

**NYSAMPO Association
Transit Working Group Teleconference
Monday, December 15, 2014 – 3:00 PM**

MEETING NOTES

1. Introductions

Adirondack/Glens Falls Transportation Council - A/GFTC – Kate Mance
Binghamton Metropolitan Transportation Study - BMTS – Scott Reigle, Jennifer Yonkoski
Elmira-Chemung Transportation Council - ECTC – Jim Arey, Tina Hager
Genesee Transportation Council - GTC – Bob Torzynski
Herkimer-Oneida Counties Transportation Study - HOCTS – Dana Crisino
Poughkeepsie-Dutchess County Transportation Council - PDCTC – Mark Debald
Syracuse Metropolitan Transportation Council - SMTC – Mario Colone
Ulster County Transportation Council - UCTC – Brian Slack
NYSDOT – Tom Vaughan, Lisa Cataldo

2. Section 5310 Program Status

Vaughan/All

- NYSDOT is currently wrapping up and summarizing the application.
- The process should take from six to eight weeks. The release is anticipated for January with workshops in the second and third weeks, which would result in rankings starting in mid-March. Mid-2015 would be the earliest for awards.
- Vaughan will keep the TWG updated on the program status.

3. Transit WG 2015-2016 Draft Work Plan

Torzynski/All

- Attachment #1 includes the draft Work Plan.
- Working goals are the same as previously discussed. In order to account for potential changes to the comment periods associated with the various rulemakings, the review goal will be open-ended and responsive to the needs of the Directors.
- The TWG provided the following response to the 2015-2016 specific activities listed in the work plan:
 - It would be helpful to also create a general fact sheet on transit. This brochure could be a helpful education material for the public, as well.
 - In terms of activity #9/current practice, a number of NYS MPOs are not included in the EPA Smart Location Database due to a lack of GTFS data. To increase MPO GTFS participation, especially from smaller MPOs, a soft launch of a new trip planner functionality was used.
 - Regarding activity #7/BRT and LRT fact sheets, the topic could be made more general. There are many corridors, not exclusively BRT or LRT, where transit can be used to change the vitality/efficiency of the corridor. (Example: an agency worked with NYSDOT when service was cut to/within an adjacent county. Collaboration allowed services to continue to critical destinations including major hospitals.)
- Torzynski will incorporate comments from today's call and pass on for director review.

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4. New Business

TBD/All

- Experience with signal preemptions for transit vehicles
 - RGRTA conducted a feasibility study that discussed signal *prioritization*.
 - CDTC has *prioritized* transit signals. Christine Younger was involved.
 - In Buffalo, James Morale collaborated with city engineers on this topic.

5. Next Meeting Date

- Will be scheduled for early March 2015

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ATTACHMENT #1

NYSAMPO Transit Working Group
2015-16 Work Program
Draft of December 5, 2014

Working Goals:

- Review proposed state and federal legislation, regulations, and rulemakings and provide input to the NYSAMPO Directors for their knowledge and potential action
- Promote coordination of transit planning and programming activities among MPOs, New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT), Transit Providers, and FTA staff
- Promote knowledge transfer among the MPOs on transit planning activities

2014 Accomplishments:

- Conduct teleconferences during February, May, September, and December 2014
- Reviewed and commented to the Directors on pertinent transit-related rulemakings (i.e., Transit Asset Management, State of Good Repair, and Safety)
- Worked with NYSDOT to implement the roll-out of the 2015 Section 5310 Program Solicitation
- Discussed potential approaches to funding JARC-type projects under MAP-21 using fund sources such as Section 5307

2015-2016 Specific Activities:

1. Conduct teleconferences at least four times per year with in-person meetings if and when needed
2. Review and comment on the Transit Performance Measures and statewide Targets set by NYSDOT (if any) and potential approaches to integrate statewide measures and targets with MPO planning activities and MPO-adopted plans
3. Review and comment on proposed Transit-related changes to MAP-21 in a new transportation authorization bill (if and as requested by the Directors)
4. Share experience/information on proposals received in response to upcoming Section 5310 Solicitation: types of projects, innovative projects received, how projects were selected/recommended at each MPO, issues, opportunities, solutions
5. Discuss the potential application of the “Ladders of Opportunity” planning emphasis area to the updating of existing Coordinated Plans, Transportation Plans, and other Transit Planning activities (e.g., the development of analytical approaches to identify connectivity gaps, measures of accessibility, and underserved areas)

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6. Identify and discuss data sources that support the integration of transit planning activities and the overall transportation planning process such as the EPA Smart Location Database, Community Commons, Open Data NY, and the American Community Survey 5-Year data sets (2009-2013)
7. Develop a fact sheet on BRT (and/or LRT) for areas that might be considering implementation
8. Develop a fact sheet on Transit Oriented Development/Transit Supportive Development using the 2009 NYSAMPO publication "Transit Supportive Development in New York State: A Guide for Communities" as a starting reference point
9. Share and discuss current practice on:
 - a. Coordinated Public Transportation-Human Services Plan status, process and update (see also items 4, 5, and 6, above)
 - b. Incorporation of Transit Planning into the MPO Long Range Transportation Plans (see also item 2, above)
 - c. Incorporation of Transit Planning into the TMA MPO Congestion Management Process
 - d. Transit operator involvement in scoping Complete Streets projects, and as advocates for improved pedestrian access to transit stops and stations (Possible collaboration with Bicycle and Pedestrian Working Group)