

**New York State Association of MPOs**  
**Climate Change Working Group**  
**August 14, 2013**  
MEETING NOTES

☒ Participating

- A/GFTC – Kate Mance
- CDTC – Sreekumar Nampoothiri
- GTC – Rich Perrin
- HOCTS – Jeff Quackenbush
- NYMTC – Larry McAuliffe
- OCTC – Ahmed Ismail
- PDCTC – Mark Debald
- NYSERDA – Adam Ruder

1. Follow-up on Potential White Paper topics

Mance had reviewed the Albany EV Feasibility Study in terms of summarizing findings into a white paper, concluded there may not be enough content. This could be developed into a Fact Sheet if there is interest.

McAuliffe reported NYMTC working on a paper on how to develop local area EV networks, which has both similarities and differences from Albany.

Perrin noted a NAS report Overcoming Barriers to EV Deployment; he will provide link.

Mance – enough source material for a Fact Sheet.

Gayle asks if this would duplicate a NYSERDA product.

Ruder notes NYSERDA has some fact sheets for specific audiences; developing an “EV in NYS” website, which will include original content including fact sheets

Mance – appears there would be value for an MPO oriented fact sheet; Ruder can identify sources

**ACTION ITEM:** Mance will confer with Ruder, develop a concept for Fact Sheet

2. MPO Sustainability Review

Mance notes that the Working Group was asked to incorporate sustainability in its portfolio, but not clear how they can/should address the topic. Proposes a simple survey to administer to MPOs to understand how they address sustainability in LRTP, UWPW, training, etc. May lead to further WG product: white papers, conference proposals.

Perrin: MPOs involved in NYSERDA Regional Sustainability Plans; also HUD/EPA/DOT Livable Communities Partnerships. Initial scan should be valuable.

Gayle references MAP-21 National Goals include environmental sustainability. The scan can help prepare MPOs for eventual performance metrics, also inform comments when NPRM on these metrics is released.

**ACTION ITEM:** Mance to generate questions, circulate to group. RSG to then develop SurveyMonkey questionnaire.

3. NYSDOT Updates – none (will distribute by email if anything significant)

4. Resource review – Mance reviewed attached resources.

Gayle notes that RSG is on a team to support enhanced use of the INVEST tool through workshops and other outreach.

Perrin suggests there is potential for combining aspects of INVEST and TCAPP tools.

5. NYSERDA Updates

Ruder: Solicitation next week on demonstration projects on EV and EV charging stations. This is for research looking at things like grid impacts and minimization techniques (vehicle storage, building on-site energy mgmt. sys); policy proposals.

Will be announcing funding for CNG stations later in 2013.

Continuing Cleaner/Greener, beginning to review applications that came in on Monday, make awards; schedule not determined, likely to be toward end of year. Scored by REDCs under CFA process and NYSERDA technical evaluation panel. Also open enrollment program for small grants to communities for Solar PG and EV charging.

DeBald asks about Electric Truck Voucher Program. Ruder – changes to Buy America provisions delayed program. Program was announced Aug 12, expect to be receiving immediate wave of requests reflecting pent up demand.

Link to Governor's announcement. <http://www.governor.ny.gov/print/7208>

6. Set Date/Time/Agenda Items for Next Teleconference

Oct 9, 10:30 AM

7. Adjourn

## RESOURCES

### **President's Climate Change Action Plan**

In June 2013 President Obama unveiled a climate change action plan, largely focused on efforts to regulate power plant emissions and promote renewable electricity systems, as well as adaptation efforts. There are a number of transportation-related issues and goals in this plan, which include calling for stricter heavy vehicle fuel economy standards in 2018, and supporting efforts to reduce climate-related infrastructure vulnerability.

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/share/climate-action-plan>

### **FHWA Announced INVEST Implementation Sites**

FHWA has released a map of the transportation agencies which use the Infrastructure Voluntary Evaluation Sustainability Tool (INVEST). (None are located in New York State.) INVEST 1.0 is a web-based collection of voluntary best practices, launched in October 2012, which are intended to incorporate sustainable practices into transportation agency projects, plans, and programs. Case studies are planned, based on INVEST implementation projects being conducted by 18 agencies.

<http://www.sustainablehighways.dot.gov/invest/sites.aspx>

### **New Sea Level Rise Tools Released**

As the reconstruction from Hurricane Sandy continues, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric (NOAA), the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) have developed a map series to help communities understand future sea level rise. In addition, the Sea-Level Change Calculator, originally devised by NOAA, has been modified. The new calculator, also used in the map series, integrates FEMA data regarding elevation and peer-reviewed sources detailing future sea rise.

<http://www.globalchange.gov/what-we-do/assessment/coastal-resilience-resources>

### **Summary of Extreme Weather Events Symposium**

AASHTO's Sustainable Transportation: Energy, Infrastructure, and Climate Solutions Technical Assistance Program sponsored a National Symposium on Extreme Weather Events in May 2013; a summary document is now available. The symposium topics included: case studies related to state DOT experiences with extreme weather events; trends and projections for extreme weather; costs of extreme weather events; and risk management strategies in design, operations and maintenance, asset management, and emergency response.

[http://environment.transportation.org/pdf/2013\\_symposium/AASHTO\\_EWESymposium\\_2013.pdf](http://environment.transportation.org/pdf/2013_symposium/AASHTO_EWESymposium_2013.pdf)

### **Partnership for Sustainable Communities Develops Tool to Assess Local Sustainability Indicators**

The Partnership for Sustainable Communities, an interagency initiative organized by DOT, EPA, and HUD, has released a web-based tool to measure sustainability indicators at the community level. The Sustainable Communities HotReport compares Census Bureau sustainability indicators for individual communities against state and national figures. Topics include transportation, housing, equity, economic development, and income. Transportation indicators covered in the site include average commute time, means of travel to work, and commute mode share.

[http://thedataweb.rm.census.gov/TheDataWeb\\_HotReport2/EPA2/EPA\\_HomePage2.html](http://thedataweb.rm.census.gov/TheDataWeb_HotReport2/EPA2/EPA_HomePage2.html)