

**GENESEE TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL
PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING
CityPlace
50 West Main St., Rochester
and via PublicInput.com
January 8, 2026 at 9:30 a.m.**

PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Devin Blue, representing Wyoming County
Megan Crowe, representing Livingston County (Vice-Chairperson)
Tom Frys, representing Monroe County – Executive
Henry Herdzik, representing Monroe County – At Large (*anticipated appointment*)
Kevin Kelley, representing City of Rochester – Planning Commission
Yixuan Lin, representing Monroe County – Planning Board
Kabutey Ocansey, representing City of Rochester – Mayor
David Riley, representing City of Rochester – At Large
Kevin Rooney, representing Wayne County (Chairperson)
Richard Sutherland, representing Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council
Laura Wadhams, representing Genesee County
Bradley Walike, representing NYSDOT

ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT

Scott Adair, representing RGRTA
Rose Bonnick, representing Monroe County Legislature
Tim McElligott, representing Ontario County
Jason Rearick, representing Seneca County

PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT AND UNREPRESENTED

John Boser, representing NYS Thruway Authority
Benjamin Fischer, Federal Highway Administration
Stephen Golding, Empire State Development Corporation
Craig Lane, representing Orleans County
David Lindsay, representing Monroe County – At Large
Evelyn Martinez, Federal Aviation Administration
James Smith, representing City of Rochester – Council
Vacant, representing Federal Transit Administration
Vacant, representing Monroe County Supervisors' Association
Vacant, representing NYS Department of Environmental Conservation

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

* Attendee observing via the GTC Engagement Hub

Jody Binnix, NYSDOT
Joe Bovenzi, GTC Staff
Rebecca Caico, RGRTA
Zac Cracknell, Livingston Co.
Dan Kenyon, RGRTA
Alex Kone, RGRTA
David Kruse, LaBella*

David Kubiak, MCDOT
Scott Leathersich, GTC Staff
Lori Maher, GTC Staff
June McIlquham, GTC Staff
Rick Papaj, Ravi Engineering*
Chris Sichak, Erdman Anthony*
Chris Snyder, GTC Staff

David Staas, GTC Staff
James Stack, GTC Staff
Omar Suri, GTC Staff
Anne DaSilva Tella, City of
Rochester
Chris Tortora, GTC Staff
Jason Wolfanger, Livingston Co.

1. Call to Order & Introductions

Kevin Rooney, 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 are noted above.

2. Public Forum

No one from the public spoke during the Public Forum.

3. Approval of Minutes

Megan Crowe moved to approve the minutes from the November 13, 2025, Planning Committee meeting; Brad Walike seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.

4. Announcements and Old Business

Kevin Rooney reported:

- Several changes have been made to the Planning Committee roster. He will serve as chairperson, and Megan Crowe will serve as Vice-Chairperson. Bradley Walike, who was recently appointed the NYSDOT-Region 4 Regional Director, will serve as the NYSDOT representative.
- Scott Leathersich started as the Interim GTC Executive Director on January 5. Now that James Stack has retired and transferred into an advisory role, Scott will lead the GTC staff during a search for James's successor.

5. Action Items

a) Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

1. Approval of the classification of the FY 2026-2027 Unified Planning Work Program tasks and the Draft FY 2026-2027 Unified Planning Work Program for Public Review / Proposed Council Resolution 26-01

Christopher Snyder provided an overview of the draft 2026-2027 UPWP development process, the purpose of that process, summarized the recommended projects included in the draft UPWP, and discussed the next steps in the process.

The Call for Project Partnerships took place from September 5 to October 11, 2025. GTC received 21 applications requesting \$2.5 million of federal funding, an increase since last year's request of \$1.5 million. The same amount of funding, \$1.1 million, was available for new projects.

He explained that one of the goals for this round was to award fewer projects

with higher budgets. This would help staff and member agencies catch up on a backlog of projects.

He explained that three of the seven projects being recommended for funding in this round are technical projects that are typically funded every year, including the Monroe County Land Use Monitoring Report, the Regional Land Use Monitoring Report, and the Monroe County High Accident Location Program.

The other four projects are new to the program. The Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Best Practices Study, Phase 2, is a continuation of the previous TIP Best Practices Study that was completed last year and focuses on further TIP development process improvements. The Genesee, Orleans and Wyoming Counties Multi-County Guiderail Assessment Project is a multi-county guiderail project focused on safety improvements. The Irondequoit Bay Bridge Project Scoping Study will provide NYSDOT with planning level alternatives for a major capital investment program on the bridge. The Manchester Active Transportation Plan will focus on improving multi-modal circulation, including safety improvements and access to job centers in the Manchester area.

The next step is for the committee to release the draft for public review. He explained the ways for the public to submit comments. The final draft will be presented to the Planning Committee in February and recommended for Board approval in March.

Thomas Fry moved to approve the draft UPWP for a 30-day public review; **Bradley Walike** seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.

2. Action concerning consideration of UPWP Project Scopes of Work
 - a. Task 8430 – Rochester Public Market Access, Mobility, and Development Study

Rebecca Caico with RTS presented an overview of the project. She explained that the project would be conducted in partnership with the City of Rochester and focus on access, mobility, circulation, and development around the Rochester Public Market. The proposed study would take a holistic, multimodal approach by integrating transit, pedestrians, bicyclists, vehicles, and shuttles to improve traffic flow, accessibility, aesthetics, and support for surrounding businesses in this high-value area.

The concept emerged from discussions with the City of Rochester beginning in spring 2025 and evolved from a transit-only focus to a broader examination of physical and operational improvements. RTS has collaborated with City staff from Planning, Environmental Services, Neighborhood and Business Development, and the Public Market to develop the study scope.

The study is expected to result in a narrative report with graphics, technical analysis, cost estimates, and a presentation, along with recommendations for capital and operational investments and supporting policies.

Following approval of the scope, a project advisory committee including staff from the city, RTS, and GTC would be organized in February. An RFP would be released and a consultant selected in spring 2026. The study would begin in summer/fall 2026 with an initial round of public engagement to identify goals, opportunities, issues, and concepts. A second round of public engagement would occur in winter 2026 to review draft findings and recommendations. Study completion is anticipated for spring 2027.

Thomas Frys moved to approve the Scope of Work; David Riley seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.

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

a. *Inner Loop North Mobility and Development Strategy* (UPWP Task 7707) / Proposed Council Resolution 26-02

Anne DaSilva Tella from the City of Rochester provided an overview of the project. She thanked GTC for funding the effort. The study examined future development opportunities for more than 20 acres created by the transformation of the Inner Loop North and identified the mobility improvements needed to support those land uses. Building on the 2022 Inner Loop Transformation Planning Study, the project produced an integrated land use, open space, and mobility strategy, along with implementation tools.

The study began in July 2024 and was led by MKSK, with Nelson\Nygaard providing transportation expertise and Highland Planning leading community engagement. City of Rochester staff, GTC program managers, and NYSDOT representatives participated throughout. Public engagement included five Project Advisory Committee meetings, two public open houses, and focus groups with corridor stakeholders, including developers, mobility advocates, property owners, and neighborhood groups.

The final strategy document outlines development concepts for three corridor sub-areas:

- East Sub-Area (East Main Street to North Street): Focus on restoring neighborhood fabric through townhomes, single-family homes, limited mid-rise mixed-use development, open space, and recreational facilities to support the World of Inquiry School.
- Central Sub-Area (North Street to the Genesee River): Envisioned as a new downtown mixed-use district with higher-density residential and commercial development.
- West Sub-Area (Genesee River to I-490): Higher-density residential and mixed-use development with riverfront open space and a potential downtown destination.

Mobility recommendations emphasize connectivity, safety, and multimodal access and are aligned with the 2022 Inner Loop North planning study. Focus areas include Genesee River crossings, access and circulation around the

World of Inquiry School, improvements to the University and Main Street intersection, riverway trail connections, and an expanded bicycle and trail network.

City staff noted the study will serve as a living document and is expected to inform the NEPA process and preliminary engineering design by providing a coordinated land use and mobility framework.

Thomas Frys moved to recommend the approval of Resolution 26-02; Bradley Walike seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.

b) Transportation Improvement Program

1. No Action Items

c) Long Range Transportation Plan

1. No Action Items

d) Related Activities

1. Recommendation to the GTC Board concerning amending the *National Performance Measures Report* and the *2026-2030 Transportation Improvement Program* by revising the HSIP and Highway Safety Performance Targets and the Transit Safety Performance Measures set forth in the RGRTA Public Transportation Agency Safety Plans / Proposed Council Resolution 26-03

Joe Bovenzi provided an overview of federal performance-based planning requirements and GTC's role in adopting statewide highway safety and public transit safety performance targets. Federal legislation, starting with MAP-21 and including subsequent laws, established a performance-based approach in transportation investment decision-making to ensure support of national performance goals. Like other MPOs, GTC is required to establish performance targets to track progress in reaching performance goals.

The Highway Safety Improvement Program Report and the Highway Safety Strategic Plan are updated annually by New York State Department of Transportation and the NYS Governor's Traffic Safety Council. These agencies collaborate on setting statewide targets. GTC has previously agreed to support the State's targets and include them in the National Performance Measures Report and the FFYs 26-30 TIP.

The targets for 2026 are based on 5-year rolling averages. These are updated annually by NYSDOT-Main Office and the Governor's Traffic Safety Committee. These groups agreed to set a realistic 1.5 percent reduction goal for 2026, with annual reduction benchmarks of 0.5 percent by 2024 and 1.0 percent by 2025.

The Transit Safety targets were provided by RGRTA and are included in the Public Transit Agency Safety Plan, a product required of all urban service providers. In December 2025, the RGRTA Board of Commissioners approved the 2025-2026 Public Transit Agency Safety Plan. GTC has previously agreed to support RGRTA's targets and include them in the National Performance Measures Report and the FFYs 2026-2030 TIP.

Bradley Walike moved to recommend the approval of Resolution 26-03; Thomas Frys seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.

6. Reports

a) Status of UPWP Projects

GTC – Joe Bovenzi reported:

- GTC Strategic Planning: No activity to report.
- Long Range Transportation Plan Update/ Implementation: Work on the draft LRTP is ongoing. Public outreach on the draft recommendations is anticipated for January-February.
- Staff Technical Assistance: No activity to report.
- Household Travel Data Collection: GTC has purchased various data products via The Eastern Transportation Coalition (TETC). Staff is also accessing various data sets available through NYSDOT.
- 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: Staff has conducted various analyses of CLEAR data in support of the LRTP and various Local Road Safety Plans.
- Security & Resiliency Planning: No activity to report.
- Genesee-Finger Lakes Resilience Improvement Plan: Staff has begun outreach to project stakeholders. Committee members may receive communications from GTC staff as part of this effort.
- Genesee-Finger Lakes Regional Thruway Detour Route Management Plan: Proposal evaluations and scoring have been completed. Staff will proceed with selecting a preferred consultant and advancing the project.
- 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: Closeout accepted by the GTC Board at its August 28 meeting.
- Regional Trails Initiative Update: No activity to report.

G/FLRPC – Richard Sutherland reported:

- G/FLRPC Regional Land Use Monitoring (CY 2024): Closeout accepted by the GTC Board at its December 11, 2025 meeting.
- Regional Land Use Monitoring Report (LUMR) Database: The beta test is complete. The dashboard is now being migrated to ESRI.
- Transportation Listening Sessions: This project is complete and deliverables have been provided to GTC staff.
- Genesee-Finger Lakes Region Population Forecast 2060: All data has been collected, analyzed, and predictions developed. G/FLRPC staff are working on the final report.
- Just Transition Workforce Development Plan: RTS staff will be reviewing the draft handbook provided by GFLRPC. They will go chapter by chapter to make sure all relevant development documents, materials, and RTS policies are properly written and documented.
- Regional Alternative Fuel Vehicle Infrastructure Tools: The project closeout was accepted by the GTC Board at its June 12, 2025 meeting.

Livingston County – Megan Crowe reported:

- Nunda Active Transportation Plan: Proposals are due on Friday, January 9.

Monroe County – Yixuan Lin and Tom Frys reported:

- Land Use Monitoring (CY 2025): Staff will start preparing the 2025 report in February or March.
- Safe Routes Child Walk and Bike Safety Education Program: The RFP is under development.
- High Accident Location Program: Due to staff retirements and a hiring freeze, there is no progress to report.
- Genesee Valley Park Olmsted Arched Bridges Restoration Plan: The RFP was released in December. Proposals are due on February 6.
- Monroe County Comprehensive Active Transportation Implementation Plan: Internal kick-off meetings with MCDOT, MC Planning, the consultant (Fisher) and GTC will take place soon.

NYS DOT – Jody Binnix and Joe Bovenzi reported:

- Wyoming County Route 20A Truck Freight Corridor Study: RFP was issued, but only one proposal. Rescope the project and will release the RFP in early Feb.
- I-490 Center City Interchange Ops Mobility Study: The RFP is under development.
- Mount Read Boulevard Corridor Study Update: The build out analysis is currently under review. A steering committee meeting is upcoming.

Ontario County – Joe Bovenzi reported:

- Ontario County Access Management, Complete Street, and Resiliency Project: The contract execution process is underway.

City of Rochester – David Riley and Chris Snyder reported:

- ADA Right-of-Way Transition Plan: Draft Report from consultant; working through comments. Try to finalize the draft and close out the project by end of March.
- Genesee Riverway Trail Completion Study: No update, but per November's update, the final report is being developed with plans to be completed by end of the GTC fiscal year.
- Inner Loop North Mobility and Development Strategy: A closeout presentation was provided earlier in meeting.
- City of Rochester Alleyway Reactivation and Conversion Program: Draft chapters are done and under review by the consultant.

RGRTA – Alex Kone and Rebecca Caicos reported:

- Public Market Access, Mobility, and Dev. Study: The Scope was presented earlier in the meeting
- Service Performance Monitoring and Refinement: Continuing to monitor services. Primary focus in the On-Demand service.

Wyoming County – Staff reported:

- Wyoming County Priority Investigation Locations Program: Anticipate a draft report going out to the PAC this week.
- Wyoming County Active Transportation Plan: Working to set up a kick-off meeting with the county to develop the RFP.

Yates County – Staff reported:

- Yates County Guiderail and Horizontal Curve Study: The consultant returned a signed contract to GTC on January 6. Need to finalize signatures.

Other Agencies – Staff reported:

- Village of Fairport Zoning Code Update: The final code document is under legal review. Project closeout is expected before the end of the fiscal year in March.
- Town of Gates Active Transportation Plan: The contract is being finalized.
- Hamlet of Ontario Center Active Transportation Plan: No activity to report.
- City of Batavia Active Transportation Plan: Contract development is underway
- Ovid Active Transportation Plan: No activity to report.

b) Status of SS4A Program

Staff reported that each of the three consultant teams for the Local Road Safety Plans have been meeting with communities and collecting and analyzing traffic data and trends for each county. Coordination with City of Rochester's Vision Zero Plan.

Yixuan Lin raised a concern about lack of contact with Monroe County Planning on the development of the Central SS4A Local Road Safety Plan. GTC will follow up.

c) TIP Staff Modifications

Joe Bovenzi reported that Staff Modifications 25-09 through 25-11 were made since the previous meeting. A report was included in the meeting package.

d) Federal Legislative and Funding Update

Federal Budget (October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026)

Scott Leathersich and Joe Bovenzi reported that there has been limited movement on the federal budget. The federal government is operating under a continuing resolution, currently extending through January, and funding conditions remain unchanged. As a result, operations continue under a status-quo, business-as-usual scenario.

Work is ongoing in Congress on the next National Transportation Reauthorization, though few details are available at this time. Staff anticipates having more information on potential funding and policy changes later in the spring.

USDOT Discretionary Programs

Staff reported that the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) discretionary grant program (successor to the TIGER program) was released on November 26, with applications due February 24. This is currently the only active USDOT discretionary grant opportunity. Agencies considering an application were reminded to coordinate with NYSDOT and GTC to ensure statewide alignment and local support. No local projects were reported as pursuing the program at this time.

e) Other GTC Matters

Nothing to report.

f) Public Engagement Highlights

Nothing to report.

g) Member Agency and Partner Updates

- a. Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Update: Joel Kleinberg, NYSDOT-Region 4, reported that the TAP call for projects is now open and actively

underway, following notification at the previous meeting. Strong interest has been expressed by communities across the region. TAP funding supports active transportation projects, primarily sidewalks, but is not limited to sidewalk improvements.

An initial submission deadline is scheduled for approximately one week from the meeting date. Committee members were encouraged to direct interested communities to the public-facing TAP website for detailed information or to contact NYSDOT staff with questions.

- b. Jason Rearick inquired about the status of the RFP for the Ovid Active Transportation Plan as the Scope was approved last July. GTC staff offered to follow up with him to discuss the RFP development process.

7. New Business

Nothing to report.

8. Public Forum

No one from the public spoke during the Public Forum.

9. Next Meeting

Kevin Rooney announced the next meeting is scheduled for February 12, 2026. All materials for items to be considered at this meeting should be submitted to GTC staff no later than Friday, January 30, 2026.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

Link to video recording: <https://publicinput.com/AX1835>