

**GENESEE TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL  
PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING  
CityPlace  
50 West Main St., Rochester  
and via PublicInput.com  
August 14, 2025  
9:30 a.m.**

PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Megan Crowe, representing Livingston County  
Thomas Frys, representing Monroe County – Executive  
Kevin Kelley, representing City of Rochester – Planning Commission  
Craig Lane, representing Orleans County  
Scott Leathersich, representing Monroe County – At Large  
Yixuan Lin, representing Monroe County – Planning Board  
Kabutey Ocansey, representing City of Rochester – Mayor

ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT

Rose Bonnick, representing Monroe County Legislature  
Jason Rearick, representing Seneca County  
Emily Royce, representing Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council  
Jason Wolfanger, representing Livingston County

PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT AND UNREPRESENTED

Devin Blue, representing Wyoming County  
John Boser, representing NYS Thruway Authority  
Ben Fischer, Federal Highway Administration  
Stephen Golding, Empire State Development Corporation  
David Lindsay, representing Monroe County – At Large  
Evelyn Martinez, Federal Aviation Administration  
David Riley, representing City of Rochester – At Large  
Kevin Rooney, representing Wayne County  
James Smith, representing City of Rochester – Council  
Laura Wadhams, representing Genesee County  
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

Jody Binnix, NYSDOT	Grace Sherburne, Monroe County Planning
Joe Bovenzi, GTC Staff	Chris Sichak, Erdman Anthony *
Mike Croce, Colliers *	Chris Snyder, GTC Staff
Jeffrey Jamberdino, NYSDOT	David Staas, GTC Staff
Henry Litsky, Reconnect Rochester *	Jim Stack, GTC Staff
Lori Maher, GTC Staff	Other anonymous viewers *
June McIlquham, GTC Staff	
Rick Papaj, Ravi Engineering*	

\* Attendee observing via the GTC Engagement Hub

## **1. Call to Order & Introductions**

Scott Leathersich, Planning Committee Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 9:40 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**

**Thomas Frys moved to approve the minutes from the July 10, 2025 Planning Committee meeting; Emily Royce seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.**

## **4. Announcements and Old Business**

James Stack reported that on July 23, FHWA and FTA concluded their Joint Certification Review of GTC. The report noted that "the GTC planning process is hereby certified with no corrective actions effective July 23, 2025." This is the best possible outcome for GTC.

James Stack reported that three new people are joining the GTC staff. June McIlquham started as a Senior Transportation Planner on August 11. Omar Suri is starting as a Transportation Planner on August 25. Cheryl Nieskes is starting as a Program Manager on September 8. June and Omar will focus on Long Range and Community Planning while Cheryl will focus on the TIP. There have been two unfilled staff positions for quite some time, but GTC did not have the physical space to add more people while in temporary office space. However, now that GTC is settled in its new office, it can bring on additional staff members. With these new hires, the agency is now fully staffed.

## **5. Action Items**

### **a) Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)**

1. Recommendation to the GTC Board concerning accepting a report as evidence of completion of UPWP Tasks
  - a. Task 7213 – Route 96 over Route 14 Intersection Redesign

Jody Binnix, from NYSDOT-Region 4, provided an overview of the project. The project objectives were to determine the feasibility and any benefits of eliminating the existing grade-separated Route 96 and Route 14 interchange, identify flood mitigation strategies for addressing the abandoned railroad overpass on Route 96, and identify a set of lessons that transportation facility owners can apply when using a strategic divestment approach for asset management. The bridge carrying Route 96 over Route 14 is approaching the end of its useful life and is overbuilt for its location and traffic volume. Reducing the size of the interchange would eliminate long-term maintenance and replacement costs for the bridge, provide land for potential

redevelopment, and mitigate flooding concerns at the abandoned railway overpass.

The report identified infrastructure needs, including a reduction in maintenance costs and improved storm resilience; transportation needs, including maintaining the Thruway Authority's emergency detour routes G and H, maintaining low level of crashes, and ensuring trucks can navigate the interchange; and community needs, including improved wayfinding and creating a gateway for travelers entering the Finger Lakes region. Three alternatives (full reconstruction, signalized intersection, and roundabout) were identified and analyzed, and the findings indicated that the roundabout option had the best cost-benefit ratio and addressed key needs, including lower crash frequency/severity, more resilient infrastructure, and improved wayfinding. In addition to the alternatives analysis, the report included the "Strategic Transportation Asset Redesign" tool, an Excel-based screening tool for public agencies to use when investigating strategic divestment opportunities.

**Emily Royce moved to recommend the approval of Resolution 25-23 as evidence of completion; Thomas Frys seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.**

**b) Transportation Improvement Program**

1. Action concerning modifying the FFYs 2026-2030 TIP / Planning Committee Resolution 25-04
  - a. Reprogramming Federal Aid from the Construction Inspection phases to the Construction phases of select projects / Proposed Planning Committee Resolution 25-04

Christopher Snyder reported that NYSDOT requested this change to consolidate federal aid from the Construction Inspection phases of eight (8) projects to the Construction phases to simplify project accounting processes. The Construction Inspection phases will be fully funded by NYSDOT.

All the projects involved are NYSDOT-sponsored projects. There is no change to the amount of federal aid on each project, to the total Construction and Construction Inspection phase costs, or to the total project costs. These changes do not impact any other project, and do not impact project scopes, schedules, or fiscal constraint.

**Emily Royce moved to approve Planning Committee Resolution 25-04; Yixuan Lin seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.**

2. Recommendation to the GTC Board concerning amending the FFYs 2026-2030 TIP/Proposed Council Resolutions 25-24 through 25-35

Scott Leathersich proposed grouping proposed Resolutions 25-24 through 25-35 under a single action. No Member or Alternate objected.

- a. Increasing the Federal Aid of the FFY 2026 Construction phase for the Culvert Replacement at Various Locations in Livingston, Monroe, Ontario Counties project / Proposed Council Resolution 25-24

Christopher Snyder reported that this is one of several NYSDOT culvert projects that are being changed this quarter. Funds are being moved among several NYSDOT culvert projects. The funding for this project is managed by NYSDOT Main Office, so there is no impact to regional Planning Targets. NYSDOT's request is to reduce Federal Aid to better balance available Main Office funding for the 4LC projects. There is no change to the project total and no impact on other, non-culvert, projects.

- b. Deferring phases of the Maple Ridge Road Corridor Active Transportation project / Proposed Council Resolution 25-25

Christopher Snyder reported that the Village of Medina requested a deferral of the right-of-Way Acquisition, Construction, and Construction Inspection phases due to design challenges causing project delays. There is no change in the project scope or cost. This project is not currently included in the 2026-2030 TIP, therefore the new TIP will need to be amended to add the requested project phases.

- c. Increasing the Federal Aid of the FFY 2026 Construction phases for the Culvert Replacement at Various Locations in the Livingston and Wyoming Counties project / Proposed Council Resolution 25-26

Christopher Snyder reported that NYSDOT's request is to increase Federal Aid on the Construction phase of this project to better balance available Main Office funding for the 4LC projects. There is no change to the project total.

- d. Modifying phases of the Rt 31 and Rt 36 (Washington St) Intersection Safety Enhancements project / Proposed Council Resolution 25-27

Christopher Snyder reported that NYSDOT's request is to increase the FFY 2026 Construction phase to reflect current estimate based on increased pedestrian facility needs and recent bid history. The request is also to defer the Construction and Construction Inspection phases from FFY 2026 to FFY 2027 as this project is meant to be coordinated with PIN 40C103 (Construction phases are programmed in FFY 2027).

- e. Deferring phases of the Rt 18 over Northrup Creek and Smith Creek Bridge Replacements project / Proposed Council Resolution 25-28

Christopher Snyder reported that NYSDOT's request is to defer Construction funding due to highway alignment modifications and drainage considerations.

- f. Deferring the Construction phases from FFY 2025 to FFY 2026 for the Rt 414 over CSX Bridge Rehabilitation (BIN 4060680) project / Proposed Council Resolution 25-29

Christopher Snyder reported that NYSDOT is requesting a deferral of the Construction and Construction Inspection phases because an agreement with CSX has not been reached.

- g. Modifying a phase of the Large Culvert Replacement – Part 2 project / Proposed Council Resolution 25-30

Christopher Snyder reported that NYSDOT's request is to restore federal aid to this project to balance the budget of available Main Office funding for the 4LC projects. There is no change to the project total. The request is also to defer the Construction and Construction Inspection phases due to latest NYSDOT Design project schedule.

- h. Modifying a phase of the I-390 from Canal Bridge (Exit 16) to Rt 33A project / Proposed Council Resolution 25-31

Christopher Snyder reported that NYSDOT's request is to increase the Construction phase of this project. A reduction in Federal Aid on PIN 410D02 was achieved via Staff Modification and will offset the increase in funds used here.

- i. Increasing the FFY 2025 Construction phases of the Pavement Markings for 2026 (Westside) project / Proposed Council Resolution 25-32

Christopher Snyder reported that NYSDOT's request is to increase the cost of the construction phases of the project to reflect the latest cost estimate.

- j. Adding the City of Rochester 2024 Safe Streets for All Projects / Proposed Council Resolution 25-33

James Stack reported that the City of Rochester received a Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) grant award for four road safety implementation projects and is currently in the final stages of executing the grant agreement with FHWA. This agreement allows for multiple projects, each with a separate schedule for delivery. FHWA has requested these projects be added to the TIP and STIP even though they are part of a direct agreement between the City of Rochester and FHWA and do not pass through New York State. These projects would be added to the TIP and STIP as Illustrative projects and will not impact fiscal constraint or the project delivery scorecard.

- k. Deferring the RGRTA Hydrogen Fuel Cell Electric Buses (2024) project / Proposed Council Resolution 25-34

James Stack reported that RGRTA requested that Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) funding for the project be transferred from FHWA to FTA in February 2025; however, this change has not yet been made. The transfer is currently in progress but will not be completed in time to obligate the funds in FFY 2025. Therefore, RGRTA is

requesting a deferral of the CMAQ funds from FFY 2025 to FFY 2026. This change will not impact fiscal constraint and does not impact any other project.

I. Deferring the RGRTA Rural On Demand Service Pilot project / Proposed Council Resolution 25-35

James Stack reported that RGRTA requested that CMAQ funding for the project be transferred from FHWA to FTA in February 2025; however, this change has not yet been made. The transfer is currently in progress but will not be completed in time to obligate the funds in FFY 2025. Therefore, RGRTA is requesting a deferral of the CMAQ funds from FFY 2025 to FFY 2026. This change will not impact fiscal constraint and does not impact any other project.

**Thomas Frys moved to recommend the approval of Resolutions 25-24 through 25-35; Emily Royce seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.**

**c) Long Range Transportation Plan**

1. LRTP 2050 Emerging Issues and Opportunities

Joe Bovenzi provided an update on the Draft LRTP 2050 Emerging Issues and Opportunities. The purpose of identifying emerging issues and opportunities in the long range plan is to provide guidance for the development of policies and recommendations that address anticipated needs. Based on research and feedback from member agencies, staff have identified the following topics to include in the plan as emerging issues and opportunities:

- Transportation and Public Health
- Transportation/Housing Connection
- Impacts of Extreme Weather
- Unforeseen System Disruptions
- Strategic Divestment
- Expansion of Alternative Fuels
- Emerging Technologies

Most of these topics are holdovers from the current LRTP but are considered relevant to the new plan. One topic (Transportation/Housing Connection) was included as a response to input from Planning Committee members. GTC staff will proceed with these topics for the plan development.

**d) Related Activities**

1. (No Action Items)

## 6. Reports

### a) Status of UPWP Projects

*GTC* - Jim Stack reported:

- GTC Strategic Planning: GTC has hired three new staff members. The first started on August 11, and the others will start on August 25 and September 8, respectively.
- Long Range Transportation Plan Update/ Implementation: The transportation listening sessions are underway, and they will inform the next LRTP.
- Staff Technical Assistance: No activity to report.
- Household Travel Data Collection: Staff selected and is being trained by the vendor, MySidewalk, a platform that provides many datasets with various tools to extract and visualize the data. Staff has also identified additional data sets that can be acquired via The Eastern Transportation Coalition later this month.
- 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: No activity to report.
- Rt 96 over Rt 14 Strategic Divestment Analysis: The project closeout was presented earlier in the meeting.
- Regional Trails Initiative Update: No activity to report.

*G/FLRPC* – Emily Royce reported:

- G/FLRPC Regional Land Use Monitoring (CY 2024): The draft report is being prepared with intent to close out at the next meeting.
- Regional Land Use Monitoring Report Dashboard: This project is nearing completion.
- Transportation Listening Sessions: GTC discussed this during the Public Outreach Highlights agenda item.
- Genesee-Finger Lakes Region Population Forecast 2060: Work will re-commence in late August to prepare the draft report.
- 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: The RFP is expected to be released in September.

*Monroe County* – Thomas Frys and Yixuan Lin reported:

- Land Use Monitoring (CY 2024): County Planning is continuing to collect data through September. The project closeout is expected at the next meeting.
- Safe Routes Child Walk and Bike Safety Education Program: The RFP is under development.
- High Accident Location Program: Two investigation locations have been completed. Eleven others are in progress.
- Genesee Valley Park Olmsted Arched Bridges Restoration Plan: The RFP is being developed and expected to be released in September.
- Monroe County Comprehensive Active Transportation Implementation Plan: The contract with a consultant is expected to be executed in September.

*NYSDOT* – Jody Binnix and Joe Bovenzi reported:

- TIP Best Practices Study: The TDC Survey is complete. A draft report including analysis of existing process and best practice review was received on August 13.
- Wyoming County Route 20A Truck Freight Corridor Study: The RFP is under development.
- I-490 Center City Interchange Ops Mobility Study: The RFP is under development.
- Mount Read Boulevard Corridor Study Update: The first steering committee meeting was held. NYSDOT provided traffic short counts along the corridor 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* – Kevin Kelley and Chris Snyder reported:

- ADA Right-of-Way Transition Plan: The contract was extended, and the City is funding additional work tasks. The public outreach requirements need to be fulfilled. Public meetings will be scheduled.



- Joseph Avenue ArtWalk Master Plan: The GTC Board accepted the project closeout in June.
- Genesee Riverway Trail Completion Study: The draft report is under development and will be released to the PAC. Expect a final public workshop in late September.
- Inner Loop North Mobility and Development Strategy: Project is nearing completion. Expecting to present Closeout in November.
- City of Rochester Alleyway Reactivation and Conversion Program: The project is underway.

*RGRTA – Staff reported:*

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

*Wyoming County – Staff reported:*

- Wyoming County Priority Investigation Locations Program: The PAC met on July 21 to discuss recommendations. Project closeout is expected this fall.
- Wyoming County Active Transportation Plan: The Scope of Work is under development and will be presented at an upcoming meeting.

*Yates County*

- Yates County Guiderail and Horizontal Curve Study: The RFP is under development.

*Other Agencies – Staff reported:*

- Village of Fairport Zoning Code Update: The draft code is out for public review and comment through August 20. A Public meeting was held on August 13. Open Houses are scheduled for August 14 and 15. A Public Hearing with the Village Board is scheduled for September 8.
- Town of Rush Comprehensive Active Transportation Plan: The consultant is incorporating NYSDOT comments to the Draft Report. A presentation was made to the Town Board on July 23. Project closeout is anticipated at the next meeting.
- Town of Gates Active Transportation Plan: The contract is being finalized and is expected to be executed in September.
- Hamlet of Ontario Center Active Transportation Plan: The Scope of Work is under development and will be presented at a future meeting.
- City of Batavia Active Transportation Plan: An RFP was released on July 25 with proposals due August 22. To date, 29 RFP packages have been distributed.
- Ovid Active Transportation Plan: The RFP is under development.

## **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. The west sub-region is currently making the best progress.

James Stack reported that preparation work on the upcoming Community Safety Summit is underway. The summit is focused on the Safe Systems Approach, which covers all transportation modes, and will be held on November 12 at the Rochester Museum & Science Center. Staff is developing a program. The summit will be free of charge. Organizers are hoping for about 125 participants from a cross-section of agencies and residents. A follow-on summit is anticipated for 2027.

## **c) TIP Staff Modifications**

None to report.

## **d) Federal Legislative and Funding Update**

### Federal Budget

James Stack reported that Congress did not pass any Appropriations bills prior to going on recess through the Labor Day holiday. Several appropriations bills have passed out of committees. The sentiment appears that Congress will not come to agreement and will pass a Continuing Resolution to keep the government funded. The provisions in the One Big Beautiful Bill regarding the annual fee on electric vehicles that were discussed at the previous meeting have been withdrawn from the most recent version of the bill.

### USDOT Discretionary Programs

James Stack reported that a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Round 2 of the Strengthening Mobility & Revolutionizing Transportation (SMART) Grants Program is anticipated for release in late August. There is potential for this program to fund a demonstration project for Traffic Signal Emergency Vehicle Pre-emption and Transit Signal Priority based on the recently completed UPWP study.

## **e) Other GTC Matters**

No report provided.

## **f) Public Engagement Highlights**

Lori Maher reported on recent outreach activities since the last meeting, including a short summary of the Transportation Listening Sessions.

**g) Member Agency and Partner Updates**

No report provided.

**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 October 9, 2025.  
All materials for items to be considered at this meeting should be submitted to GTC staff no later than Friday, September 26, 2025.

**10. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 a.m.