



New York State
Association of
Metropolitan
Planning Organizations
WORKING GROUP MINUTES

WORKING GROUP: Bicycle and Pedestrian Working Group

MEETING DATE: 9 June 2016

MEETING LOCATION: Conference Call

LIST OF ATTENDEES BY ORGANIZATION:

Metropolitan Planning Organizations:

Adirondack/Glens Falls Transportation Council – A/GFTC: Kate Mance

Binghamton Metropolitan Transportation Study – BMTS: Scott Reigle (Chair);

Capital District Transportation Committee – CDTC: Jen Ceponis

Genesee Transportation Council – GTC: Bob Torzynski

Orange County Transportation Council – OCTC: Ashlee Long; Ethan Brennan

Poughkeepsie-Dutchess County Transportation Council – PDCTC: Emily Dozier

Syracuse Metropolitan Transportation Council – SMTC: Danielle Krol (Co-Chair); Mike Alexander

Watertown Jefferson County Area Transportation Council – WJCATC: Geoffrey Urda

New York State Department of Transportation – NYSDOT:

Main Office: Tom Benware; Jim Ercolano; Chandra Williams

Region 1: Valerie Dean

Region 2: Joseph Kaczor

Region 3: Jeff Sterly

Region 4: Steve Beauvais

Region 5: Chris Church

Region 6: Pauline Burns

Region 7: Lynn Godek;

Region 9: Katy Mangan

Region 10: Lanny Wexler

Federal Highway Administration – FHWA: Katie O’Sullivan; Maria Chau

Other: NYSAMPO Staff: Corey Mack, RSG

NYBC: Paul Winkeller

PTNY: Greg Francese; James Meerdink



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MINUTES:

1. 9:30AM – Roll Call (C. Mack)
2. 9:40AM – NYBC Update/Legislation (P. Winkeller)

Winkeller: Electric Bikes: A bill is being drafted in the legislature to allow New York City to develop a registration system for Class 1 E-Bikes (pedal assist up to 20 mph). There is no schedule for implementation at this time.

Three Foot Passing Law: The 3-foot amendment (A9198a) to the Safe Passing Law is not on the Transportation Committee agenda and will not likely get passed.

Bikes on Board: The Bikes on Board measure has been removed from the budget and will not be implemented.

Other NYBC activities: Expanded law enforcement education activities including the development of a law enforcement version of the bike safety booklet with police to develop. A draft will be prepared later this year and NYBC will likely reach out to the Bike-Ped WG for feedback on the copy. Additionally, NYBC is seeking police officers interested in bicycling to be on the development committee.

3. 9:50AM – Park and Trails NY – Unused Earmarks Project (J. Meerdink)

Francese: PTNY developed a webpage with information regarding the earmark repurposing: <http://www.ptny.org/earmarks>. From the website:

“The current federal transportation funding bill, Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act, gives states the opportunity to repurpose expired earmarks.

All eligible earmarks available for repurposing must meet the following criteria:

- Meets the definition of an earmark. An earmark is defined as a dedicated fund for a specific project, given by the authority of a law or contract.
- Authorized or designated on or before September 30, 2005
- Less than 10 percent obligated or the project has been completed and closed

According to our analysis, there is over \$207 M in earmark funding available for repurposing in New York State, including approximately \$18 M originally intended for bicycle and pedestrian projects.”

More information is available on the website, including a link to the FHWA earmark repurposing guidance memorandum.

Beauvais: a project sponsor, such as a municipality or non-DOT agency, is required, similar to the TAP program. Unaware of any form, proposal, or state guidance regarding the repurposing.

Dozier: unable to find much guidance, has discussed earmarks repurposing with communities, but not sure how to progress. Appears that the funding does not have to stay in same mode.

Benware: not sure who is leading from DOT, will find out. **T. Benware to find out the DOT contact for repurposing expired earmarks.**



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The group conjectured that the money, if not spent, goes back into federal general fund or is otherwise no longer dedicated to transportation.

4. 10:10AM – NYSDOT Initiatives

a. Pedestrian Safety Action Plan (T. Benware/J. Ercolano)

▪ Pedestrian Safety Education Campaign:

Benware: the campaign is getting kicked off June 20. The Department of Health and Governors Traffic Safety Committee are the lead agencies. After the June 20 announcement, DOH is looking to work with local safety boards and MPOs to connect to local government. The hope is the Pedestrian Safety Education Campaign will have a similar effect as the seat belt education campaign.

b. NYSDOT Bicycle & Pedestrian Program - Office of Traffic Safety and Mobility (OTSM)

▪ Bicycle Map:

Benware: the bicycle route and infrastructure mapping effort is continuing to move forward. DOT is meeting with each region and working towards coming up with a common set of mapping attributes. DOT is discussing with other agency partners: DEC; NY Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation; Hudson Valley Greenway; others; and developing use scenarios: describing who is using the map, what they are using the map for, and what device they're using it on. Hoping to finish this stage of the map development in July and share with the stakeholder groups. This information will help direct map and webpage layout. The entire project is targeting a September 30 draft completion date. **T. Benware to share initial stage development with BPWG when available (estimated July 2016).**

▪ TAP (Lisa Ford/T. Benware)

Benware: No specific information regarding a TAP solicitation in 2016 at this time.

5. 10:25AM – Work Plan Implementation

a. Updating NYS Driver's Manual and Website (S. Reigle/E. Dozier)

Reigle: will follow up with P. Winkeller / NYBC to set up a meeting with DMV. **S. Reigle to discuss scheduling a meeting with DMV to update the Driver's Manual.**

b. MPO Safety Education Tool Kit (E. Dozier/S. Reigle)

Reigle: recommend waiting for the DOH / GTSC / DOT Pedestrian Safety Action Plan to roll out their education component before investing time and effort into this initiative.

Wexler: consider working with the Education Department to include pedestrian safety in the school curriculum.

Urda: Washington DC includes bicycle training as part of their school curriculum: described here: <https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/education/all-dc-public-schools->



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criteria. It appears promising that more municipalities are becoming aware that these concepts may make general maintenance funding applications more competitive

6. 10:35AM – NYSAMPO Staff Services Update (C. Mack)

a. Grant Program Tracking

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1Sxtw1fMpF6B1gUMUmXM9QDUUVZfa78kwK58MuvAVJcE/edit?usp=sharing>

Grant tracker is live and available as a resource. The link provided should grant access to view and edit any of the information available.

7. 10:45AM – Upcoming Events

a. Walk-Bike NY 2016 – Sept. 13-14, 2016 at Crowne Plaza Hotel, Syracuse, NY – See <https://www.itsmr.org/events>.

- i. Eyes on the Sidewalk presentations – schedule adjustment
- ii. September 13 WG Meeting Plans

S. Reigle: keynote speaker at the Walk-Bike NY conference: Mark Fenton. Mark will also participate in a breakout session on complete street issues. E. Dozier, K. Mance, and others will be presenting, and our quarterly in-person meeting will be held from 5:30 to 6:30 on September 13.

b. NY Highway Safety Annual Fall Symposium: Partnering for a Safer NY – October 16-19 in Lake Placid, NY – See <https://www.itsmr.org/events>

NEXT MEETING:

- c. In-person Meeting: Thursday, September 13 – at Walk-Bike NY Symposium in Syracuse, 5:30 – 6:30pm followed by walk to dinner.
- d. Conference Call: Thursday, December 8 (10am-12pm)
- e. In-person Meeting: Thursday, March 9 – Host TBD.