

New York State
Association of
Metropolitan
Planning Organizations
WORKING GROUP MEETING MINUTES

WORKING GROUP: Freight

MEETING DATE: August 17, 2016, 1PM to 2:30PM

LOCATION: Meeting Room in the Security Building at the Port of Albany
107 Smith Boulevard, Albany, NY 12202
1-719-234-7872, Code: 6135021939.

ATTENDEES: *Adirondack/Glens Falls Transportation Council – A/GFTC: Not Present*
Binghamton Metropolitan Transportation Study – BMTS: Casandra Gascon (Phone)
Capital District Transportation Committee – CDTC: Chris Bauer
Elmira-Chemung Transportation Council – ECTC: Jerre Cress (Phone)
Genesee Transportation Council – GTC: *Not Present*
Greater Buffalo-Niagara Regional Transportation Council – GBNRTC: Rich Guarino
Herkimer-Oneida Counties Transportation Study – HOCTS: Not Present
Ithaca-Tompkins County Transportation Council – ITCTC: Not Present
New York Metropolitan Transportation Council – NYMTC: Geoff Rick
Orange County Transportation Council – OCTC: Ashlee Long
Poughkeepsie-Dutchess County Transportation Council – PDCTC: Mark Debald (Phone)
Syracuse Metropolitan Transportation Council – SMTC: Mike Alexander
Ulster County Transportation Council – UCTC: Brian Slack, David Staas
Watertown Jefferson – WJCATC: Scott Docteur, Al Ricalton
New York State Department of Transportation – NYSDOT: Dave Rosenberg
FHWA: Maria Chau, Gautam Mani, Katie O'Sullivan, Scott Davies, Travis Black
RSG: Christine Sherman

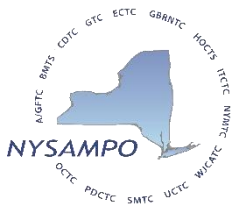
MINUTES:

- 1. Introductions (All)**
- 2. Updates on the Marine Highway Program, StrongPorts Program, Build America Bureau, and the Panama Canal Study (Office of Marine Highways and Passenger Services)**

Please reference the attached slides for the presentations provided by the FHWA Office of Marine Highways and Passenger Services:

- 3. National Freight Program and FASTLane Grants (Chau)**

New York received two grants in the first round of the FASTLane program. \$850 million was distributed this year, and next year will be \$900 million. The MPOs will dictate what these projects look like and what moves forward. NYSDOT and the MPOs are encouraged to have a strong prioritization process for their projects and cost-benefit analysis and other criteria to support why a project rose to the top priority. Chau will distribute links regarding the FASTLane Cost-Benefit Analysis Trainings as a reference.



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Freight plans are more important than ever because they are tied to national funding. In addition to the discretionary FASTLane program, the FAST Act provides formula funding for freight projects. These projects must be on the National Highway Freight Network. New York State will need to develop critical urban and rural freight corridors. The NYSAMPO Freight Working Group may be the best venue to develop these corridors.

FHWA encourages NYSDOT and NYSAMPO to provide comments to the docket on the National Multimodal Freight Network (NMFN) due September 6.. (Not part of the meeting, but the docket to collect comments has been open since June 6th.)

4. NYSDOT Updates (Rosenberg)

The stakeholder engagement meetings for the Freight Transportation Plan will occur in October and November of 2016. NYSDOT will coordinate with the MPOs in the strategic locations for the stakeholder meetings to identify specific locations and critical stakeholders.

The project team is wrapping up the Freight Transportation Plan's Existing Conditions and Forecasts Report (Technical Memorandum 5), which will be available for review by the MPOs in the next few weeks. The report will include analyses for each major freight corridor and facility by mode, as well as overall statewide economic and commodity flow trends.

The project prioritization process for the Freight Transportation Plan is still in development.

5. Action Items/Next Meeting (All)

- Chau will distribute links regarding the FASTLane Cost-Benefit Analysis Trainings (See Below).
- MPOs should stay tuned for a call for comments on the National Multimodal Freight Network (NMFN).
- NYSDOT will follow up on the critical urban and rural corridors.
- NYSDOT will reach out to MPOs regarding the stakeholder meetings for the Freight Transportation Plan.
- NYSDOT will distribute the Freight Transportation Plan Existing Conditions and Forecasts Report to the MPOs for review in the next few weeks.

Docket to collect comments on the NMFN

<https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2016/06/06/2016-13261/establishment-of-interim-national-multimodal-freight-network>

Links to the March 2016 Benefit Cost Analysis Webinar Materials (Sent by Chau 8/17/2016):

Benefit Cost Analysis Presentation PDF

<https://www.transportation.gov/sites/dot.gov/files/docs/FASTLANE%20BCA%20Webinar%20031016.pdf>

Benefit Cost Analysis Project Readiness Guidance

<https://www.transportation.gov/fastlanegrants/bca-and-project-readiness-guidance>

Benefit Cost Analysis Recorded Webinar

<https://connectdot.connectsolutions.com/p260usm4vur/?launcher=false&fcsContent=true&pbMode=normal>