

**NYSAMPO Transit Working Group Teleconference**  
**June 6, 2013**  
**MEETING NOTES**

1. Introductions

- A/GFTC – Kate Mance
- BMTS – Scott Reigle
- ECTC – Jim Arey, Tina Hager
- GTC – Bob Torzynski
- HOCTS – Dana Crisino, Barb Hauck
- ITCTC – Fernando deAragón, Dwight Mengel
- OCTC – John Czamanske
- PDCTC – Mark Deblad
- NYSDOT – Marty Neveu, Tom Vaughan, Ian Williamson , Bill Telovsky
- FTA – Victor Waldron

2. Section 5310\New Freedom Program

- Summary of MPO administration by NYSDOT preference and any questions\discussion  
Gayle: reported on MPO responses. Only ITCTC/Tompkins County want to be their own DR. A number of MPOs have already decided on NYSDOT, others are leaning that way but in discussion.  
Neveu: reported on actions by various MPOs.  
Torzynski: GTC Planning approved.  
Czamanske: OCTC will act at Aug 13 meeting  
Crisino: On HOCTS agenda for late July-early August
- FFY 2012 Section 5310 grant awards announcement  
Vaughan reported that these awards (due June 1 2012) were finally released. Thanks to those who ranked the projects. §5310 in STIP as a block project, so no action needs to be taken. FTA will compare funding, and approve grant application. Some MPOs do §5310 as an informational item on their TIPs.  
Arey: ECTC showed §5310 as a TIP project.  
Neveu: MPOs do not need to amend selected projects into TIP, although that is a permissive action. STIP will not itemize projects.  
Vaughan: MPOs should include FTA targets in new TIP. Should match apportionments under fiscal constraint. Can add §5316 & 17 to FFY 2014 for use of FFY 2012 or earlier funds.  
Neveu: Any § 5310 TIP issues can be resolved after October 1 2013.
- Transit Working Group input into “new” DOT 5310 program  
Vaughan reviewed the proposed State Management Plan for §5310. He noted that they will try to keep changes to a minimum, while meeting FTA requirements as known at the time. New issues include: (1) funds being allocated directly to TMAs, which cannot be transferred. SUZAs may be able to transfer funds. Need to understand how to address carryovers. (2) More eligible project types than previously. (3) Sub-recipients have changed, since a municipality can apply for NF.  
Will be seeking comments from MPOs. Plan to have a draft issued by mid-July.  
Arey: Will seek volunteers to work on this.  
Arey: A complication is allowing construction projects under capital element.  
Vaughan: NF has previously been used for capital construction. Decisions will have to be based on MPO Coordinated Planning process; NYSDOT cannot dictate among eligible uses. MPOs should consider “harmonization” of planning priorities in updating Coordinated Plan (§5310

only program that will now use Coordinated Plan). NYSDOT is waiting for release of Draft Chapter 5 of FTA Circular to clarify relationship of projects and Coordinated Plan. Grant application must reflect that the projects meet requirements of CP.

Vaughan: Would like all DR resolutions passed by September, in order to transmit the required letter to the Governor regarding designation. By mid-September, NYSDOT will know if they can use the new State Grant Management System. MPOs may be asked if they want 2 years of funding (FFY 2013 & 14) in a single solicitation.

Arey: How far will NYSDOT be opening up Operating Assistance?

Vaughan: Depends on FTA Circular and on MPO Plan. Limits on available funding will work against being able to fund operating assistance.

Vaughan: Reviewed Application Diagram. Background information to be more concise than previously to avoid conflicting answers. Project information depends partly on MPO. Would like to build that into Grant Management System.

Arey: Will have to initiate a process to amend the Coordinated Plan. May be difficult to have that happen by October.

Vaughan: Experience is that MPOs except for ITCTC do not do regular updates. NYMTC is updating demographic data only. Realize that is difficult; does it lead to delaying solicitation? MPOs and NYSDOT may want to consider FFY 2013 as transition year that is capital-only, because in the past there has been a larger need for vehicle replacement than available Section 5310 funds could support.

Neveu: Need to do the most expedient thing to assist recipients.

Vaughan: Along with Draft State Management Plan will be a proposed timeline. If capital-only transition, will avoid many changes. MPOs and rural counties will need to review during summer.

Torzynski: Limiting to capital, will cut out Mobility Management projects, which are also important to some recipients.

Arey: Asked about interim steps and possible schedule.

Vaughan: Draft State Management Plan(SMP) by early-mid July; propose 2 week comment period for MPOs; NYSDOT will figure out outreach to rural counties. By Aug 1, SMP 2.0 that has incorporated comments ready to go; NYSDOT begins to develop application. During August, incorporate final changes to SMP and application.

Neveu: presupposes all MPOs act by Sept 15 on DR.

Gayle: When he polled MPOs, only A/GFTC had a later date, but said they could accommodate earlier action. Mance confirmed.

Gayle: Any idea when FTA Circular will be issues

Waldron: No information on issuance of Circular. FTA website says late spring.

Debald: Timing may be challenging in getting vote by PDCTC Executive Committee, go to Technical Committee first. Do we have to wait until Circular comes out?

Neveu: No, others are acting, based on discussions with operators.

Mengel described how ITCTC does Coordinated Plan update and approval. Their Plan includes a priority list of projects, which is kept current by annually updating project list. Then implementation depends on availability of funds. Update considers changes to plan objectives and priorities in addition to projects.

**ACTION ITEM:** Vaughan will send out proposed timeline. Vaughan will send sample MPO resolution language.

3. Post JARC program – funding and approaches discussion, how many use JARC to fund Mobility Managers?

Arey inquired about use of JARC for Mobility Manager projects.

Mengel: ITCTC develops local consensus between Tompkins, TCAT, ITCTC to use Federal poverty factor to determine a set aside for JARC/MM type projects from §5307. Vaughan assisted in determining funding, incorporated in Draft 2014-18 TIP. After Coordinated Plan Committee recommends projects, additional review by a 3<sup>rd</sup> party committee prior to MPO review.

Tompkins intends to use §5307 to continue funding Mobility Managers (MM). § 5310 is committed mostly to capital and operating assistance.

Torzynski: JARC spent by RGRTA, Mobility Managers funded through NF.

Arey: ECTC funds MM with JARC.

Reigle: BMTS used JARC for MM.

Czaminske: Orange County MM funded through Office of Employment & Training, TANF used as match.

Hauck: HOCTS uses NF for MM; looking into §5307 for future funding.

Vaughan: Several downstate agencies funded MM with JARC.

Vaughan Look at Olmstead Plan to seek MM funding from other state agencies, since they/their clients may also benefit.

4. FTA Safety Performance -- FTA safety performance criteria letter, “Dear Colleague” letter from Administrator Rogoff had been distributed – discussion, MPO roles

Vaughan: NYSDOT Transit Safety person not available. FTA recognizes state safety (SSOA); laid out requirements. NYSDOT would like to designate PTSB.

Arey: How about Safety Management System, apparently applies to all transit operators?

Waldron: All coming from HQ, no additional available. Will try to find out.

5. Next meeting

Meet prior to when comments due on State Management Plan. Week of July 22. Steve to poll.

Arey: Session at NYPTA? Sept 11-12, Saratoga Springs. Not sure of the value based upon timing.

Vaughan: Would not attract Non-Profits which DOT will reach out to early in process.