

NYSAMPO Freight Working Group

Conference Call

April 29, 2015, 10:00 am – 11:30 pm

Meeting Summary

Attendees

AGFTC – Aaron Frankenfeld
GBNRTC - Rich Guarino, Chair
BMTS - John Sterbentz
CDTC - Chris Bauer
ECTC - Jerry Cresse
GTC - Jody Binnix
NYMTC - Jeff Rick, Howie Mann

OCTC - Ashlee Long, John C.,
PDCTC - Mark Debalda, Shelby Tompkins
SMTC - Mike Alexander
NYSDOT - David Rosenberg, Vanessa Saari
FHWA - Maria Chau, John Formosa
RSG - Peter Plumeau, Steve Gayle, Maren Outwater

Discussion Items:

1. Welcome and Changes to the Agenda – Rich Guarino, GBNRTC
 - Rich reviewed agenda and a couple of changes from December suggestions
 - Howie – retiring as of May 13 after 35 years, expressed gratitude for opportunity to work with Freight WG; group offered congratulations and appreciation
2. Review/Acceptance of Notes of December 2014 Working Group Call – Rich Guarino, GBNRTC
 - Moved – Howie, Bauer – Second, Approved unanimously
3. Presentation and Discussion of Project to Develop FHWA National Freight Model – Maren Outwater, RSG
 - FHWA considers this to be “FAF-5” – exploratory research effort over 3 years
 - Q&A:
 - How looking at factors external to model (eg, oil disruption, exchange rates) – procurement market game specifically designed to address exogenous factors such as this, can ask lots of what if questions; other elements also designed to be broad-based, so are capturing operational decision-making information (e.g, storage costs, transport costs, etc.)
 - What data/sources will be used over course of study? Using whatever data is available, need to be disaggregate data, CFS; expect to find that data wanting in terms of items we want to estimate; part of recommendations – data needs; FHWA sees this as a process over time to get to a credible and validatable model.

- How will model be calibrated? There won't be any calibrations because of the data concerns. FHWA might fund additional calibration research depending on outcome of this study.
 - Another firm was selected to explore a design for this, being done in parallel with our research. Funded at lower level than RSG study.
 - Is model US-only? No, model inputs include entire globe at continent or country level. Freight flows will display beyond US borders.
4. Review of Goals and Objectives of Freight Working Group Work Program for 2015 – Rich Guarino, GBNRTC
 - Rich reviewed
 - Peter clarified changes from December draft version that people reviewed
 5. Discussion of NYSAMPO 2015 Conference Freight Planning Session – Peter Plumeau, RSG
 - TRB Report – RPI
 - Studies – CDTC, NYMTC, other?
 - John C – try to include private operators – trucks, UPS/Fedex
 6. Update on Federal Activities – Maria Chau, FHWA NY Division
 - National Freight Strategic Plan – Secretary is collecting comments from national committees; due for release in fall 2015
 - Freight Cond and Perf Report – fall 2015
 - Freight Fluidity Tool – measure efficiency of freight flows in NA
 - NFAC – completed work and presented papers to Congressional staff (2014)
 - National Freight Network – still working on this, 1200 comments received, so not sure how this will end up, balance rural and metro needs
 - State FACs – 30 states as of Jan 2015; only 9 states have not completed or committed to updated freight plans
 - US-Canada freight planning peer exchange – next week – Rich and Maria attending
 7. Update on NYSDOT Freight Plan – David Rosenberg, NYSDOT
 - Provided update on key tasks and stakeholder engagement status
 - Howie – need low-cost/no-cost method of QA/QC on freight database before applying it to analysis/planning
 8. Roundtable – Members Share Items of Interest
 - AGFTC – approached by CS to be a test case for analyzing goods movement in smart growth; putting together meaningful discussion group
 - CDTC – developing FGMS, about 1/3-1/2 done; moving into recs phase; SHRP2 Local Freight Data Improvement Project

- ECTC – completed first regional freight plan as part of LRTP update and now processing how to move it forward with regional goals
- GBNRTC – International Trade Gateway Coalition, now official org w/official bylaws, working on membership and governance structure, Hal and Rich no longer on the Board but still co-chairs on infrastructure subcommittee
- GTC – updating LRTP for 2040, looking to incorporate recent freight plan
- NYMTC – not sure who will replace Howie; recent 30-day comment period on 3 products that needed to be integrated into freight plan – detailed analysis of truck trips; commodity groups analysis; additional work on freight village planning; next phase of freight plan – working on contract execution over next 3 months, essentially a continuation of last plan and associated implementation element
- OCTC TMA attended PA GMAP presentation at Stewart Airport
- SMTC – Updating LRTP and looking at freight PMs; updating freight profile and expanding private sector relationships; Port of Oswego; enhancing connections with Traffic Safety Advisory Board
- FHWA Metro Office – ROD on Cross Island Rail in a few months; new freight rail council with PA and NYC; City EDC have solved lease issues with South Brooklyn terminal; potential new cross-harbor rail connection

9. Topics/Focus for Next Call - All

- *New TRB Report – RPI Presentation?*
- CDTC SHRP2 Project
- Peer Exchange
- Guide to Grant Deadlines and Availability related to freight – possible RSG project?

10. Set Next Call Date/Time – Rich Guarino, GBNRTC and NYSMPO staff

Doodle poll – mid-July meeting

11. Adjourn