

**GENESEE TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL
PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Ebenezer Watts Conference Center
47 South Fitzhugh Street, Rochester**

January 10, 2019

PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Scott Leathersich, Monroe County – At-Large (Chairperson)
Rochelle Bell, Monroe County Planning Board
Timothy Frelier, Monroe County
Erik Frisch, City of Rochester – At-Large
Todd Gadd, Wyoming County
Andrea Guzzetta, Rochester City Council
David Lindsay, Monroe County – At-Large
Kevin Rooney, Wayne County
David Zorn, Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council (G/FLRPC)

ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT

Don Higgins, Livingston County, representing Angela Ellis
Peter Houseknecht, Orleans County, representing James Bensley
Joel Kleinberg, NY State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) – Region 4, representing Frank Billittier
Mitchell Rowe, Seneca County, representing Sam Priem

PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT AND UNREPRESENTED

Bill Carpenter, Rochester Genesee Regional Transportation Authority (RGRTA)
Maria Chau, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
Stephen Golding, Empire State Development Corporation
David Hartman, Yates County
Timothy Hens, Genesee County
Thomas Hurley, NYS Thruway Authority
Norman Jones, City of Rochester
Dorraine Kirkmire, Rochester City Planning Commission
Mike Rockow, Monroe County
Steven Urlass, Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)
William Wright, Ontario County
(Vacant), Federal Transportation Administration (FTA)
(Vacant), Monroe County Supervisors' Association
(Vacant), NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC)

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Jody Binnix, GTC staff
Dennis Judson, Fisher Associates, Inc.
Alex Kone, GTC staff
Darin Ramsay, City of Rochester

Terry Rice, Barton and Loguidice, Inc.
Rich Perrin, T.Y. Lin, Inc.
Chris Sichak, Erdman Anthony, Inc.
James Stack, GTC staff

1. Call to Order & Introductions

Scott Leathersich, Planning Committee Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. Members, Alternates, and others present introduced themselves.

2. Public Forum

No member of the public spoke during the Public Forum.

3. Approval of Minutes

Tim Frelier moved to approve the minutes from the November 8, 2018 Planning Committee meeting; Joel Kleinberg seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as presented.

After the minutes were approved, a correction was noted regarding the Comprehensive Access & Mobility Plan during the project update portion of the agenda. The minutes should state that the second round of public engagement was held, not the first round.

Tim Frelier agreed to a modification to his previous motion to reflect the correction noted above; Joel Kleinberg also agreed to the modification. The minutes were approved as modified.

4. Reports and Action on Old Business

a. Reports on UPWP Projects and Other Activities

GTC

Jim Stack reported:

- GTC Strategic Planning: An Agreement to document the process for conducting performance measurement among MPOs, transit operators, and NYSDOT has been fully executed.
- Long Range Transportation Plan Update/Implementation: Revisions to Performance Measures were accepted by the GTC Board at its December 13 meeting.
- Genesee-Finger Lakes Scenario Tool: An RFQ was released on December 7 with Statements of Qualifications due January 11.
- Advancing Health-Informed Transportation Decision Making: No new activity to report.
- Genesee-Finger Lakes Regional Local Bridge Vulnerability Assessment: GTC staff has been closing the loop with various counties. The consultant is making field visits to select bridges, which have been conducted or scheduled in 8 of the 9 counties.
- Genesee-Finger Lakes Regional TSMO Strategic Plan: Accepted by the GTC Board at its September 6 meeting.

- Vulnerable Users Safety Assessment Program Phases 1 & 2: No new activity to report.
- Congestion Management Process (CMP): GTC staff have integrated the CMP toolbox into LRTP 2040.
- Greater Rochester Regional Commuter Choice Program: No new activity to report.
- Travel Time Data Collection Program: No new activity to report.
- Lake Ontario State Parkway Lane Transportation Alternatives Feasibility Study: The consultant is awaiting data in order to finalize the draft recommendations for Steering Committee review prior to a final public meeting.
- Genesee-Finger Lakes Regional Performance Measurement Monitoring & Evaluation System: An RFQ was developed and released on August 10 with Statements of Qualifications due September 14. GTC received one response. GTC staff is working with NYSDOT and Monroe County to ensure there is comfort moving forward without being able to compare to another vendor. The sole response is qualified to conduct the project. We are also reaching out to firms that did not respond to better understand why.
- Transportation Impacts on Economic Development in the Greater Rochester International Airport (GRIA) Area: GTC staff has made progress drafting a Scope of Work and is reaching out to stakeholders before finalizing. I expect the Scope of Work to be presented to the Planning Committee in February.
- Cross Asset Highway and Bridge Evaluation and Prioritization Tool: This project has been put on the backburner as we consider options to rework the RFQ and whether or not to reissue.
- Genesee-Finger Lakes Regional Flood Vulnerability Model: In November, the Planning Committee agreed with the GTC staff recommendation to drop this project. The funding that had been programmed for contractual expenses was made available for use in the next UPWP.
- Livingston County Human Services Trip Planning Website: GTC staff is working with Livingston County on ways to more effectively promote and use the website. The working group is scheduled to meet again on January 17. GTC staff will coordinate with Livingston County on a closeout presentation at a future meeting.

G/FLRPC

David Zorn reported:

- Genesee Finger Lakes Region Local Update of Census Addresses 2020: Staff is between Phases 1 and 2, awaiting a response from the Census Bureau. No new activity to report.
- Regional Land Use Monitoring Report: Accepted by the GTC Board at its December 13 meeting. The survey for 2018 was sent out the first week of January and feedback is being received.

Livingston County

Don Higgins reported:

- Hamlet of Greigsville Transportation Safety & Access Improvement Plan: This project was accepted by the GTC Board at its June 14 meeting.

Monroe County

Rochelle Bell reported:

- Monroe County Land Use Monitoring: Report on 2017 activity accepted by the GTC Board at its December 13 meeting. The survey for the 2018 permit data will be submitted to local jurisdictions by the end of January.

Tim Frelier reported:

- Monroe County High Accident Location Program: 3 more locations have been completed since the November meeting. 22 out of 49 locations have been completed.

NYSDOT

Jim Stack reported:

- NYSDOT Safety Investigations and Analysis: GTC staff released an RFQ on December 7 with Statements of Qualifications due January 11.

Ontario County

Jim Stack reported:

- County Road 16 Pedestrian & Bicycle Accommodations Feasibility Study: Accepted by the GTC Board at its December 13 meeting.

City of Rochester

Erik Frisch reported:

- City of Rochester Comprehensive Access & Mobility Plan: The Street Design Guide workshop was held on December 3 with an overview of peer cities' Guides and a review of draft typologies for Rochester. Focus Area concept plans are currently in progress. The next Steering Committee meeting will be held on February 22.
- City of Rochester Mobility Enhancement Study: Accepted by the GTC Board at its December 13 meeting.

RGRTA

Eric Farr reported:

- RTS Access Ridership and Facility Evaluation: The consultant completed the space evaluations and the alternative sites review. The recommendation is to relocate the facility.
- RTS System Redesign: The project is continuing. The Community Advisory Committee is scheduled to meet February 5 to review recommendations on Community Mobility Zones, Mobility Hubs, and implications for ADA paratransit.
- Mobility Management Implementation Study: The contract was awarded to IBI Group. A kick off meeting has been held. A spring completion date is anticipated.

Wayne County

Jim Stack reported:

- Ontario Midland Strategic Plan: Proposals were received on December 14.

Other Agencies

Jim Stack reported:

- Irondequoit Bay Outlet Bridge Alternatives Analysis Study: Accepted by the GTC Board at its June 14 meeting.
- Route 96 Transformative Corridor Strategic Infrastructure Plan: Accepted by the GTC Board at its June 14 meeting.
- Honeoye Falls Circulation, Accessibility, and Parking (CAP) Study: A contract has been fully executed. A project kick-off meeting is scheduled for January 30.
- Penn Yan Circulation, Accessibility, and Parking (CAP) Study: A contract has been fully executed. A project kick-off meeting is scheduled for January 24.
- Uptown Canandaigua Mixed-Use & Transportation Corridor Feasibility Study: Steering Committee was provided a draft report for review and comment. The project is nearing completion. GTC staff is coordinating with the Town on a closeout presentation at a future meeting.
- Pittsford Active Transportation Plan: GTC staff met with the Town and NYSDOT-Region 4 to discuss NYSDOT comments on study recommendations for the State's system and how they can be addressed. Hopeful that a closeout presentation will be made soon.
- Geneseo Active Transportation Plan: A contract has been fully executed. A project kick-off meeting is scheduled for January 17.
- Sodus Point Active Transportation Plan: An RFP was released October 30 with a due date of November 30. Three proposals were received. GTC staff is coordinating with Village representatives on the Consultant selection.

- Maple Ridge Corridor Study: A contract has been fully executed. A project kick-off meeting was held December 12.
 - Ontario County SR 364/CR 11 Active Transportation Corridor Plan: A contract has been finalized and was sent to the Consultant for signature last week. Once the contract is fully executed, a project kick-off meeting will be scheduled.
- b. Any Other Old Business or Announcements

Jim Stack provided the following report:

Federal Legislative and Funding Update

As previously reported, as part of a "minibus" Appropriations bill, a Continuing Resolution to fund transportation programs through December 7 was signed into law on September 28. The funding levels are the same as FFY 2018. Due to President Bush's death, Congress and the Administration passed another Continuing Resolution through December 21. Congress and the Administration could not agree on the various Appropriations and a shutdown of a portion of the government went into effect on December 22. There are seven Appropriations that still need to be passed, including one that covers the US Department of Transportation.

At this time, the shutdown is not affecting Federal Highway Administration staff and programs as they are funded by the Highway Trust Fund and there is sufficient obligation authority to remain functional. However, Federal Transit Administration staff is affected and some have been furloughed. Near term impacts to highway and bridge projects are not anticipated, but transit projects may be impacted.

With the House now under Democrat control, there is push back against the Administration's desire for a barrier along the southern border with Mexico. The Senate leadership has indicated they will not bring any Appropriations bills to a vote unless the President has publicly indicated he will sign them. It looks like all sides are digging in but, with the first missed paycheck for federal workers is scheduled to occur on Friday, pressure may increase on all parties.

TIP Staff Modifications

Alex Kone provided a report on three TIP Staff Modifications that were approved by the GTC Executive Director after notifying the TIP Development Committee and receiving no objections:

- On November 15, modified phases to the Main Street Streetscape - Phase 2 project resulting in no change in Total Cost or Federal Share;
- On December 5, added non-Federal funds to the Monroe County Highway Preventive Maintenance #6 project to reflect the latest cost estimate;

- On January 4, added non-Federal funds to the Mason Road Sidewalks project for an eligible, non-participating share and to reflect the additional cost of a betterment; and
- On January 4, modified phases to the 390 Multi-Use Trail project resulting in no change in Total Cost or Federal Share.

5. Action Items

- a. Action concerning **approving the Draft *FY 2019-2020 Unified Planning Work Program for public review*** (GTC staff)

James Stack provided the following report:

The Unified Planning Work Program, or UPWP, is the program of federally-funded transportation planning activities to be undertaken by GTC staff, its member agencies, and other jurisdictions in the Genesee-Finger Lakes Region. The Fiscal Year 2019-2020 UPWP will support planning activities for the period beginning April 1, 2019 and ending March 31, 2020. Projects included in the current UPWP that are not complete as of March 31, 2019 will be rolled over into the FY 2019-2020 UPWP.

GTC staff solicited proposals UPWP on September 14. Once again, GTC staff emphasized that the UPWP supports planning partnerships between GTC and local communities. GTC staff worked with the UPWP Development Committee, or UDC, consisting of representatives of the member agencies in the Metropolitan Planning Area, to prioritize project proposals.

GTC received 25 applications requesting about \$1.7 million. GTC staff were initially able to make \$950,000 available for projects. At the November 8 meeting, this group concurred with the staff suggestion not to advance the Genesee-Finger Lakes Regional Flood Vulnerability Model, task 7910. This made another \$50,000 available for programming. Additionally, GTC staff discussed with the UDC the option of eliminating the MAP-21/FAST Act Implementation task as we have been able to address all the requirements of the new metropolitan planning rule and no longer have a specific need for contingency fund. The net effect of these changes was that the UDC was able to recommend about \$1.2 million for GTC staff operations and new studies. In some cases, the UDC recommended less than the full amount requested for projects that could be phased or scaled back but still be meaningful.

On January 8, Eileen Yates and I had a conference call with NYSDOT Main Office to discuss what they refer to as a backlog/savings. This is their accounting of obligated revenue and actual expenditures for each fiscal year. Due to the way FHWA funds are managed, their records show a balance for GTC. We needed to better understand how this could be since we have tracked all of our revenue and expenditures and work to fully account for them every year. What we concluded is that the balance likely pre-dates anyone involved in the process now and was a perpetual rollover of funds. FHWA has made this a point of emphasis and starting in 2018 and GTC staff is now creating a year-end report of actual expenditures that will facilitate the management of the funds. The bottom line is that we now know that we have access to additional funds and will

need to work with NYSDOT Main Office on a strategy to draw down the funds. I would like to suggest, for Planning Committee consideration, that we fully fund the requested amounts for seven new task that the UDC had recommended a smaller amount due to the limited available funds.

A revised Draft Project List, showing updated figures to represent this approach, was distributed for Planning Committee consideration. The figures in red are the only changes from what was mailed in the meeting package. The changes would fully fund the requested amounts. The increase is \$174,000 and I am confident that we have a sufficient balance in the backlog/savings to cover this increase. I have been given indications that both NYSDOT Main Office and FHWA would be supportive of us drawing down the backlog/savings balance as they want the funds to be put to use.

GTC staff has prepared edited task table so that the public review document would be ready to mail out, as scheduled, if the Committee chooses to go with the higher values.

Scott Leathersich asked if there are additional funds beyond the savings. Jim Stack replied in the affirmative stating that GTC staff is working with NYSDOT Main Office to refine a specific figure. He added that he is confident about the additional \$174,000 committed to the aforementioned projects.

Kevin Rooney moved to approve the approving the Draft *FY 2019-2020 Unified Planning Work Program for public review*, Erik Frisch seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.

6. New Business

No member of the Committee had any new business.

7. Public Forum

No member of the public spoke during the Public Forum.

8. Next Meeting:

Jim Stack noted that the next meeting is scheduled for February 14, 2019 at Livingston County Highway Department located at 4389 Gypsy Lane, Groveland.

All materials for items to be considered at this meeting should be submitted to GTC staff no later than Friday, February 1, 2019.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:01 a.m.