

Executive Summary — Long Range Transportation Plan 2035

The *Long Range Transportation Plan for the Genesee-Finger Lakes Region 2035 (LRTP 2035)* identifies the direction for the region's transportation system and serves as the framework for future investment in highways, bridges, public transportation, bicycle and pedestrian paths and trails, and transportation-related air quality improvement projects. The *LRTP 2035* assesses existing and projected transportation system capabilities, needs, and objectives and includes recommendations to meet these objectives through 2035.

The Long Range Transportation Plan is one of three principal documents that the Genesee Transportation Council is required to develop and maintain. The other key documents are the Transportation Improvement Program and the Unified Planning Work Program.

The objectives of the *LRTP 2035* are to:

- Determine the current and projected transportation needs of the region's residents, businesses, and institutions over the next nearly 25 years.



- Assess the ability of the existing transportation system to meet these needs.
- Identify a set of fiscally constrained strategies that best fill the gap between the capabilities of the existing transportation system and current and projected needs through 2035 within reasonably expected levels of available funding.

The *LRTP 2035* was developed with input from residents, businesses, and community organizations. The first round of public involvement was held in November and December 2010 to review and gather input on opportunities and issues facing the nine-county region and potential transportation alternatives to be considered. A second round of public involvement was held in March and April 2011 to solicit comments on the Draft *LRTP 2035* document including recommendations to improve the performance of the regional transportation system based on the input received during the first round. The *LRTP 2035* was adopted by the GTC Board at its June 16, 2011 meeting.

The *LRTP 2035* is organized into six sections:

LRTP 2035 Development — Provides the goals and objectives of the *LRTP 2035*. The goals and objectives reflect the eight major transportation planning focus areas set forth in the federal Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), enacted in 2005. The role of GTC in transportation policy, planning, and

investment decision making including the organizational structure and current Board Members are presented. The four main guiding principles of the *L RTP 2035* are introduced, setting the stage for the remainder of the plan. These principles are:

- Plan for People
- Place Matters
- Maximize Existing Assets
- Accept Uncertainty
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The planning process used to develop the *L RTP 2035*, as noted above, is also discussed.

The Region — Discusses the existing and projected demographic and economic conditions in the region. Recreational and cultural resources are also described. Building on the guiding principal of Place Matters, different types of places based on their land uses are identified. Major emerging opportunities and issues in the region are also identified including, the Growing Importance of Seniors: An Economic Engine; the Regional Food System: Stability and Enhancement; the Transportation System’s Role in Public Health: Beyond Safety; the Larger Mega-Region: Positioning the Region for Success; the Impacts of Climate Change: Mitigation and Adaptation; and the Future Energy Requirements of the Nation: Undecided Sources. This chapter briefly discusses two plausible scenarios for the Region in 2035: a “Familiar Tomorrow” and a “Changing Landscape”.

The Transportation System — An overview of the regional transportation system is presented by mode: highways and bridges, public transportation, bicycle and pedestrian, freight, and interregional travel. Their associated travel characteristics such as bridge condition ratings, location of intelligent transportation system instrumentation devices, and bicycle suitability ratings are also highlighted. The congestion management process is then presented as a means to provide practical tools to identify and implement strategies that improve the mobility of people and freight, emphasizing coordinated corridor-level and region-wide solutions that mitigate existing sources and avoid the creation of future sources of congestion that result in excess delay. Safety and security considerations are also presented. The region’s transportation needs through 2035 are provide as an exhibit, matching the needs to the type of place as discussed in the previous chapter.

Financial Plan — Federal requirements mandate that the *L RTP 2035* include a financial plan that demonstrates how the recommendations can be implemented based on system-level estimates of costs and reasonably expected revenues. The anticipated change in costs of implementing transportation projects and programs and the federal revenues that can be reasonably expected to be available over the period covered by the *L RTP 2035* are noted. Applicable non-federal transportation funding mechanisms are also covered in this chapter.

Recommendations — Presents the strategies and actions to address existing and future needs within the financial resources reasonably expected to be available through 2035 for transportation projects and programs. Based on the amount of federal-aid-eligible projects for which funding has been solicited from GTC from 2005 through 2010, requests in the amount of \$450 million (\$75 million per year) have been unable to be funded. This represents a nearly 44 percent annual shortfall between available funding and the total amount requested.

Given this deficit between available funds and needed revenues, it is a certainty that all of the region's transportation needs will not be able to be met with the reasonably expected revenues.

The recommendations presented are strategies that will lead to the projects and programs that best address regional transportation needs and the emerging opportunities and issues as discussed previously and noted throughout the discussion of individual recommendations. The center of GTC's recommendations focus on the preservation and maintenance of the system, systems management and operations, expansion, and select illustrative projects which are projects that are not fiscally constrained.

Performance Measurement — Identifies the metrics used to monitor changes in the performance of the regional transportation system in order to gauge progress toward addressing the identified needs of the *LRTP 2035*. A total of fifteen measures are presented to address the following categories: safety, system preservation, mobility, accessibility, and the environment. Desired and likely changes are presented for each individual metric. Data to calculate the measures are gleaned from a variety of sources and each measure has its own unique timeline.

The *LRTP 2035* provides a strategic framework for policy, planning, and investment decision making to ensure that the multiple agencies that own, maintain, and operate transportation infrastructure and services are working continuously, cooperatively, and comprehensively in a coordinated fashion. It is not, nor is it intended to be, a capital or operating plan for any single transportation agency in the Genesee-Finger Lakes Region. Per federal guidelines the plan must be updated no less than every four years.

The entire *LRTP 2035* document is available at www.gtcmpo.org.

For more information on the Long Range Transportation Plan, please contact the Genesee Transportation Council at 585-232-6240 or contactgtc@gtcmpo.org.