

GTC Public Engagement Report

August 16, 2022

Project(s):

1. FFYs 2023-2027 Transportation Improvement Program
2. Transportation Conformity Statement for the Long Range Transportation Plan for the Genesee-Finger Lakes Region 2045 and the FFYs 2023-2027 Transportation Improvement Program Statement

Dates: July 15, 2022 to August 15, 2022 (30 days)

Project Engagement Page(s):

- <https://publicinput.com/NewGTCTIP>
- <https://publicinput.com/Conformity2022>

Notification:

- Legal Notice: Democrat and Chronicle (July 15, 2022)
- Press Release issued to 60+ local news organizations (July 15, 2022)
 - In-studio talk radio program, coverage in weekly newspapers
- Email Distribution (>1,300)
- Social Media: Twitter, Facebook
- 3 Public Meetings
- Other: (None)

Title VI Accommodations:

No requests for specific accommodations were made. Several accessibility measures were incorporated into the community engagement plan including:

- One in-person public meeting, held in the late afternoon and early evening, held at an accessible location, directly served by public transit where paper copies of materials were available.
- Two virtual meetings were held allowing for remote participation by computer or telephone. Each public meeting was recorded, transcribed, and posted for later viewing. Viewers had the option of closed captioning in English or translated into another language.
- Additionally, information was provided online for people to review and comment at their convenience for 30 days. The website could be translated into multiple languages. People had multiple methods to provide input via mail, email, voicemail messages, participating in meetings or submitting questions via text message.

Summary of Comments

1. FFYs 2023-2027 Transportation Improvement Program – 12 comments
 - Two comments showing support for Village of Arcade Reconstruction project and follow up questions about timing, plans to secure construction funding, and local input

- Three comments about lack of funding for bike/ped specific projects.
 - Questions seeking clarification about listed transit projects using transit funds in next 3 fiscal years. (associated transit projects, preventative maintenance projects, and vehicle replacements.)
 - Other questions and comments were not project specific or were general in terms of MPO function, process, and policy.
2. Transportation Conformity Statement for the Long Range Transportation Plan for the Genesee-Finger Lakes Region 2045 and the FFYs 2023-2027 Transportation Improvement Program Statement – No comments

The full text of the comments received and GTC narrative responses to those comments is included in **Table 1**.

Additional Details

Additional details about the outreach efforts and results are available upon request by contacting GTC's Community Engagement Program Manager at ContactGTC@gtcmpo.org

Table 1. Comments Received and GTC Responses

Comments/Questions	
1.	Regarding: CR 4 at CR 20 Intersection Improvements (TIP # H20-02-ON2) I noticed the Town Of Phelps show on the map in the Regional Core. If there is anything you can do to help the Town Of Phelps Highway Dept. It would be greatly appreciated. One of the projects in the Town Of Seneca at the intersection of County Road 20 and County Road 4. Should actually include us. We have to help maintain that portion of the roadway in the winter months with plowing and salting. I see there is a meeting on July 26 at 6:30pm. I'll be attending a Senators meet and greet to try and secure funding. But please keep us in mind. We really could use any help you could provide us.
	From: Dan Breer, Town of Phelps Highway Department
	Received: Email
	GTC Response: The intersection improvements project in the Town of Seneca is being administered by Ontario County using Federal safety funds. As part of the design process, the County will coordinate with the Town and other relevant jurisdictions in the project area. GTC will forward your comments to the County as the lead agency, reiterate the Town of Phelps role with snow and ice maintenance. As for other assistance in the Town of Phelps, there is a new project recommended to be funded named: Ontario County Bridge Preventative Maintenance for Ontario County to administer a project conducting preventive maintenance on 4 bridges in the Towns of Phelps, Richmond, and Victor including the Gifford Road bridge over Canandaigua Outlet. GTC staff welcome the opportunity to discuss both Federal and State resources that may be available for eligible roads, bridges, and active transportation facilities in the town.
2.	I'd like to encourage federal funding for infrastructure for safe bicycling to include bike lanes, paths, larger shoulders, crossings, and signage for automobile drivers. I was sad to see in the presentation that so little money is available for bicycle projects. Please consider expanding the budget for cycling. Let's create a healthier, happier society by encouraging more people to use bicycles for commuting and leisure.
	From: Phil and Shelli Miller
	Received: PublicInput.com
	GTC Response: Although no standalone bicycle and pedestrian projects were recommended using Planning Target funds, there was an increased emphasis on Highway Rehabilitation and Reconstruction projects that can enable the redesign of corridors as Complete Streets with new active transportation facilities. Notable significant projects in the draft TIP include the Bulls Head Revitalization project and the Route 15 Corridor Enhancements – Phase I. In addition, since the release of the Project Lists for Public Review, 10 active transportation projects were awarded over \$16 million in Federal

		funding through the Transportation Alternatives Program and the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement. These projects will be added to the <i>FFYs 2023-2027 TIP</i> .
3.	Sad to see	bicycle and pedestrian categories unfunded.
	From:	Anonymous
	Received:	Public Meeting #2
	GTC Response:	<p>Although no standalone bicycle and pedestrian projects were recommended using Planning Target funds, there was an increased emphasis on Highway Rehabilitation and Reconstruction projects that can enable the redesign of corridors as Complete Streets with new active transportation facilities. Notable significant projects in the draft TIP include the Bulls Head Revitalization project and the Route 15 Corridor Enhancements – Phase I.</p> <p>In addition, since the release of the Project Lists for Public Review, 10 active transportation projects were awarded over \$16 million in Federal funding through the Transportation Alternatives Program and the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement. These projects will be added to the <i>FFYs 2023-2027 TIP</i>.</p>
4.	Regarding:	Village of Arcade, Roadway Reconstruction (TIP # H23-50-WY2)
		Support to retain Route 39/98 highway project in Arcade listed on Recommended for Funding List.
	From:	Andrew Koerner, Deputy Mayor, Village of Arcade
	Received:	Public Meeting #2
GTC Response:	Thank you for your support for the Village of Arcade Roadway Reconstruction project.	
5.	Regarding:	Village of Arcade, Roadway Reconstruction (TIP # H23-50-WY2)
		my next question was I did see on there that it is for design only, right? So now the total cost is at 4 million and that's for design only and engineering?
	From:	Andrew Koerner, Deputy Mayor, Village of Arcade
	Received:	Public Meeting #2
GTC Response:	This project includes roughly \$4 million of Federal and State funding to provide for the design of the reconstruction of Routes 39 and 98 within the Village; however, funding for construction has not identified at this time. It is anticipated that advancing the design at this time will better position this project to receive further funding in the future.	
6.	Regarding:	Village of Arcade, Roadway Reconstruction (TIP # H23-50-WY2)
		Regarding the timing of the project, how could it be accelerated to move closer to construction?
	From:	Andrew Koerner, Deputy Mayor, Village of Arcade
	Received:	Public Meeting #2
GTC Response:	The Scoping and Preliminary Engineering phases are scheduled to begin work in Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2023. The Detailed Design phase is	

		scheduled for FFY 2025. If construction funds are identified, the project could be let after the completion of the design phases.
7.	Regarding: Village of Arcade, Roadway Reconstruction (TIP # H23-50-WY2)	
	When the project is being designed, is there a chance and possibility for the village of Arcade to add input on how it's done?	
	From:	Andrew Koerner, Deputy Mayor, Village of Arcade
	Received:	Public Meeting #2
GTC Response:	Yes, NYSDOT is the lead agency administering this project and will incorporate input from the Village, stakeholders along the corridor and engagement from the community during the design process.	
8.	How do I get involved? We're in the public feedback period. So can you talk about when questions or comments are received during the public review? When does the GTC board meet and where do they do it? Is it a public forum that I can get more people to show?	
	From:	Andrew Koerner, Deputy Mayor, Village of Arcade
	Received:	Public Meeting #2
	GTC Response:	All questions and comments submitted for this public review will be compiled and shared with the GTC Planning Committee on August 11, 2022, for consideration to recommend the draft <i>FFYs 2023-2027 TIP</i> to the GTC Board at its meeting on August 25. Any additional comments received through August 15 will be added to the report and shared at the Board Meeting. GTC will respond to all comments and include the responses in the Public Engagement Summary. The GTC Board meets quarterly. Its next meeting is August 25 th at the RGRTA on East Main Street in Rochester.
9.	General Question: As a member of a local municipality, what can we do to help get some of our projects onto the TIP? What can we do? How can we get more stuff? There is a bridge that will need to be replaced soon over Water Street.	
	From:	Andrew Koerner, Deputy Mayor, Village of Arcade
	Received:	Public Meeting #2
	GTC Response:	GTC staff anticipate conducting another call for projects in 2024. There will likely be a solicitation for funding from NYSDOT for the BRIDGE NY program before then as well. It is always recommended for local governments to have a good sense of the conditions of assets by coordinating with NYSDOT Resident Engineers in each County and to document issues and concerns. GTC support planning activities to refine potential strategies to better define project concepts that compete best for funding programs when they arise.
10.	Regarding: Village of Arcade, Roadway Reconstruction (TIP # H23-50-WY2) (Attached Letter)	
	From:	State Senator Patrick Gallivan
	Received:	Written correspondence
	GTC Response:	Thank you for your support for the Village of Arcade Roadway Reconstruction project. This project includes roughly \$4 million of Federal and State funding to provide for the design of the reconstruction of Routes 39 and 98 within the Village; however, funding for construction

		has not identified at this time. It is anticipated that advancing the design at this time will better position this project to receive further funding in the future.
11.		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In the Transit section, we see multiple funded projects that appear to be identical except for the project #. Why is this? 2. Same section, it allocates \$8 M for "preventative maintenance", but it doesn't specify what this means- is it for buses, shelters? 3. Same section, it allocates quite a bit of money for replacing "On Demand" buses. Weren't these new buses put into service when ReImagine was started? Why are they being replaced?
	From:	James Dietz, on behalf of Reconnect Rochester
	Received:	Via Email
	GTC Response:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. These projects for bus replacements, preventive maintenance for rolling stock, and associated transit improvements are conducted on an annual basis to maintain a state of good repair across RGRTA's fleet and other assets. The RGRTA <i>Comprehensive Plan</i>, updated annually, takes into consideration the agency's <i>Transit Asset Management Plan</i> and includes an updated ten-year Capital Improvement Plan of projects in order to meet those goals. The annual Program of Projects is considered by the GTC Board and includes additional projects as additional Federal and State funding is identified. 2. The Preventive Maintenance projects allow Federal funds to be spent on RGRTA staff and capital costs for the on-going maintenance needs of fixed route buses, paratransit vehicles, and other rolling stock in order to maximize the usable life out of those assets. 3. These vehicles have a lower estimated usable life, approximately 5-7 years, depending on the specific vehicle type, as opposed to a 40-foot bus providing fixed route services, approximately 12 years. More information about the transit asset performance measures can be found in the GTC National Performance Measures Report.
12.		Will the bike/ped projects proposed that are not included in this funding be funded in other ways?
	From:	James Dietz, on behalf of Reconnect Rochester
	Received:	Via Email
	GTC Response:	<p>Although no standalone bicycle and pedestrian projects were recommended using Planning Target funds, there was an increased emphasis on Highway Rehabilitation and Reconstruction projects that can enable the redesign of corridors as Complete Streets with new active transportation facilities. Notable significant projects in the draft TIP include the Bulls Head Revitalization project and the Route 15 Corridor Enhancements – Phase I.</p> <p>In addition, since the release of the Project Lists for Public Review, 10 active transportation projects were awarded over \$16 million in Federal funding through the Transportation Alternatives Program and the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement. These projects will be added to the <i>FFYs 2023-2027 TIP</i>.</p>