

**GENESEE TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL
QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING**

August 27, 2020

8:30 a.m.

Due to physical distance requirements during the COVID-19 outbreak, this meeting was conducted online rather than in-person.

GTC BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Jerry Davis, Wyoming County (Chairman)
Timothy Cuter, Genesee-Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council (G/FLRPC)
Daniel Hogan, Monroe County – At Large
David LeFeber, Livingston County
Ken Miller, Wayne County
Douglas Paddock, Yates County
William Santos, Monroe County Planning Board
Rochelle Stein, Genesee County

ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT

Uzoma Anukwe, Federal Transit Administration (FTA), representing Stephen Goodman
Kevin Bush, New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT), representing Marie Therese Dominguez
Sean Carrington, NYS Thruway Authority (NYSTA), representing Matthew Driscoll
Tim Frelier, Monroe County, representing Adam Bello
Stephen Golding, Empire State Development Corporation, representing Eric Gertler
Carlos Gonzalez, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), representing Richard Marquis
George Hebert, Monroe County Legislature, representing, Dr. Joseph Carbone
Peter Ingalsbe, Ontario County, representing John Marren
Norman Jones, City of Rochester, representing Lovely Warren
Scott Leathersich, Monroe County At-Large
John Papponetti, Orleans County, representing Lynne Johnson
Mitch Rowe, Seneca County, representing Robert Hayssen
Robert Scanlon, Rochester City Council, representing Loretta Scott
John Thomas, City of Rochester At-Large, representing James McIntosh
Timothy Walsh, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, representing Basil Seggos

GTC BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT AND UNREPRESENTED

Donald E. Jeffries, Rochester Genesee Regional Transportation Authority (RGRTA)
Evelyn Martinez, Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)
David Seeley, Monroe County Supervisors Association
David L. Watson, Rochester City Planning Commission

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Scott Adair, RGRTA
Rochelle Bell, Monroe County
Jody Binnix, GTC staff
Joe Bovenzi, GTC staff
Joel Kleinberg, NYSDOT
Alex Kone, GTC staff

Lori Maher, GTC staff
Chris Reeve, NYSDOT
James Stack, GTC staff
Chris Tortora, GTC staff
David Zorn, G/FLRPC

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chairman Davis called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m.

Alex Kone, GTC staff, called the roll; a quorum was present.

2. Public Forum

There were no comments.

3. Approval of Minutes

Chairman Davis noted that draft minutes from the June 11, 2020, GTC Board meeting were included in the meeting package.

William Santos moved to approve the minutes from the June 11, 2020 Quarterly Meeting; Ken Miller seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.

Chairman Davis added that draft minutes from the August 6, 2020 Planning Committee meeting were provided for informational purposes.

4. Communications and Announcements

James Stack noted that an updated single meeting package with page numbers was emailed prior to the meeting.

5. Reports and Action on Old Business

a. Planning Committee Report

Scott Leathersich reported that the Planning Committee met remotely on August 6th and recommends that the GTC Board:

- Accept reports as evidence of completion of two Unified Planning Work Program tasks:
 - Ontario County SR 364/CR 11 Active Transportation Plan (Task 8777); and
 - Land Use Report for Monroe County, New York – Major Projects Proposed, Approved, and Constructed in 2019 (Task 4210)
- Amend the *National Performance Measures Report for the Genesee-Finger Lakes Region* and the *2020-2024 Transportation Improvement Program* by revising the HSIP and Highway Safety Performance Targets
- Amend the *FFY 2020-2024 Transportation Improvement Program* as requested by the Town/Village of East Rochester, Genesee and Orleans Counties, RGRTA, and NYSDOT.

Additionally, the Planning Committee took the following action:

- Approved the Scopes of Work for two Unified Planning Work Program tasks:
 - Ramp Reconfiguration Study (Task 7952); and
 - Livingston County Mobility Management Strategy (Task 8171).
- Approved nine administrative modifications to the *FFY 2020-2024 Transportation Improvement Program* as requested by the Village of Arcade, City of Rochester, Livingston, Ontario, and Wayne Counties, and NYSDOT:
 - Increasing the Total Cost of the Ridge Road Bridge over Salmon Creek;
 - Increasing the Total Cost of the CR 28 at Shortsville Road Intersection Improvements;
 - Increasing the Total Cost of the Bridge Preventive Maintenance - Group #2;
 - Deferring a phase of the Dow Rd over Bidwell Creek Bridge;
 - Increasing the Total Cost of the East Main Street Reconstruction;
 - Increasing the Total Cost of the Northwest, Group 12;
 - Deferring a phase of the Rt 5/US 20 Intersection Improvements;
 - Adding a supplementary phase to the Rt 204 MbC (Rt 33A to Rochester C/L); and
 - Deferring a phase of the Arcade Main Street Sidewalk.

b. GTC Staff Report

COVID-19 Impact on GTC operations

James Stack reported that COVID-19 continues to impact how GTC is operating. Beginning July 6, staff began reporting to the office but are splitting time between working in the office and at home. On any given day, attendance is limited to 50 percent of staff.

The need for physical distance continues to create challenges trying to meet in person. The August 6 Planning Committee meeting was held remotely, just like this meeting. Staff have also used remote meeting platforms to support public outreach on various planning studies across the region.

Staff are taking our lessons learned and incorporating them into our updated Public Participation Plan that is currently being drafted. Jim noted that the key will be to acknowledge the flexibility and adaptability that will be needed to reflect the intent of our public engagement efforts over the specific mechanisms of doing so.

2045 Long Range Transportation Plan

James Stack reported that, as noted at the last meeting in June, due to COVID-19, staff have needed to reassess public engagement for the Long Range Transportation Plan, or LRTP. Jody Binnix provided an update to the Planning Committee at its August meeting.

Physical distancing guidelines have prohibited sizable in-person gatherings; therefore, staff is now conducting all public engagement remotely and relying heavily on the capabilities of PublicInput.com. The main goal is to provide meaningful opportunities for the public to participate. In that vein, staff have held two online Open Houses. The first was mid-day on August 20 and the second was this past Tuesday evening. In addition, there staff have deployed a survey to get input on people's areas of concern and thoughts they have about the future of transportation in the region. Staff have made concerted efforts to spread the word to get a broad a perspective as we can.

Staff have developed specific questions to try to understand how COVID-19 has affected people's travel behaviors and what changes might be more lasting after the crisis is under better control.

Staff recently received guidance that, at this time, the Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration will not be offering extension to the deadline for updating the LRTP. Therefore, staff are continuing on a schedule that provides for the new LRTP to be adopted in June 2021.

George Hebert asked if GTC staff have adopted measures for the involvement of different segments of the public. Jim replied that the survey did include a voluntary section soliciting demographic information. He noted that a significant percentage of the respondents providing that information have been white men aged 50 and above. In order to broaden the survey's reach, staff will be purchasing targeted ads on Facebook based upon specific geographic areas. They are also reaching out to various community groups to garner deeper conversations.

Carlos Gonzalez noted the technical difficulty in public involvement measures, relating to both the quantity and quality of feedback. He commended GTC staff for starting their engagement process earlier than other peer MPOs.

c. Old Business

1. Federal Legislative and Funding Update

Progress on a reauthorization of the surface transportation legislation stalled as Congress and the Administration focused on the COVID-19 crisis and now the upcoming election. At this time, I am not expecting a timely agreement to replace the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act, or FAST Act. The FAST Act expires on September 30. With no obvious path to renewal, I fully expect that the FAST Act will be extended. Likewise, there is not general agreement on appropriations for the next Federal Fiscal Year. Therefore, a Continuing Resolution will be needed to fund federal operations beyond September 30. In both cases, I suspect the extension will go past Election Day.

2. TIP Staff Modifications Report

Chairman Davis informed the Board that the TIP staff modifications report was included in the meeting package and is being provided for informational purposes. There were no questions.

6. Action Items

- a. Accepting reports as evidence of completion of a UPWP Task

Chairman Davis suggested grouping proposed Resolutions 20-29 and 20-30 into a single action; no Member or Alternate objected.

James Stack noted that Proposed Resolutions 20-29 and 20-30 were reviewed and recommended for GTC Board approval by the Planning Committee at its August 6, 2020 meeting.

- (1) Accepting the *Ontario County SR 364/CR 11 Active Transportation Plan* as evidence of completion of UPWP Task 8777 / Proposed Resolution 20-29

James Stack reported this project was conducted by Ontario County. The Executive Summary of the project starts on page 28 of the meeting package. The purpose of the project was to identify comprehensive strategies and infrastructure improvements to incorporate bicyclists, pedestrians, and motorists as equal corridor users, especially including non-motorized access to two County parks - Ontario County Beach and Deep Run - and parkland in the Town of Gorham. Tasks included inventorying existing and planned conditions including physical operational, and regulatory characteristics of the roadway and community, along with the surveying the active transportation experience along the corridor. Existing planning documents and zoning regulations were reviewed. A corridor-wide and a character zone needs and opportunities assessment with corresponding recommendations and general cost estimates were developed. Finally, an implementation priority matrix was created.

- (2) Accepting the *and Use Report for Monroe County, New York – Major Projects Proposed, Approved, and Constructed in 2019* as evidence of completion of UPWP Task 4210 / Proposed Resolution 20-30

James Stack reported that the project was conducted by Monroe County. The Executive Summary of the project starts on page 36 of the meeting package. The purpose of the project was to document land use and development trends in Monroe County for use in updating the GTC Travel Demand Model. Tasks include distributing municipal surveys and following up with non-respondents. The report compiled annual and proposed development by municipality and at the Transportation Analysis Zone-level.

Rochelle Stein moved to approve proposed Resolutions 20-29 and 20-30; George Hebert seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.

- b. Amending the *National Performance Measures Report for the Genesee-Finger Lakes Region* and the *2020-2024 Transportation Improvement Program* by revising the HSIP and Highway Safety Performance Targets / Proposed Resolution 20-31

Proposed Resolution 20-31 was reviewed and recommended for your approval by the Planning Committee at its August 6, 2020 meeting. The materials for this item begin on page 38 of the meeting package.

Highway Safety Performance Targets and Measures were included with the adoption of the 2020-2024 TIP on June 13, 2019. Targets were also included in the *National Performance Measures Report for the Genesee-Finger Lakes Region* on September 6, 2018.

NYS DOT has conducted its annual analysis of crash data and has coordinated with the Governor's Traffic Safety Committee, or GTSC, to establish safety targets for 2021. GTSC reports the 2021 safety targets via its Annual Highway Safety Report and NYS DOT reports the 2021 safety targets via its Highway Safety Improvement Program, or HSIP. Since GTC has agreed to support the State's safety targets, the *National Performance Measures Report for the Genesee-Finger Lakes Region and the 2020-2024 Transportation Improvement Program* need to be updated to reflect the 2021 targets. This must be accomplished within 120 days of NYS DOT filing its HSIP report.

Exhibit 1 of the Resolution shows the revisions to the associated table in the 2020-2024 TIP. As part of this update, GTC staff will also make editorial changes to the TIP where there are references to Resolutions and/or dates of GTC Board action. Exhibit 2 of the Resolution shows the revised narrative and table within the National Performance Measures Report.

George Hebert asked how the GTC region compares to the statewide measures. James Stack stated that staff has not yet conducted such an analysis but will compile regional data and provide the figures to the Board.

Peter Ingalsbe moved to approve proposed Resolution 20-31; Scott Leathersich seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.

- c. Amending the *2020-2024 Transportation Improvement Program* / Proposed Resolutions 20-32 through 20-45

Chairman Davis suggested grouping proposed Resolutions 20-32 through 20-45 into a single action; no Member or Alternate objected.

James Stack noted that Proposed Resolutions 20-32 through 20-45 were reviewed and recommended for GTC Board approval by the Planning Committee at its August 6, 2020 meeting.

- (1) Amending the *2020-2024 TIP* by adding the Ontario Street Bridge over Irondequoit Creek Replacement project / Proposed Resolution 20-32

This amendment is requested by the Town/Village of East Rochester. The change reflects actual costs incurred during construction. Due to weight limits of the existing bridge, heavy equipment was restricted to working from one side that increased the size of equipment and time needed to complete the project.

- (2) Amending the *2020-2024 TIP* by deferring phases of the Yates Carlton Townline Rd over Johnson Creek Bridge project / Proposed Resolution 20-33

This amendment is requested by Orleans County. The County requested to defer the phases due to an anticipated reduction in local revenues that will impact their ability to provide matching funds.

- (3) Amending the *2020-2024 TIP* by increasing the Total Cost of the Pavement Markings (2021 & 2022) project / Proposed Resolution 20-34

This amendment is requested by NYSDOT. The change reflects the latest project estimate. The increase includes a large overmatch of State funds.

- (4) Amending the *2020-2024 TIP* by deferring phases of the Rt 531, from Rt 36 to Rt 259 project / Proposed Resolution 20-35

This amendment is requested by NYSDOT. NYSDOT will be unable to reach the Plans, Specifications, and Estimates milestone in the current FFY, precluding Construction obligation.

- (5) Amending the *2020-2024 TIP* by deleting the McLernon Rd Bridge over Black Creek project / Proposed Resolution 20-36

This amendment is requested by Genesee County. Genesee County forces are in the process of making repairs to the McLernon Road bridge to address red flags that need immediate attention. These repairs will extend the life of the bridge.

- (6) Amending the *2020-2024 TIP* by adding the Darien-Alexander Townline Rd Bridge over the Tunnery Creek project / Proposed Resolution 20-37

This amendment is requested by Genesee County. The County has requested this bridge be advanced with federal funds in lieu of the McLernon Road bridge being repaired by County forces. This will provide a similar accomplishment nearby, and on a similar schedule, with cost savings returning to the regional balance.

- (7) Amending the *2020-2024 TIP* by increasing the Total Cost of the Rt 19 over Oatka Creek Bridge project / Proposed Resolution 20-38

This amendment is requested by NYSDOT. The change reflects a revised estimate for Construction. Significant soil and hydraulic issues have been identified and have caused a delay in the Detailed Design process and will result in a costlier project to be progressed. To maintain 2 feet of clearance over projected high-water levels, as required by the NYSDOT Bridge Manual, the replacement structure will need to be realigned and elevated, necessitating added approach work. Staging and detouring route expenses will also be higher than originally expected.

- (8) Amending the *2020-2024 TIP* by deferring phases of the Rt 63 FLAP Project – Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge project / Proposed Resolution 20-39

This amendment is requested by NYSDOT. Coordination between NYSDOT and the Federal Lands office to establish project scope took longer than expected. NYSDOT requests to defer FFY 20 Construction and Construction Inspection phases to account for this delay.

- (9) Amending the *2020-2024 TIP* by deferring phases of the Erie Canalway Trail West of Rt 414 project / Proposed Resolution 20-40

This amendment is requested by NYSDOT. The source of Federal funds is the Transportation Enhancements Program, managed by NYSDOT Main Office. These phases will not be obligated before the end of the current FFY, as programmed.

- (10) Amending the *2020-2024 TIP* by deferring a phase of the Sanford Rd Railroad Crossing project / Proposed Resolution 20-41

This amendment is requested by NYSDOT. The source of Federal funds is the Railway-Highway Crossing program managed by NYSDOT Main Office. Project kick-off was deferred to prioritize other work so these phases will not be obligated before the end of the current FFY, as programmed.

- (11) Amending the *2020-2024 TIP* by increasing a phase cost of the Rt 19 and Rt 98 over the Erie Canal Rehabilitation project / Proposed Resolution 20-42

This amendment is requested by NYSDOT. The change reflects the revised estimate for Construction. These higher costs are based on recent experience with similar canal bridges.

- (12) Amending the *2020-2024 TIP* by adding the Volunteer Transportation WNY project / Proposed Resolution 20-43

This amendment is requested by GTC staff on behalf of Volunteer Transportation Center. The source of Federal funds is the Public Transportation Innovation (FTA Section 5312), managed by NYSDOT Main Office. The Volunteer Transportation Center was awarded a discretionary FTA grant. The amount to be programmed is the respective share of the program for operations in Genesee County.

- (13) Amending the *2020-2024 TIP* by adding the FTA Section 5310 Block / Proposed Resolution 20-44

This amendment is requested by GTC staff on behalf of various not-for-profit organizations. The source of Federal funds is the Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities (FTA Section 5310), managed by NYSDOT Main Office. The funding reflects the evaluation of applications for service in the Large Urban Area. NYSDOT Main Office controls the funding for areas outside the Large Urban Area. The project solicitation and evaluation process was fully coordinated for both areas.

- (14) Amending the *2020-2024 TIP* by adding the FTA Section 5311 Block project / Proposed Resolution 20-45

This amendment is requested by RGRTA. The source of Federal funds is the FTA Rural Area Formula Funding (Section 5311), managed by NYSDOT Main Office. RGRTA is a sub-recipient of these funds which are obligated by NYSDOT. The proposed action adds a block program project to reflect the total of capital projects and operating assistance that have been awarded. This award represents new funding to the region and aligns the TIP with RGRTA's Capital Program.

Ken Miller moved to approve proposed Resolutions 20-32 through 20-45; Rochelle Stein seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.

8. New Business

There was no New Business.

9. Next Meeting

Chairman Davis stated that the next GTC Board meeting is scheduled for December 10, 2020 and is tentatively planned to be held at the Henrietta Town Hall, 475 Calkins Road in Henrietta.

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m.