

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** GTC Planning Committee Members & Alternates  
**FROM:** James Stack, Executive Director JS  
**DATE:** March 30, 2016  
**SUBJECT:** Proposed Council Resolution 16-42 (Accepting report as evidence of completion of UPWP Task)

The following item is provided for your consideration:

- 1. Proposed Council Resolution 16-42** (accepting the *Regional Transportation and Food Systems Analysis* as evidence of completion of UPWP Task 5242) and the **Executive Summary** of the project.

The Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council has completed Task 5242, Regional Transportation and Food Systems Analysis, and will discuss it at the April 7, 2016 Planning Committee meeting.

***Recommended Action:***

*Recommend action by the GTC Board on proposed Council Resolution 16-42.*



## GENESEE TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL

### RESOLUTION

#### **Resolution 16-42    *Accepting the Regional Transportation and Food Systems Analysis as evidence of completion of UPWP Task 5242***

#### **WHEREAS,**

1. The *FY 2015-2016 Unified Planning Work Program* includes Task 5242, Regional Transportation and Food Systems Analysis, for the purpose of identifying and inventorying the stakeholders involved with food production, processing, storage/warehousing, distribution, and post consumption, and to summarize the transportation and land use opportunities and issues.
2. Said Task included the identification of key stakeholders, the development of interview questions and associated recording instruments, and the conducting of interviews to identify key opportunities and issues;
3. Said Task has been completed and has resulted in the *Regional Transportation and Food Systems Analysis*, which catalogues and summarizes key opportunities and issues, identifies and compiles available resources from within and outside the region, and develops recommended next steps and actions; and
4. Said Study has been reviewed by GTC staff and member agencies through the GTC committee process and has been found to be consistent with the goals, objectives, and recommendations of the Long Range Transportation Plan.

#### **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**

1. That the Genesee Transportation Council hereby accepts the *Regional Transportation and Food Systems Analysis* as evidence of completion of UPWP Task 5242; and
2. That this resolution takes effect immediately.

#### **CERTIFICATION**

The undersigned duly qualified Secretary of the Genesee Transportation Council certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted at a legally convened meeting of the Genesee Transportation Council held on June 9, 2016.

Date \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
KEVIN C. BUSH, Secretary  
Genesee Transportation Council

## Executive Summary

*Transportation and Food Systems in the Genesee-Finger Lakes Region* is a project of the Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council (G/FLRPC) that seeks to promote local and regional food systems by conducting a baseline assessment of land use and transportation barriers and developing recommendations for actions. The project has identified and interviewed a diverse sampling of stakeholders involved in food production, processing, wholesale, retail, and waste management activities in the nine-county Genesee-Finger Lakes Region. The goal of this comprehensive inventory is to inform future efforts and build links between food and planning activities through land use, transportation, and economic development.

Agriculture is an economic driver not only for New York State but for the Genesee-Finger Lakes Region, which includes Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Orleans, Seneca, Wayne, Wyoming, and Yates Counties. Although New York State ranks 26<sup>th</sup> in the country in terms of overall agricultural sales, it is one of the biggest producers for dairy, fruits, berries, wine, and some vegetables—with the Region accounting for some of the largest production. New York State also ranks high among the largest producers in the nation for some food products, including cheese, cottage cheese, sour cream, and yogurt. The State is a leader in yogurt production, with several major companies located in the Region. In 2007, New York State was the second-largest producer of wine in the nation behind California. Two hundred million bottles of wine were produced in the State; 85 percent was produced in the Region and surrounding areas.<sup>1</sup>

County Planning Departments and other regional organizations have assisted in identifying representative food system stakeholders. Stakeholders were then asked to participate in an interview that consisted of identifying and commenting on product and operational structure, opportunities and limitations of the local and regional food system, transportation and distribution issues, and other data-gathering. Standardized interview questions were developed with assistance from the G/FLRPC Planning Coordination Committee (PCC) and others.

The goal of *Transportation and Food Systems in the Genesee-Finger Lakes Region* is to develop a starting point to better understand the economic impact and future potential of local and regional agriculture, food processing, food wholesaling, food retailing, and food waste management activities as it relates to the Region's transportation system. Product movement through the system and problems in the transportation infrastructure has been summarized. The project provides solutions to the transportation issues identified, such as case studies and other policies, plans, and tools in land use, transportation, and economic development.



<sup>1</sup>. "The Role of Agriculture in the New York State Economy," Office of the New York State Comptroller, accessed 6 January 2016, <http://www.osc.state.ny.us/reports/other/agriculture21-2010.pdf>.