

**GENESEE TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL
PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING**

**January 7, 2021
10:00 a.m.**

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

PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Uzoma Anukwe, Federal Transit Administration
Rochelle Bell, Monroe County Planning Board
Condenessa Brown, Rochester City Council
Bill Carpenter, Rochester Genesee Regional Transportation Authority
Erik Frisch, Rochester – At Large
Todd Gadd, Wyoming County
Jay Gsell, Genesee / Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council
Scott Leathersich, Monroe County - At Large (Chairperson)
Jim Pond, Monroe County Executive
Chris Reeve, NYS Department of Transportation
Kevin Rooney, Wayne County
William Wright, Ontario County

ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT

Tim Cutler, Yates County, representing Craig Prior
Kevin Kelley, Rochester City Planning Commission, representing Dorraine Kirkmire
Jason Wolfanger, Livingston County, representing Angela Ellis

PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT AND UNREPRESENTED

Stephen Golding, Empire State Development Corporation
Carlos Gonzalez, Federal Highway Administration
Timothy Hens, Genesee County
George Hebert, Monroe County Legislature
Norman Jones, City of Rochester Mayor
Robert Kiley, Monroe County Supervisors' Association
David Lindsay, Monroe County – At Large
Evelyn Martinez, Federal Aviation Administration
John Papponetti, Orleans County
C. Mitchell Rowe, Seneca County
(Vacant), NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
(Vacant), NYS Thruway Authority

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Jody Binnix, GTC staff
Joe Bovenzi, GTC staff
Zac Cracknell, Livingston County
Dennis Judson, Fisher Associates, Inc.
Joel Kleinberg, NYSDOT
Alex Kone, GTC staff
Lori Maher, GTC staff

Rick Papaj, Ravi Engineering
Terry Rice, Barton and Loguidice, Inc.
Chris Sichak, Erdmann Anthony, Inc.
James Stack, GTC staff
Chris Tortora, GTC staff
Bob Williams, GTC staff
Eric Farr, RGRTA

1. Call to Order & Introductions

After some technical challenges that were preventing the public from observing the meeting were resolved, Scott Leathersich, Planning Committee Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 10:14 a.m. Alex Kone conducted a roll call of Committee members and alternates. The names of other attendees were captured from meeting login information.

2. Public Forum

Nobody from the public spoke during the Public Forum.

3. Announcements and Old Business

James Stack noted the revised agenda structure with action items considered before the presentation of reports. This will be of particular benefit when we have guests attending for specific items.

He also reported that Condenssa Brown had recently been named as the Chief of Staff to the Rochester City Council and has been designated as the Planning Committee member representing Council President Scott.

4. Approval of Minutes

Jim Pond moved to approve the minutes from the November 12, 2020 Planning Committee meeting; Chris Reeve seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.

5. Action Items

a) Unified Planning Work Program

1. Action concerning approving the Draft *FY 2021-2022 Unified Planning Work Program* for Public Review

Jody Binnix presented the Draft *FY 2021-2022 Unified Planning Work Program* and noted that it needs to be made available for a 30-day public comment period. Additionally, a project list showing funding recommendations will accompany the draft UPWP to allow the public fuller context.

James Stack noted one addition in Task 9300, NYSAMPO Shared Cost Initiatives, to support a set of collaborative pilot applications of common transit mobility planning and analysis tools among MPOs and transit agencies. The funding for this task comes from all MPOs across the state and is separate from metropolitan planning funds provided to GTC.

Bill Carpenter moved to approve the Draft *FY 2021-2022 Unified Planning Work Program* for public review; Erik Frisch seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.

2. Action Concerning modifying the FY 2020-2021 Unified Planning Work Program
 - a. Increasing the Total Cost of the Genesee-Finger Lakes Regional Performance Measurement Monitoring and Evaluation System project / Proposed Planning Committee Resolution 21-1

Chris Reeve presented the request for additional funding to be provided for the project. He noted that during the UPWP application a preliminary figure was used for the estimate of the performance monitoring system. Since the completion of Phase I, Regional Traffic Operations Center and GTC staff have conducted more in-depth comparisons of similar database management and business intelligence systems that would be implemented in Phase II.

The funding for this increase is provided by Task 1600 – Program Reserve which is established for situations like this.

Jay Gsell moved to approve Planning Committee Resolution 21-1; Jim Pond seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.

6. Reports

a) Status of UPWP Projects

GTC - Jim Stack reported:

- GTC Strategic Planning: No new activity to report.
- Long Range Transportation Plan Update/Implementation: The LRTP will be discussed under Item 6.c.
- Genesee-Finger Lakes Scenario Tool: UrbanFootprint training is scheduled for February 10th.
- I-490 Integrated Corridor Management (ICM) Plan: The Consultant revised the Technical Memos 1 & 2 based on steering committee input. The second steering committee meeting was held December 17 to kick-off discussions on Technical Memo 3 that is focused on Operations Strategy and the Needs Assessment.
- Vulnerable Users Safety Assessment Program Phases 1 & 2: The project is essentially complete and is expected to be presented for closeout in February.
- Congestion Management Process (CMP): No activity to report.
- Travel Time Data Collection Program: No activity to report.
- Lake Ontario State Parkway Lane Transportation Alternatives Feasibility Study: GTC is coordinating with Orleans County and the Consultant have been coordinating this week on providing a draft report to the Steering Committee and for that Committee to convene a meeting to discuss the draft report around the end of this month. A final public meeting will then be held, likely in February.
- Genesee-Finger Lakes Regional Performance Measurement Monitoring & Evaluation System: GTC staff worked with MCDOT and NYSDOT staffs to finalize an RFP for Phase II (implementation). That is what prompted the determination

that additional funding would be needed as discussed earlier in the meeting. The RFP will be released this month.

- Transportation Impacts on Economic Development in the Greater Rochester International Airport (GRIA) Area: (Project cancelled)
- Cross Asset Highway and Bridge Evaluation and Prioritization Tool: No new activity
- Greater Rochester Transportation Management Association Feasibility Plan: This project is on hold until the impacts of COVID have subsided and travel patterns have stabilized. This includes new transit patterns after the launch of ReimagineRTS.

G/FLRPC - Jay Gsell reported:

- Regional Land Use Monitoring – 2020 survey and data collection will begin in January.
- Implementing Complete Streets in the G-FL Region; A Guidebook: The Village of Mount Morris has been identified as a policy pilot community.
- Regional Fleet Electrification Study: No updates at this time.

Livingston County - Lori Maher and Robert Williams reported:

- Livingston County Downtown Wayfinding Master Plan: The Steering Committee will meet in January to review recommendations on signage and streetscape. The next round of public involvement will be held in February.
- Livingston County Mobility Management Strategy: The first steering committee meeting held on January 5th to describe the project to county work group and review the public participation plan.

Monroe County – Rochelle Bell and Jim Pond reported:

- Land Use Monitoring: 2020 survey and data collection will begin in January.
- Monroe County High Accident Location Program: No additional locations have been completed, totaling thirteen of the twenty-eight locations for 2020-2021.
- Monroe County Traffic-Signal/Sign Pole Asset Management: Data collection on the assets has begun and will continue through the spring.

NYS DOT - Chris Reeve reported:

- NYS DOT Safety Investigations and Analysis: The consultant has provided draft countermeasure and operational recommendations for the Rt 15 corridor.
- O'Rorke Bridge Operations and Maintenance Analysis and Strategy: The third technical memo summarizing projected maintenance costs and other capital recommendations is expected in January.
- Ramp Reconfiguration Study: A contract has been executed and a Steering Committee is being formed with both the City of Rochester and towns near the project.

Ontario County – Jody Binnix and Robert Williams reported:

- State Route 332 & Route 96 Sub-Area Study: A steering committee meeting was held November 17. A contract extension has been progressed to allow sufficient time for the project to be completed and for the public to comment.
- Honeoye Hamlet Active Transportation Study: The draft report was released for a third round of public review from December 8 through December 23. Comments have been provided to the consultant to incorporation into the final report. The project is expected to be presented for closeout at the February 11 meeting.

City of Rochester - Erik Frisch reported:

- West Main Street Multimodal Transportation and Placemaking Study: The Existing Conditions report is being developed and an online survey for public involvement is now available.

RGRTA - Eric Farr reported:

- RTS System Redesign: New launch dates for Reimagine RTS are being considered for Spring 2021 but are not confirmed yet.

Wayne County – Kevin Rooney reported:

- Wayne County High Accident Location Study: Site investigations are underway for 10 candidate intersections.
- Ontario Midland Strategic Plan: No progress to report
- Gananda Parkway Pedestrian & Bicycle Active Transportation Plan: A steering committee meeting is scheduled for January 7 in advance of a virtual public meeting on January 13.

Other Agencies – GTC staff reported:

- Route 390 Multi-Use Trail Restoration and Safety Improvement Study: No new activity to report
- Village of Avon Circulation, Accessibility & Parking: No new activity to report
- Village of Waterloo Circulation, Accessibility and Parking (CAP) Study: The project kick off meeting was held December 10.
- Village of Perry Transportation Safety and Access Study: The project kick-off meeting was held November 18. A project management meeting was held on January 6 to develop Public Involvement Plan and data collection plan.
- Mt. Morris-Leicester Route 36 Corridor Study: GTC staff is coordinating with the Mayor of Mount Morris to schedule the next steering committee meeting within the next few weeks. The project had limited progress over the holiday period.
- Beh Industrial Park Traffic Optimization Study: Eleven proposals were received by the November 13 deadline. Subsequently, one firm asked to withdraw from consideration. After delays in trying to coordinate schedules, a consultant evaluation team was identified and proposals were scored in mid-December. Staff is coordinating with the Town and other stakeholders to identify a preferred

consultant.

- Canandaigua Waterfront Active Transportation Plan: The consultant provided a draft public involvement plan on December 10 for steering committee review and comment. A steering committee has been scheduled for January 14.
- Middle Cheshire Road & Health Care Services Corridor Active Transportation Plan: A draft final report was provided December 29 for steering committee review and comment. The project is expected to be presented for closeout at the February 11 meeting.

Completed Projects:

- Genesee Finger Lakes Region Local Update of Census Addresses 2020
- Regional Land Use Monitoring (2019)
- Monroe County Land Use Monitoring (2019)
- Phase II - Cayuga-Seneca Trail
- Honeoye Falls CAP Study
- Rochester Comprehensive Access & Mobility Plan
- Geneseo Active Transportation Plan
- Sodus Point Active Transportation Plan
- Maple Ridge Corridor Study
- Ontario County SR 364/CR 11 Active Transportation Corridor Plan

b) TIP Staff Modifications

Alex Kone reported that since the previous Planning Committee meeting that there were three (3) Staff Modifications:

- Add New Non-Federal Funding - Northwest, Group 12 (City of Rochester)
- Add New Non-Federal Funding - Lima Sidewalk Connection Project (Village of Lima)
- Reduce phase costs prior to STIP obligation - Highway Lighting Rehabilitation – North (Monroe County)

c) Status of *Long Range Transportation Plan for the Genesee-Finger Lakes Region 2045*

Jody Binnix reported that the Transportation System Needs were developed collaboratively amongst GTC staff using feedback from the first round of public involvement, recommendations from various UPWP studies, discussions with member agencies, results from the socioeconomic and demographic data analysis undertaken for the LRTP, and federal transportation legislation, in particular the ten planning factors. Staff have finalized the following Transportation System Needs:

- Ensuring Equity Throughout the Transportation System
- Increasing Safety for All Users

- Maintaining the Existing System in a State of Good Repair
- Ensuring Access to All for Employment, Goods, and Services
- Addressing Mobility Needs for an Aging Population
- Expanding Mobility and Connectivity for Active Transportation Users
- Reducing Energy Usage and Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Improving Coordination of Transportation Services
- Enhancing Connectivity and Access for Freight Movement
- Increasing System Resiliency
- Supporting Leisure Travel and Tourism

Building off the Transportation System Needs, staff have started developing the draft recommendations. Staff has drafted an updated structure for how we plan to present the recommendations, which still needs to go through an internal review. We expect to present more details in February. The second round of public engagement regarding the draft recommendations will take place in late February. This round of public engagement will be conducted virtually through the PublicInput.com platform.

The next steps include drafting the financial plan and pulling together the performance measures report.

d) Federal Legislative and Funding Update

James Stack reported that Congress and the Administration have come to agreement on all of the FFY 2021 Appropriations bills and the President signed them into law on December 27. These Appropriations fully fund the federal government operations through September 30. Of note, the Appropriation includes:

- \$1 billion in BUILD grants;
- \$2 billion of General Funds for Highway programs with \$1.08 billion specifically for bridge replacement and rehabilitation based on percent of deck area in poor condition. Each State will receive a minimum of \$6 million and a maximum of \$60 million; and
- \$506 million of General Funds for Transit programs.

In addition to the Omnibus Appropriations, the legislation includes a Coronavirus Relief Supplemental. Of note for Transportation, this Supplemental includes:

- \$10 Billion for States to be treated Surface Transportation Block Group funds except they will be 100% Federal aid;
- Nearly 15% of this will be suballocated to MPO areas over 200,000 population, such as GTC; and
- \$14 Billion for Transit apportioned to transit agencies according to existing formula except they will be 100% Federal aid.

e) Other GTC matters

There were no other matters to report.

f) Public Engagement Highlights

Lori Maher reported that no project has stalled due to the inability to conduct public outreach in 2020. A public outreach goal for 2020 was to supplement our in-person meetings, with online techniques. However, in March 2020, we were forced to shift to entirely virtual engagement techniques due to the physical distancing restrictions.

In addition to the staff activities to engage the public regarding core work products (LRTP, PEP, and Committee meetings,) we also assisted our project partners on a dozen UPWP projects to maintain momentum during the pandemic. GTC directly assisted five project teams to conduct virtual outreach using PublicInput.com, Integrated Community Engagement Software that was purchased and activated effective April 1, 2020.

For activities conducted through PublicInput.com, we created a dedicated project page that featured a customized URL web address, subscriber list, email messaging system, toll-free phone number and access code, text line, survey questions and robust reporting about participation.

For other activities, GTC promoted the opportunity to participate via social media (Twitter and the Facebook page, launched in March 2020.)

Overall, we probably conducted a similar amount of outreach, but we did it with more purpose, control and impact. We engaged more members of the public and have new goals to improve in 2021.

g) Member Agency and Partner Updates

Jay Gsell updated the Planning Committee on the status of G/FLRPC and the hiring of three new staff members.

7. New Business

There was no new business.

8. Public Forum

Nobody from the public spoke during the Public Forum.

9. Next Meeting

Scott Leathersich noted that the next meeting is scheduled for February 11, 2021 and will be held online.

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:31 AM.