

NYSAMPO Climate Change Working Group Teleconference
4/11/12
Meeting Summary

Participants

- Kate Mance, AGFTC (Chair)
- John Sterbentz, BMTS
- Jay Schissell, ECTCC
- Rich Perrin, GTC
- Joe Bovenzi, GTC
- Jeff Quackenbush, HOCTS
- Cathy Kuzman, NYSDOT
- Colleen Smith-Lemmon, NYSDOT
- Mark DeBald, PDCTC
- Peter Plumeau, RSG

Discussion Items

1. Changes or Additions to Agenda
 - *Agenda - no changes*
 - *February meeting summary – no changes*
2. Discussion/Action Item - Confirmation of CC Working Group goals to bring to the April 20th working group meeting in Binghamton (Kate)
 - *Rich suggested adding some text regarding monitoring of NYS Energy Plan and NYS Smart Growth Law, both of which are affiliated with GHG reduction*
3. Discussion - Update on Transportation & Climate Initiative (TCI) conference call for MPOs and discussion of potential CC working group role moving forward (Kate)
 - *Kate discussed summary of state-level performance measures and guiding principles from the conference call, which was very well attended*
 - *NYSERDA is developing siting and design guidelines for electric vehicle and alternative fueling and charging stations. This may present a big opportunity for MPOs to disseminate and use this info, which will be available by end of 2012.*
 - *There should be some content related to freight issues and options for improving efficiency of transportation systems through telecomm technologies*
 - *Kate suggested asking the TCI to consider the CCWG as an “interested party” so that the NYSAMPO may formally comment on TCI activities and initiatives; Rich agreed this is a good idea because little has been discussed about MPOs’ role in TCI going forward; Jay believes this parallels the upcoming discussion in Binghamton re the roles of the working groups*
 - *TCI is holding a work program planning summit in June, so the for this discussion timing is good; ask each of the four TCI work areas to provide the working group a more detailed update on their efforts as part of future WG agendas*

- *Cathy agrees MPOs should be involved in TCI and has reached out for comments on various things; not sure TCI would be open to having MPOs more involved at this point; DOT can provide help on specific work areas (Lynn Weiskopff(?)); can ask Lynn to talk to WG*

- 4. Information Item - Formation of Coalition of Northeast States to Participate in Development of Electric Vehicles under DOE Grant to NYSERDA (Larry)
 - *Deferred to future call*

- 5. Information Item – Update on NSYDOT Activities (Colleen/Cathy)
 - *Colleen – Energy Planning Process status: DOT staff involved in it; initial Plan needs to be done by 2013 – will develop guidance and policy ideas for NYS to meet its energy goals (Article 6 law); focus on improving reliability of system, reduce energy cost, max energy efficiency and conservation, minimize public health and environmental impact (especially climate change), make NYS a global competitor for clean energy economy; a draft report is being circulated internally now, and includes transport, climate change, smart growth, environmental, EJ, and other chapters; draft to be released on Sept. 1 for public comment, but general comments/input welcome now; work plan/scope available on NYSERDA website anytime. NYSAMPO did not offer comments on the plan/scope, but there were stakeholder outreach meetings around the state. This process has had a more expansive group of involved stakeholders – Board levels, legislators, consumer advocates, etc.*
 - *Cathy – Smart Growth Implementation Compliance Process: DOT planning committee, which had MPO reps; developed SG screening tool for NYSDOT use; realized need to have some context/background on what is trying to be achieved; screening tool going through admin review now and put into use officially around June – all projects to be reviewed going forward (state, local, etc.); also formed a SG Advisory Committee, with senior DOT executives on it, gives policy direction to department; some Regions already using the tool. Will apply to locally-administered fed aid projects and any state-funded project with some exceptions. The law is unclear on various definitions and criteria, so there is likely to be some confusion and “bumps” over time.*

- 6. Discussion - Status of White Papers on Statewide Initiatives (Kate)
 - *Chris – New Visions plan will reduce VMT by about 5% based on literature and research; Highlights 5 Linkage studies that facilitated communities’ desire to make changes in land use/transportation and reduce VMT growth rate; Linkage program is important part of implementing the plan and has many co-benefits as well, including GHG emissions reductions and others; recognizes lack of MPO authority over land use*
 - *How applicable to other MPOs? Useful as tool for other MPOs to use?*
 - *Rich – Maybe mention other MPO initiatives in NYS (e.g., GTC)*
 - *Jay – co-benefits are probably the key selling points*

- *Kate – way to get people excited about making land use changes when they understand benefits (strength of the Linkage program)*
- *Kate – hope people were able to participate in March Webinar w/Rich*

7. Other Business/Announcements

- *None.*

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

- *June 13, 2012, 10 am. Agenda content to be determined.*

Call adjourned at 11 am