

**GENESEE TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL
PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING
CityPlace
50 West Main St., Rochester
and via PublicInput.com
July 10, 2025
9:30 a.m.**

PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Devin Blue, representing Wyoming County
Thomas Frys, representing Monroe County – Executive
Craig Lane, representing Orleans County
Scott Leathersich, representing Monroe County – At Large (1)
Yixuan Lin, representing Monroe County – Planning Board
Kabutey Ocansey, representing City of Rochester – Mayor
Douglas Rapalee, Yates County
David Riley, representing City of Rochester – At Large
Kevin Rooney, representing Wayne County
Laura Wadhams, representing Genesee County

ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT

Rose Bonnick, representing Monroe County Legislature
Eric Farr, representing Rochester-Genesee Regional Transportation Authority
Joel Kleinberg, representing New York State Dept. of Transportation – Region 4
Emily Royce, representing Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council
Jason Wolfanger, representing Livingston County

PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT AND UNREPRESENTED

John Boser, representing NYS Thruway Authority
Ben Fischer, Federal Highway Administration
Stephen Golding, Empire State Development Corporation
Kevin Kelley, representing City of Rochester – Planning Commission
David Lindsay, representing Monroe County – At Large (2)
Evelyn Martinez, Federal Aviation Administration
James Smith, representing City of Rochester – Council
William Wright, representing Ontario County
Vacant, representing Federal Transit Administration
Vacant, representing Monroe County Supervisors' Association
Vacant, representing NYS Department of Environmental Conservation

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Al Bartolotta, GTC	Lori Maher, GTC Staff
Jody Binnix, NYSDOT	Grace Sherburne, Monroe County Planning
Joe Bovenzi, GTC Staff	Chris Sichak, Erdman Anthony *
Rebecca Caico, RTS	Chris Snyder, GTC Staff
Mike Croce, Colliers (via PublicInput)	David Staas, GTC Staff
Cody Donahue, Reconnect Rochester	Jim Stack, GTC Staff
Maureen Duggan, Rochester Olmsted Parks Alliance	Lindsey Tomidy, Monroe County Traffic & Safety
Alex Kone	Chris Tortora, GTC Staff
Henry Litsky, Reconnect Rochester *	Other anonymous viewers *

* Attendee observing via the GTC Engagement Hub

1. Call to Order & Introductions

Scott Leathersich, Planning Committee Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Joe Bovenzi conducted a roll call of Committee members and alternates. The names of other attendees were captured from the meeting login information.

2. Public Forum

No one from the public spoke during the Public Forum.

3. Approval of Minutes

Joel Kleinberg moved to approve the minutes from the May 29, 2025 Planning Committee meeting; Laura Wadhams seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.

4. Announcements and Old Business

James Stack reported that Chris Snyder has agreed to transition from managing the TIP to leading the annual UPWP development process. He will also take a larger role in various planning studies. Interviews are underway for someone to lead the TIP development and management tasks who will backfill Chris. Interviews are also underway for candidates to focus on Long Range and Community Planning. One position will take the lead on the Long Range Plan while the other will be an entry level position that can support other staff as they lead various studies.

5. Action Items

a) Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

1. Action concerning consideration of UPWP Project Scopes of Work

a. Task 5522 – Safe Routes Child Walk and Bike Safety Education Program

Lindsay Tomidy with the Monroe County Traffic Safety Board presented an overview of the project. The purpose of this program is to develop effective and age-appropriate educational materials, curriculum, and activities that promote safe walking and biking for K-5 school-aged children in Monroe County. The program intends to provide resources and build strong coordination with local schools, families, and education providers to improve roadway safety for the youngest residents in Monroe County. It is based on the Safe Routes Philly program. It advances safety education work completed under a Transportation Alternatives Program grant and is focused on educational outreach to the community. A Project Advisory Committee (PAC) will be organized to oversee the project, and a consultant will be hired to handle the technical work.

Yixuan Lin asked if the project was focused on child safety. Lindsay explained that it would focus on outreach to children in Kindergarten through Fifth

Grade. One potential result would be a “mobile safety village” that would be brought to different elementary schools in the county, although in the future that service could be expanded to middle and high schools.

James Stack noted that the project schedule looks long but it is predicated on the start of the 2026-27 school year (September 2026), since September 2025 is too soon to get the project underway with a consultant under contract.

b. Task 6217 – Yates County Guiderail and Horizontal Curve Study

Douglas Rapalee, the Yates County Highway Superintendent, presented an overview of the project. The purpose of the project is to develop a guiderail study that examines existing guiderail locations, identifies conformance to guiderail installation requirements, and determines required revisions and upgrades. The project will also include developing a horizontal curve study. Improvements identified by the project will be prioritized in the county’s five-year capital plan and 15-year road reconstruction plan. The recommendations from this project will improve the county’s implementation capacity for road repaving and reconstruction projects by enabling more accurate project budgets to be developed.

James Stack noted that other counties in the region have implemented similar projects through the UPWP.

c. Task 6536 – Genesee Valley Park Olmsted Arched Bridges Restoration Plan

Maureen Duggan with the Rochester Olmsted Parks Alliance and Yixuan Lin with the Monroe County Planning Department presented an overview of the project. The project aims to establish a feasible framework for the long-term stewardship of the three Olmsted Arched Pedestrian Bridges in Genesee Valley Park (GVP). This Restoration Plan will identify appropriate restoration recommendations and strategies that are respectful to the historic significance and age of the bridges while reviewing jurisdictional responsibilities for their restoration and ongoing maintenance. Maureen Duggan explained that the bridges were built in the early 20th century to connect the north and south sides of the park after the Erie Canal was rerouted through the park. Over time, the bridges have decayed and it has been difficult to find money to maintain them since they are pedestrian bridges. Yixuan Lin explained that there is a maintenance agreement for the bridges between Rochester and Monroe County and this project will determine which agency is responsible for specific maintenance tasks. These bridges are critical to maintain because they provide connections both for the park as well as for the Empire State Trail.

d. Task 7214 – I-490 Center City Interchange Operations Mobility Study

Jody Binnix with NYSDOT-Region 4 provided an overview of the project. The purpose of this project is to reimagine the transportation network serving the

Center City and South Wedge Neighborhoods, focusing on the I-490 mainline, the ramp system, and the City of Rochester street network to the east of the Frederick Douglass Susan B. Anthony Bridge, with an emphasis on investigating options for reducing the size of the footprint of the complex I-490 Center City Interchange. The project will look at ways to reconnect the riverfront and surrounding neighborhoods. It will also assist NYSDOT in evaluating the need for specific infrastructure elements before making investments in them.

This project is essentially a traffic analysis study to determine the feasibility of redeveloping the I-490 Center City Interchange. Future projects are envisioned to analyze potential new land uses and redevelopment opportunities that might be created, but the basic feasibility of reconfiguring the interchange must be determined before any further studies on these topics are undertaken.

Scott Leathersich asked if the entrance ramp from South Avenue to I-490 East will remain closed. Joel Kleinberg replied that it would. Thomas Frys asked if the project analysis and findings would be coordinated with FHWA. Joel Kleinberg replied that they would be.

e. Task 8783 – Ovid Active Transportation Plan

Jason Rearick with the Seneca County Planning Department provided an overview of the project. The purpose of this project is to guide the transformation of Ovid's downtown and lake connections into a more active, resilient, sustainable, and economically vibrant community utilizing data-driven analysis and community engagement. He has worked with the Town and Village of Ovid to develop the project concept, which builds on a recently completed Safe Routes to School master plan that is very brief but convinced local officials to take a more in-depth look at ways to improve bicycle and pedestrian transportation connections in and around the Village. In addition, the plan will look at ways to better connect the Village to the Seneca and Cayuga lakefronts with active transportation elements to enhance tourism. Work on this project will be coordinated with the New York State Department of State to ensure that it supports redevelopment projects in the Village as local officials work to recover from a serious fire earlier in the year.

Thomas Frys moved to approve the UPWP Scope of Work for Tasks 5522, 6217, 6536, 7214, and 8783; Yixuan Lin seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.

2. Recommendation to the GTC Board concerning accepting reports as evidence of completion of UPWP Tasks

- a. Task 6533 – Joseph Avenue ArtWalk Master Plan

David Riley, Principal Transportation Specialist with the City of Rochester Department of Environmental Services, provided an overview of the project. The objective was to develop a plan to redesign Joseph Avenue between Clifford Avenue and Norton Street in the northeast quadrant of the City of Rochester. This plan was intended to integrate strategic transportation improvements to improve safety, expand multimodal options, enhance connectivity, and further develop the corridor as a vibrant center for arts and cultural activity. The plan has four main sections, including an existing conditions analysis, needs and opportunities assessment, corridor recommendations, and an implementation strategy. An intensive public engagement process was undertaken that included three public workshops and stakeholder interviews. Key findings included identifying 23 vacant properties for potential reuse, improvements to bicycle and pedestrian amenities, installation of public artworks, and establishing a consistent streetscape with expanded tree canopy. Potential infrastructure improvements, which require further engineering analysis before implementation, including tabled intersections and/or raised crosswalks, curb bump-outs, pedestrian refuge islands, bike lanes, street trees, and head-applied decorative pavement patterns as gateway treatments.

Joel Kleinberg moved to recommend the approval of Resolution 25-22 as evidence of completion; Emily Royce seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.

- b) Transportation Improvement Program**

1. (No Action Items)

- c) Long Range Transportation Plan**

1. Lori Maher provided an update on the combined effort with Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council to hold Transportation Listening Sessions seeking input about transportation-related needs in both virtual and in-person formats throughout the summer. The first session was held on Tuesday, July 8, at the Henrietta Public Library. Yixuan Lin asked how many people attended the session. Lori Maher explained that about eight people attended, and that they represented a diverse cross section of the community. Yixuan Lin inquired why no sessions are scheduled within the City of Rochester. Lori Maher responded that the initial ten sessions were scheduled across the nine counties, but the project team is certainly open to holding additional sessions in desired locations, with individuals or small groups, as interest is expressed.

- d) Related Activities**

1. (No Action Items)

6. Reports

a) Status of UPWP Projects

GTC - Jim Stack reported:

- GTC Strategic Planning: Currently interviewing candidates for three positions.
- Long Range Transportation Plan Update/ Implementation: The transportation listening sessions have begun and they will inform the next LRTP.
- Staff Technical Assistance: No activity to report.
- Household Travel Data Collection: Staff engaging several vendors via The Eastern Transportation Coalition (TETC) to obtain Origin-Destination dataset purchase quotes.
- Active Transportation Program: Staff is coordinating with stakeholders across the region to conduct field counts.
- Complete Streets Program: Funding has been designated to specific UPWP tasks.
- Safety Planning: No activity to report.
- Security & Resiliency Planning: No activity to report.
- Genesee-Finger Lakes Regional Resiliency Plan: No activity to report.
- Genesee-Finger Lakes Regional Thruway Detour Route Management Plan: An RFP has been finalized and is expected to be released in the next week or two.
- Congestion Management Process (CMP): No activity to report.
- Travel Time Data Collection Program: GTC are utilizing INRIX data for ongoing travel time analyses.
- Rt 96 over Rt 14 Strategic Divestment Analysis: Staff is working with the consultant to obtain the final deliverables. Project closeout is anticipated in August.
- Regional Trails Initiative Update: No activity to report.

G/FLRPC – Emily Royce reported:

- G/FLRPC Regional Land Use Monitoring (CY 2024): The draft report will be prepared by September for GTC staff review.
- Regional Land Use Monitoring Report Dashboard: This project is nearing completion.
- Transportation Listening Sessions: The first of ten meetings was held on July 8. A virtual meeting is being held on July 10. Information about the sessions will be posted on the GTC Engagement Hub at: <https://publicinput.com/u16356>
- Genesee-Finger Lakes Region Population Forecast 2060: The draft report is anticipated in mid-August.
- Just Transition Workforce Development Plan: Preliminary research is complete. Meetings have been scheduled with RTS, and an advisory board will be

established to create curriculum development programs.

- Regional Alternative Fuel Vehicle Infrastructure Tools: The GTC Board accepted the project closeout in June.

Livingston County – David Staas reported:

- Nunda Active Transportation Plan: An initial project team meeting was held and work is underway to develop the RFP.

Monroe County – Thomas Frys and Yixuan Lin reported:

- Land Use Monitoring (CY 2024): County Planning is continuing to collect data. The target date for data collection to be complete is September.
- Safe Routes Child Walk and Bike Safety Education Program: The Scope of Work was presented earlier in the meeting.
- High Accident Location Program: Completed five HALs, nine more are in progress. Five more are nearing completion.
- Genesee Valley Park Olmsted Arched Bridges Restoration Plan: The Scope of Work was presented earlier in the meeting.
- Monroe County Comprehensive Active Transportation Implementation Plan: A consultant has been selected. RGRTA granted authorization to enter into a contract.

NYSDOT – Jody Binnix and Joe Bovenzi reported:

- TIP Best Practices Study: A survey for TDC members is under development. Consultant is compiling national best practices review.
- Wyoming County Route 20A Truck Freight Corridor Study: The RFP is under development.
- I-490 Center City Interchange Ops Mobility Study: The Scope of Work was presented earlier in the meeting.
- Mount Read Boulevard Corridor Study Update: An internal kickoff meeting was held on June 26. The first steering committee meeting will be held later this month. Traffic counts on the corridor were provided to the consultant.

Ontario County – Jim Stack reported:

- Ontario County Access Management, Complete Street, and Resiliency Project: The draft RFP is under development.
- Ontario County Freight Rail Corridor Development Plan: The GTC Board accepted the project closeout in June.

City of Rochester – David Riley reported:

- ADA Right-of-Way Transition Plan: The contract was extended and the City is funding additional work tasks.

- Joseph Avenue ArtWalk Master Plan: The project closeout was presented earlier in the meeting.
- Genesee Riverway Trail Completion Study: In the concept development phase. Proposed projects have been posted for public review. A pop-up public engagement event was held at the Zoo on July 26.
- Inner Loop North Mobility and Development Strategy: A public open house was held on June 30 to present updated land use concepts. Over 60 people attended. Community feedback will be incorporated with the PAC's input to develop a preferred concept.
- City of Rochester Alleyway Reactivation and Conversion Program: The final consultant agreement is ready for execution. An internal kickoff meeting is scheduled for July 14. The next step is to establish the Project Advisory Committee.

RGRTA – Eric Farr reported:

- Service Performance Monitoring and Refinement: Implemented some minor changes to routes to adjust timing and for school-related trips. Working on changes for September.

Wyoming County – Chris Tortora reported:

- Wyoming County Priority Investigation Locations Program: The consultant is scheduling a meeting date to present identified locations and recommendations to the PAC.
- Wyoming County Active Transportation Plan: Staff met with the County Administrator on June 27 to discuss how the project can advance while the County Planner position is vacant. A Scope of Work may be available as early as August.

Yates County

- Yates County Guiderail and Horizontal Curve Study: The Scope of Work was presented earlier in the meeting.

Other Agencies – Staff reported:

- Village of Fairport Zoning Code Update: The Zoning Working Group is reviewing the draft code; a WG meeting is scheduled for July 17. The second round of public outreach will run from late July-late August.
- Town of Rush Comprehensive Active Transportation Plan: The consultant is incorporating NYSDOT comments to Draft Report. A presentation to the Town Council is tentative for July 23. Project closeout is anticipated in August.
- Town of Gates Active Transportation Plan: Four proposals were received. The evaluation team is in the process of selecting a consultant.
- Hamlet of Ontario Center Active Transportation Plan: The Town provided a first draft of a Scope of Work on July 8. Staff will coordinate on refining it with the goal of presenting it at the August meeting.

- City of Batavia Active Transportation Plan: An RFP is expected to be released on the week of July 14
- Ovid Active Transportation Plan: The Scope of Work was presented earlier in the meeting.

b) Status of SS4A Program

James Stack reported that each of the three consultant teams for the Local Road Safety Plans are collecting data and working to schedule meetings with the respective advisory committees.

c) TIP Staff Modifications

None to report.

d) Federal Legislative and Funding Update

Federal Budget

James Stack reported that the House passed the One Big Beautiful Bill Act on May 22 to reconcile (modify) the current FFY 2025 budget for the October 1, 2024 through September 30, 2025 federal fiscal year. The Bill was sent to the Senate where changes were made and the revised Bill was sent back to the House in late June. The House passed the Bill with the Senate changes. The president signed the Bill the week of June 20.

The full impact of One Big Beautiful Bill Act is still being assessed but initial impacts relating to Transportation include:

- The first revenue boost in decades in the form of a new annual fee on electric vehicles (\$250) and hybrid electric vehicles (\$100).
- State and Local governments are NOT exempt from this fee.
- A typical private auto owner driving about 14,000 miles per year at 25 mpg pays \$100.10 in Federal gas tax. The fee for fully electric is more than double the gas tax, but electric vehicles are also heavier than comparable internal combustion vehicles.
- Breaks tradition by allocating all of the new revenue to highways without the 20% allocation to support transit.

USDOT Discretionary Programs

James Stack reported that an amendment to the FHWA Bridge Investment Program Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) was released on June 2. Applications are due on August 1, 2025. Per the NOFO, \$4.9 billion is available for Large Bridges with total eligible project costs over \$100 million, with minimum grant awards of \$50 million. An additional \$500 million is available for rural bridges through the Competitive Highway Bridge Program.

e) Other GTC Matters

No report provided.

f) Public Engagement Highlights

Lori Maher reported on recent outreach activities since the last meeting.

g) Member Agency and Partner Updates

Joel Kleinberg reported that applications for the Roadway Departure Safety Action Plan were due on June 11. Proposal evaluations are underway.

7. New Business

No report provided.

8. Public Forum

No one from the public spoke during the Public Forum.

9. Next Meeting

Scott Leathersich reported that the next meeting is scheduled for August 14, 2025. All materials for items to be considered at this meeting should be submitted to GTC staff no later than Friday, August 1, 2025.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.