expenses through the second quarter of FY 2024-2025 (i.e., September 30, 2024). Now that the accounting for FY 2024-2025 has been closed out, the budgets for these projects for FY 2025-2026 can be adjusted to reflect actual rollover amounts.

Column A on Exhibit 1 in the UPWP Budget Amendment meeting materials shows the rollover amount based on the task balance and the end of the second quarter. Column B shows the third and fourth quarter expenditures. Column C shows the new task balance. If there is a zero in that column, it means that the project is complete.

There were significant savings on GTC staff positions during the past year. There were two vacant positions for the entire year, and one vacant position for a portion of the year. In addition, no rent on office space was paid for three quarters, and there were some project savings and unused contingencies. Staff savings will be available for new projects.

As part of this budget amendment, staff is recommending that the budget for Task 8741, the Regional Trails Initiative, be increased by \$55,000. This increase is due to the scale and level of anticipated public engagement and brings the task budget total in line with the Monroe County and City of Rochester Active Transportation Plans.

There were no questions on the rollover.

Thomas Frys moved to recommend approval of Resolution 25-09; Richard Sutherland seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.

b) Transportation Improvement Program

1. Action concerning modifying the FFYs 2023-2027 TIP / Planning Committee Resolutions 25-01 through 25-03

- a. Increasing the Total Cost of the CR 4 at Freshour Road Intersection Improvements project / Proposed Planning Committee Resolution 25-01
- b. Increasing the Total Cost of the R 32 at Hickox Road Intersection Improvements project / Proposed Planning Committee Resolution 25-02

James Stack reported that Ontario County is requesting a cost increase for these two projects due to higher than anticipated engineering costs. He noted that there is not sufficient capacity in available Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) funds for both projects. The increase CR 4 at Freshour Road Intersection Improvements project would be shown as an eligible Non-Participating Share (NPS) and Ontario County has requested consideration to reduce this NPS if HSIP funds become available.

- c. Increasing the Total Cost of the Dewey Ave and Emerson St Reconstruction and Intersection Improvements project / Proposed Planning Committee Resolution 25-03

James Stack reported that the City of Rochester is requesting a cost increase for this project due to higher than anticipated right-of-way and construction costs. Some of the increase can be covered through available balances, but the city is adding an eligible Non-Participating Share (NPS) to cover the construction costs. In the future, the city will request additional federal funding to reduce the NPS if federal funds become available.

David Riley moved to approve Planning Committee Resolutions 25-01 through 25-03; Yixuan Lin seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.

2. Recommendation to the GTC Board concerning amending the FFYs 2023-2027 TIP/Proposed Council Resolutions 25-10 through 25-19

- a. Deferring Phases of the Culvert Rehabilitation and Replacement at Various Locations project / Proposed Council Resolution 25-10

James Stack reported that this project is being deferred because the original construction schedule is no longer viable. The federal funding source is also being changed from STBG-Flex funds to PROTECT. This change will not impact fiscal constraint or any other projects.

- b. Adding the Culvert Replacement/Rehabilitation at Various Locations in Livingston, Monroe, and Wayne Counties project / Proposed Council Resolution 25-11

James Stack reported that this is a new project being added to the TIP. However, the work that will be done as part of this project was already planned; NYSDOT is proposing to shift some culvert locations from existing

projects to this new project. Funding for this change is from those other projects, and this change will not impact fiscal constraint.

- c. Increasing the Construction phase of the I-490 from Rt 204 (Exit 6 – Airport) to Howard Rd project / Proposed Council Resolution 25-12

James Stack reported that based on recent bid history, the project costs have increased. The cost increase can be covered by National Highway Performance Program (NHPP) balances.

- d. Deferring multiple phases of the Rt 18 Over Northrup Creek and Smith Creek Bridge Replacements (BINs 1014800 and 1014810) project / Proposed Council Resolution 25-13

James Stack reported that NYSDOT is requesting a deferral in several project phases because there is no longer adequate time to meet the original project schedule. The deferred phases have been included in the new 2026-2030 TIP.

- e. Advancing the project and increasing the Total Cost of the Replace 60-ft Buses [FFY 26] project / Proposed Council Resolution 25-14

Eric Farr reported that RGRTA is requesting this change to align the project with the current obligation schedule and actual vehicle costs.

- f. Decreasing total cost and revising the project description of the Replace 40-ft Buses (FFY 24) project / Proposed Council Resolution 25-15

Eric Farr reported that RGRTA is requesting this change to reflect an adjusted bus replacement schedule and to match current pricing.

- g. Increasing the total cost of the Replace Paratransit Buses [FFY 25] project / Proposed Council Resolution 25-16

Eric Farr reported that RGRTA is requesting this change to reflect an adjusted bus replacement schedule and to match current pricing.

- h. Decreasing the total cost and revising the project description of the Replace On Demand Vehicles [FFY 25] project / Proposed Council Resolution 25-17

Eric Farr reported that RGRTA is requesting this change to reflect an adjusted bus replacement schedule and to match current pricing.

- i. Adding the Rt 31 and Rt 36 (Washington St) Intersection Safety Enhancements project / Proposed Council Resolution 25-18

James Stack reported that this is a new project that will implement some safety improvements at the intersection of NYS Routes 31 and 36. NYSDOT Region 4 recently identified a crash pattern and relatively low-cost improvement at this intersection. Given its proximity to the Route 31, Route 31A and Redman Road safety improvement project, NYSDOT plans to implement both projects under a single contract. This project will be funded through the HSIP program.

- j. Increasing the cost of the Rt 33A over Erie Canal Bridge (BIN 4443340) project / Proposed Council Resolution 25-19

James Stack reported that NYSDOT is requesting a cost increase for this project due to higher than anticipated construction costs.

Thomas Frys moved to recommend the approval of Resolutions 25-10 through 25-19; Richard Sutherland seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.

3. Recommendation to the GTC Board concerning approving the Draft FFYs 2026-2030 Transportation Improvement Program/Proposed Council Resolution 25-20

Christopher Snyder presented a brief overview of the TIP development process, including the public engagement component. The Draft 2026-2030 TIP was released for public review and comment for 30 days from April 25 and May 27, and two public meetings were held during that time. Materials were available digitally on our Engagement Hub and available in hard copy. Publicity included a press release, mass email campaign, and social media outreach.

Chris provided a summary of the public comments received and shared a handout with the comments and GTC responses. The comments included:

- Support for active transportation, transit amenities and safety-related enhancements;
- support for non-motorized modes of travel; support for the Hamlet of Greigsville Corridor Improvements and is seeking design details;
- support for the I-390 project in Brighton, while concerned about the lack of a project to upgrade NYSDOT signage in the City of Rochester and elsewhere;
- Comments in a longer letter listed many projects the group strongly supports, some they would like to see expanded, and one they would like to see added to the program.

Based on the comments received, GTC staff does not recommend any additions or deletions of the projects. In addition, GTC staff will continue to work with project sponsors on final adjustments to project phase schedules to meet fiscal constraint.

Scott Leathersich acknowledged the efforts put forth by GTC/NYSDOT staff and the TIP Development Committee (TDC) to develop the 2026-2030 TIP. Jim Stack reiterated appreciation for the efforts of the TDC.

Thomas Frys moved to recommend approval of Resolution 25-20; Richard Sutherland seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.

4. Recommendation to the GTC Board concerning adopting the Transportation Conformity Statement for the Long Range Transportation Plan for the Genesee-Finger Lakes Region 2045 and the 2026-2030 Transportation Improvement Program / Proposed Council Resolution 25-21

James Stack reported that Transportation Conformity is the process by which metropolitan planning organizations ensure transportation investments included in the region's TIP conform to the Federal Clean Air Act and demonstrate that a proposed plan of projects will not negatively affect a region's ability to meet or maintain federal air quality standards. Documenting air quality conformity must be done as an element of the overall TIP development process. The draft Conformity Statement was published and available for public review and comment concurrently with the TIP Public Review period through May 27. No comments were received.

Thomas Frys moved to recommend approval of Resolution 25-21; Richard Sutherland seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.

c) Long Range Transportation Plan

1. Lori Maher announced Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council and Genesee Transportation Council staff are finalizing the schedule for the Transportation Listening Sessions for the first round of engagement to seek input about transportation-related needs. The schedule will be shared and publicized. Information will be posted on GTC Engagement Hub.

d) Related Activities

1. (No Action Items)

6. Reports

a) Status of UPWP Projects

GTC - Jim Stack reported:

- GTC Strategic Planning: Staff is monitoring transportation policy changes being implemented under the Trump Administration
- Long Range Transportation Plan Update/ Implementation: Staff have been collaborating with G/FLRPC on organizing the Transportation Listening Sessions to support LRTP outreach.
- Staff Technical Assistance: No activity to report. If any Committee members are aware of local needs for technical assistance, please reach out to Jim to discuss.
- Household Travel Data Collection: Staff has been investigating data platforms that NYSDOT has made available to MPOs so we can save expenses and focus on data gaps.

- Active Transportation Program: Staff is coordinating with stakeholders across the region to conduct field counts.
- Complete Streets Program: Funding has been designated to specific UPWP tasks.
- Safety Planning: No activity to report.
- Security & Resiliency Planning: No activity to report.
- Genesee-Finger Lakes Regional Resiliency Plan: No activity to report.
- Genesee-Finger Lakes Regional Thruway Detour Route Management Plan: An RFP has been finalized and is expected to be released in the next week or two.
- 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: Staff is working with the consultant to get final deliverables. Closeout anticipated in July.
- Regional Trails Initiative Update: An RFP is nearly final, but we are concerned about the budget. Given the size of the region and the extensive public involvement, the budget was increased as part of the budget amendment.

G/FLRPC – Joe Bovenzi reported on Richard Sutherland’s behalf:

- G/FLRPC Regional Land Use Monitoring (CY 2024): Filling in data gaps and will start mapping towards the end of June.
- Regional Land Use Monitoring Report Dashboard: Non-residential data is being added to the dashboard. Residential data (the much larger data set) is already uploaded and vetted.
- Transportation Listening Sessions: The meeting schedule will be shared and publicized. Information will be posted on GTC Engagement Hub.
- Genesee-Finger Lakes Region Population Forecast 2060: Need to have a discussion with GTC staff on scope (dashboard, etc.).
- Just Transition Workforce Development Plan: Scope of work was presented earlier in the meeting.
- Regional Alternative Fuel Vehicle Infrastructure Tools: Presented for closeout the April meeting and recommended for GTC Board acceptance in June.

Livingston County – Megan Crowe reported:

- Nunda Active Transportation Plan: Scope was presented earlier in the meeting.

Monroe County – Thomas Frye and Yixuan Lin reported:

- Land Use Monitoring (CY 2024): Received 70% response rate; will track down rest of municipalities. Will wait for a 90% response rate before compiling report.
- Safe Routes Child Walk and Bike Safety Education Program: A scope of work will be discussed at a future Planning Committee meeting, likely in July or August.
- High Accident Location Program: Analyses at 12 locations are in process.

- Genesee Valley Park Olmsted Arched Bridges Restoration Plan: A scope of work will be discussed at a future Planning Committee meeting, likely in the July.
- Monroe County Comprehensive Active Transportation Implementation Plan: A preferred consultant has been identified. Authorization to enter in a contract is expected in late June.

NYSDOT – Jody Binnix and Joe Bovenzi reported:

- TIP Best Practices Study: Survey for TDC members is under development. Consultant is compiling national best practices review.
- Wyoming County Route 20A Truck Freight Corridor Study: A draft RFP has been developed for NYSDOT review and comment. An internal meeting is scheduled for the week of June 2 to discuss RFP.
- I-490 Center City Interchange Ops Mobility Study: A scope of work will be discussed at a future Planning Committee meeting. NYSDOT staff met with City of Rochester staff to discuss the project.
- Mount Read Boulevard Corridor Study Update: The consultant is coordinating with NYSDOT and GTC to schedule the project kickoff meeting in June.

Ontario County – Jim Stack reported:

- Ontario County Access Management, Complete Street, and Resiliency Project: The draft RFP is under development.
- Ontario County Freight Rail Corridor Development Plan: Presented for closeout earlier in the meeting.

City of Rochester – David Riley reported:

- ADA Right-of-Way Transition Plan: Project is advancing. City and GTC staffs discussed adding new tasks that emerged during the study. The City is coordinating on amending the contract or the City contracting directly.
- Joseph Avenue ArtWalk Master Plan: Project is essentially complete. Working with stakeholders to finalize report. A closeout presentation is anticipated at the July meeting.
- Genesee Riverway Trail Completion Study: In concept development phase. Have developed draft project proposals. Will do public engagement later in the summer.
- Inner Loop North Mobility and Development Strategy: Project Advisory Committee meeting scheduled in June, next public engagement will be in late June.
- City of Rochester Alleyway Reactivation and Conversion Program: A preferred consultant has been identified, and staff is working on the contract now.

RGRTA – Eric Farr reported:

- Service Performance Monitoring and Refinement: Working on schedule timing changes to be implemented in July.

Wyoming County – Chris Tortora reported:

- Wyoming County Priority Investigation Locations Program: No activity to report.
- Wyoming County Active Transportation Plan: No activity to report.

Yates County – James Stack reported:

- Yates County Guiderail and Horizontal Curve Study: A scope of work will be discussed at a future Planning Committee meeting. Yates County sent an initial draft to GTC staff on May 28.

Other Agencies – Jim Stack and Joe Bovenzi reported:

- Village of Fairport Zoning Code Update: No activity to report.
- Town of Rush Comprehensive Active Transportation Plan: The consultant was scheduled to present the study to the Town Council on May 28 but has been postponed. Closeout anticipated in July or August.
- Town of Gates Active Transportation Plan: An RFP was advertised on April 25 with proposals due May 23. We received four proposals. Staff will coordinate with the Town to evaluate the proposals and select a preferred consultant.
- Hamlet of Ontario Center Active Transportation Plan: No activity to report. Kevin Rooney stated that he would like to see this project advance and offered to reach out to the town to see if he can help get work started.
- City of Batavia Active Transportation Plan: An RFP is expected to be released on the week of June 2.
- Ovid Active Transportation Plan: This is a new project; a scope of work will be discussed at a future Planning Committee meeting.

b) Status of SS4A Program

James Stack reported that kickoff meetings have been held with each lead Consultant. A coordination meeting with the west sub-region (Orleans, Genesee, Wyoming, and Livingston counties) was held May 21. The consultant has begun data collection and coordination for the east sub-region (Wayne, Ontario, Yates, and Seneca counties). We will be working with each County and the City of Rochester to identify participants for a project advisory group for each jurisdiction, for ten total.

c) TIP Staff Modifications

James Stack reported that since the last Planning Committee meeting, twenty staff modifications received concurrence from the TIP Development Committee. A report was included in the meeting package.

d) Federal Legislative and Funding Update

Federal Budget

Nothing to report.

USDOT Discretionary Programs

James Stack reported that the only discretionary funding opportunity currently available through FHWA is the fifth round of the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) program. A Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) was released on March 28 and applications are due on June 26, 2025. This is anticipated to be the last round of SS4A funding.

e) Other GTC Matters

No report provided.

f) Public Engagement Highlights

Lori Maher reported on recent outreach activities since the last meeting.

g) Member Agency and Partner Updates

Jody Binnix reported that funding for road safety improvement projects is available for projects that are consistent with the Statewide Roadway Departure Safety Action Plan. These funds are from the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) and are only available to local sponsors; NYSDOT cannot apply for these funds. On March 11, GTC distributed an email to regional stakeholders with information about this opportunity, and a recorded training session is also available to interested stakeholders. County highway superintendents should consider working with their towns to develop and submit funding applications. Stakeholders are welcome to reach out to him if they have questions about the program. Project applications are due on June 11, 2025.

Jim Stack noted that this initial information included an online map was primarily on State roads. NYSDOT has updated the resources on the program webpage. Jim encouraged agencies to look again if they didn't think they had qualifying roads.

7. New Business

No report provided.

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 July 10, 2025. All materials for items to be considered at this meeting should be submitted to GTC staff no later than Friday, June 27, 2025. Jim Stack reminded the Committee that the meeting package needs to be distributed before the Independence Day Holiday, so we have to be firm on the deadline for materials.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.