

NYSAMPO Freight Working Group
Conference Call
May 1, 2013, 11:00 am – 12:00 pm

Meeting Summary

Attendees

- Howie Mann, NYMTC (Chair)
- Aaron Frankenfeld, A/GFTC
- Leah Mosall, CDTC
- Maria Chau, FHWA
- Mark Christian, NYSDOT
- Ahmed Ismail, OCTC
- Jenn Coccozza, PDCTC
- Mike Alexander, SMTTC
- John Sterbentz, BMTS
- Jerry Kres, ECTC
- Grace Wu, RSG

Discussion Items

1. Self-Introductions
2. Summary of March Teleconference (Grace, RSG) – Quick run-through of the March 21 WG meeting notes.
 - Freight and event training opportunities: Freight and Land Use Workshop (NYMTC), Freight and Alternative Fuel Conference (CDTC/Leah), Upcoming meetings: FHWA/AASHTO and Peer Exchange/BMTS, as well as June WG Workshop at NYMTC to be further discussed at this call
 - Open discussion on stakeholders and regional economic development to identify potential projects and funding and feasibility for freight projects
 - RSG will re-send copy of March meeting minutes to the working group.
3. NYSAMPO Freight Working Group Conference Update Discussion
 - [June 3 – 4](#), NYMTC, NYC (Howie) – Breakfast and registration, followed by brief opening remarks. Maria will be there but will also see if another colleague can join from FHWA.
 - Draft Agenda and Panelists/Speakers (Howie) – Monday, June 3rd and Tuesday, June 4th. Two day get-together, with a seminar on the first day and a field site visit on the second.

The seminar on the first day will include a panel discussion from both public and private perspectives. Maria Chau from FHWA will set the stage with the federal and MTO policy direction. The public side includes MPO success stories from Ted Dahlburg (heads the freight program at DVRPC) and Ted Matthews (head of freight planning at NJTPA). The private sector panel includes Kendra Hems (NYS Motor Truck Association). Invites have been extended to Rick Crawford from Norfolk Southern and another potential speaker from Duane Reade. The

afternoon will consist of breakout groups and facilitated discussions around the topic of the experiences of each MPO and take-away lessons and opportunities from the seminar. Howie will facilitate the report-back and summary from each group at the end of the day, with close out around 4:30pm.

- Field Trip – Field visit and inspection. The second day, the group will meet at NYMTC and be ready to leave at 9am on June 4 and travel to Fresh Pond in Queens, and then on to New York and Atlantic Railway. The group will board the train to tour Bay Ridge Yard’s new car-float bridges. These locations were identified by WG members in a poll. Howie expects the tour to conclude by 3pm.
- Roll-call for attendance – Howie took a quick poll to see how many people on the call today would be able to make the June workshop. About half of those on the call plan to attend; however many would likely be attending just the first day.
- Registration Process – RSG is setting up an Eventbrite registration page to keep track of everyone who is signing up to attend. RSG is finalizing the page and will send it out shortly to everyone in the working group, along with the list of hotel accommodations nearby.
- **Action Items:**
 - RSG to follow up with WILMAPCO contact to confirm third panelist for public panel
 - RSG to follow up with Norfolk Southern contact and Duane Reade for the private panel. If neither can attend, RSG to follow up with CSX contact.
 - RSG to look back at the original poll to see who was planning to attend the workshop.
 - RSG to send out Eventbrite registration link and hotel accommodation recommendations week of May 6th.

4. Freight Working Group Work Plan

- Status of work plan items (Howie) – Addressed each of the categories in the work program:
 - The June in-person meeting addresses the goals of sharing best practices and conducting tours of significant freight facilities, as well as holding periodic conferences amongst the group members.
 - Second category of integration, driven by MAP-21, addresses the regional needs and the guidance of rulemaking at the federal level. Possible next step is to formulate a freight education program.
 - Creating a NYSAMPO freight webpage – This will be the next big item after the June workshop. Will need input from all MPOs, working with NYS Motor Truck Association and Railroads of New York (RONY), and rely on help from RSG.

- Maria – For public outreach/public involvement component – Look into the NHI program on engaging the private sector as something to bring in for September. Fits in well with the public education piece. MPOs that have done freight plans have already done stakeholder outreach and would be helpful to discuss how that was conducted during the in-person meeting. Look at the ground level from the MPO perspective, such as job-creators in their area that produces goods movement, and not just private sector (i.e. hospitals). Wonders if NHI course would go more deeply into that and would be helpful to the planning and plan update development.

5. Other Freight Events and Training Opportunities

- **April 24** - Freight and Alternative Fuel Conference **CDTC**, Albany (Report from Leah) – Had about 70 participants, with broad range of alternative fuel usages (from fleet managers to community garden vans), along with Port of Authority of New York and New Jersey addressing the issues of the Panama Canal project. Biggest take-away was the workshop portion of the conference, where people gave input on their freight issues and priority networks, in conjunction with barriers to alternative fuel vehicles. Currently digesting from the conference and will be using that data to kick-off the next step. Air traffic control tower site visit received positive responses from participants. Rich spoke on Buffalo and Peter spoke on freight and complete streets. RSG will send out link to the meeting material once it is posted online.
- **July 31 – August 2** - FHWA/AASHTO Freight Partnership V, Washington DC (Maria) – Partnership IV was an eye-opener with freight and what is happening in the country, with participants from different states and learning about what the private sector is doing, which is not necessarily always in the public’s radar. Have national policies that are looking into who is going to be the leader (state-wise) and how NYS will interpret that for the state. The discussion nationally is on the level of interest from the governors. Maria just had a division officers meeting on what New York is planning to do in order to promote MAP-21 and freight in NY. Definitely will be speaking to a lot of these issues at the next partnership meeting.
- **Dates TBD** - Peer Exchange-BMTS Freight Peer Exchange (Energy Development Related Truck Impacts) (Maria) – The peer exchange is a popular discussion right now and FHWA headquarters had to pull it back, so the dates are postponed and pending new location/date. John is thinking BMTS will conduct their own peer exchange, with contacts in Pennsylvania, and plan to have their own local exchange with highway superintendents and officials. Will be holding their local peer exchange later this year.
- **Howie** – Whether it occurs at federal or local level, as things move along, bring those developments to this working group to be included on the working group call agenda. Freight has become a big discussion in various areas across the country, so it is getting to be a national issue. Rethinking locale and timing of the FHWA-led BMTS Freight Peer Exchange since a significant number of people may be interested and it is important to try to make travel to the

event as affordable and accessible as possible.. Maria will be sending a direct invite to everyone in the working group and their directors for when the BMTS Freight Peer Exchange occurs.

6. Other Recent MPOs' Freight Developments

- Howie - May 15 is the next NYMTC Freight Transportation Working Group. NYSAMPO members can participate by webinar. Contact Howie and he will forward the agenda by email.
- NYCDOT presentation on JFK air cargo
- NYSERDA Hudson River Foodway presentation – Connecting upstate agricultural interest and downstate consumers.
- Leah – partnering with RPI through Volvo Research and Education Grant (\$4M grant to establish center of excellence). Working with Professor Jose Holguin-Veras at RPI to develop a freight model for trip generation and attraction, based on zip code. Working with them on running a model to understand the non-general freight generators, such as hospitals as mentioned by Maria earlier. There is evidence that employment data produces a more valid model. CDTC is getting ready to do a freight plan in house, and currently in the data-gathering stage. Hope to share at the next WG call an update on where the model is and whether it can be distributed to other MPO's in the state.

7. Wrap up – The June workshop will replace the next WG call. If any comments, questions, input, please email to Howie, Peter or Grace.