



Syracuse Metropolitan Transportation Council

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POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

February 16, 2018

11:00 a.m.

*Syracuse Metropolitan Transportation Council
Lower Level Conference Room
Syracuse*

Brian M. Schultz, Chairperson, Presiding

REVISED AGENDA

- 1. Additions and Changes to the Agenda**
- 2. Approval of Minutes**
 - July 26, 2017
- 3. Communications and Reports**
 - A. 2017-2018 UPWP Status Report
 - B. Update on I-81 Opportunities from the NYSDOT
- 4. Old Business**

None
- 5. New Business**
 - A. 2018-2019 Unified Planning Work Program
 - B. Statewide Safety Targets
 - C. Transit Asset Management Plan Targets
 - D. TIP Amendments
 - E. SMART 1 – Draft Final
 - F. Report Erie Boulevard East Pedestrian Study – Draft Final Report
 - G. Carrier Park Mobility Plan – Draft Final Report
 - H. Connections to Township 5: Bicycle & Pedestrian Assessment – Draft Final Report
 - I. Route 57 Build-Out Impact Analysis - Technical Assessment
 - J. Coordinated Plan Update
- 6. Public Comment**
- 7. Adjourn**

The Metropolitan Planning Organization

Office of the Mayor • Syracuse Common Council • Syracuse Planning Commission • CenterState Corporation for Economic Opportunity • New York State Department of Transportation • New York State Department of Environmental Conservation • New York State Department of Economic Development • New York State Thruway Authority • Office of the County Executive • Onondaga County Legislature • Onondaga County Planning Board • Central New York Regional Transportation Authority • Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board • Federal Transit Administration • Federal Highway Administration

SYRACUSE METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL

MINUTES of the FEBRUARY 16, 2018 POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

Voting Members

Brian Schultz, Chair
David Bottar
Megan Costa
Joe Driscoll
Corey Driscoll Dunham
Heather Lamendola
Kerry McElroy
Nick Paro
Rob Simpson
David Smith
Martin Voss

Organization

CNY Regional Transportation Authority
CNY Regional Planning & Development Board
Onondaga County Planning Board
Syracuse Common Council
City of Syracuse
City Planning Commission
NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
Onondaga County Legislature
CenterState CEO
NYS Department of Transportation
Onondaga County

Also Attending

Neil Burke, City of Syracuse; Mark Frechette, NYSDOT; Peter King, Moving People; and Rick Lee, Centro

SMTC Staff

James D'Agostino, Mario Colone, Jason Deshaies, Andrew Frasier, Kevin Kosakowski, Danielle Krol, Aaron McKeon, Meghan Vitale, and Patricia Wortley

BUSINESS MEETING

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Schultz called the meeting to order at 11:02 a.m. in Lower Level Conference Room of the Syracuse Metropolitan Transportation Council, Syracuse, NY. Following introductions, the meeting proceeded.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Chairperson inquired if there were any changes to the July 26, 2017 minutes. Hearing none, the Chairperson called for a motion.

Mr. Smith moved and Mr. Simpson seconded approval of the minutes. Motion carried.

3. COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS

A. UPWP STATUS REPORT

Mr. D'Agostino stated that due to the 2018-2019 UPWP presentation later on today's agenda, the current project updates will be provided then.

B. UPDATE ON I-81 OPPORTUNITIES FROM THE NYSDOT

Mr. Frechette stated the DOT performed construction practice outreach in the fall with a variety of groups. The focus area was on a topic they had not spent a lot of time on related to I-81. He talked about how they would be maintaining traffic during construction. They talked about what

measures they would put into place on the environmental side. They continue to do one-on-one meetings. Please contact Mr. Frechette if you wish to meet. They worked on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the no build, rebuilt viaduct, and community grid options. There is a lot of information on protecting the environment which has not been shared with the public yet. The DEIS is the vehicle to engage the public on the preferred alternative.

In December, the independent WSP tunnel study was released. As part of that, some of the tunnel solutions are feasible. In the State of the State, the Governor announced that the tunnel option will be included in DEIS. That option has to be brought to the same level as the other alternatives. Work on the tunnel option will go on throughout 2018.

Mr. Simpson inquired about the timing of the additional analysis being made available for public review. Mr. Frechette stated that it will at least take 2018 to bring the tunnel option up to the same level as the other alternatives. It is hard to say at this point in time. They are trying to take the best components of all of the tunnel options developed to date. Mr. Simpson inquired if the tunnel option that the NYSDOT is working on may be different than the WSP orange alternative. Mr. Frechette stated that the NYSDOT has not made that determination at this point in time. The WSP orange alternative lacks much of the specificity needed. They want to draw on the best aspects of the orange alternative. Mr. Simpson inquired as they progress with the tunnel alternative at that decision point will there be public communication about impacts of the tunnel or will that be part of the confidential information. Mr. Frechette stated that public input is part of the NEPA process. He cannot say what the impacts are at this time without knowing which option. Mr. Simpson stated that the NYSDOT will be developing at tunnel option that the public has not seen throughout all of 2018. Discussion occurred over public involvement in the proposed tunnel vetting. The timeline depends on the analysis. Mr. Simpson expressed his concern how far down the road the analysis gets without any indication of the general parameters being provided to the public.

Mr. Simpson stated that federal transportation funding has a large impact on the project. He inquired if there has been an analysis on the impacts of those current proposals or is it too premature to do that. Mr. Frechette stated that whatever Congress puts forward will have implications. They have to see what gets negotiated. They are working within the confines of the current transportation bill. It is way too premature to know how that impacts 81. Mr. D'Agostino stated that the proposed local match formula will be a challenge.

Mr. Driscoll inquired about the depressed highway. Mr. Frechette state the depressed highways were reviewed and they were not feasible.

4. OLD BUSINESS

None.

5. NEW BUSINESS

A. 2018-2019 UPWP

Mr. D'Agostino reviewed the 2017-2018 UPWP work items. He then reviewed the proposed 2018-2019 program. We have a \$1.3 million budget. He highlighted the continuing projects – some of which are required and others that were not completed under the 2017-2018 program year. Twelve new projects were proposed by member agencies and two projects were proposed by staff. All of the projects, with the exception of the Village of North Syracuse Bear Road project, are included in the proposed UPWP. Mr. D'Agostino gave an overview of the projects. He noted that some projects will not be started until later in the program year. He stated this is very large program and he does not anticipate issuing a call letter next year.

Mr. Driscoll inquired as to the Environmental Justice study. Mr. D'Agostino gave an overview of the project.

Mr. Voss moved and Mr. Smith seconded a motion to adopt the 2018-2019 UPWP. Motion carried.

B. STATEWIDE SAFETY TARGETS

Mr. D'Agostino stated The Highway Safety Improvement Program Final Rule (23 CFR Part 490) required states to set targets for five safety performance measures by August 31, 2017. The NYSDOT established targets for 5 performance measures based on 5-year rolling averages for:

1. Number of fatalities;
2. Rate of fatalities per 100 million Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT);
3. Number of serious injuries
4. Rate of serious injuries per 100 million VMT
5. Number of non-motorized fatalities and non-motorized serious injuries.

NYSDOT officially adopted the above targets in the Highway Safety Improvement Program annual report dated August 31, 2017. The Governors Traffic Safety Committee (GTSC) has also adopted identical safety targets for number of fatalities, rate of fatalities and number of serious injuries as set forth in the Highway Safety Strategic Plan (HSSP).

The SMTC had the option to establish safety targets by agreeing to plan and program projects that contribute toward the accomplishment of the State's targets or establish its own targets within 180 days of the State establishing and reporting its safety targets. The SMTC staff and the NYSDOT are recommending that the Policy Committee adopt the NYSDOT's Statewide Safety Targets.

Ms. Lamendola moved and Mr. Voss seconded a motion to adopt the NYSDOT five Safety Targets. Motion carried.

C. TRANSIT ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN TARGETS

Mr. D'Agostino stated that the October 1, 2016, Transit Asset Management Rule (49 CFR, Part 625) required transit operators to develop and adopt a Transit Asset Management Plan that addresses State of Good Repair for rolling stock, infrastructure, equipment, and facilities.

The Central New York Regional Transportation Authority (CNYRTA) established necessary performance targets and officially adopted the transit performance targets attached hereto. MPOs are required to adopt Transit Asset Management Targets and the MPO has the option to agree to program investments in support of the transit operator's targets or set their own quantifiable targets.

The SMTC shall establish performance targets that address performance measures established under 23 CFR Part 490 (where applicable), 49 USC 5326(c) and 49 USC 5329(d) to use in tracking progress toward attainment of critical outcomes for the region of the MPO.

Mr. Colone reviewed the targets.

Ms. Lamendola moved and Mr. Smith seconded a motion to agree to support CNYTRA's performance targets in its Transit Asset Management Plan. Motion carried.

D. TIP AMENDMENTS

Mr. D'Agostino stated the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) is seeking the following amendments:

Deletion of project

PIN 380739 (Regional Large Culvert Project). Total cost \$660,000. Sponsor New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT). Project sponsor requests removal of project from SMTC's program due to schedule concern with Rt. 370/Onondaga Lark Parkway location.

Addition of project

PIN 360383 (VPP/Mill Rt 91, N of Coleman Hill Rd to Rt 173). Total cost \$650,000. Sponsor NYSDOT. Project sponsor requests addition of project to finish addressing the Rt 91 corridor. Offset provided by funds from outside the SMTC planning area.

PIN 380722 (Regional Large Culvert Project). Total cost \$660,000. Sponsor NYSDOT. Project sponsor requests addition of project to program to address Rt. 370 location and other large culverts outside the MPA.

Mr. Frechette stated that the Route 370 culvert project needs to be accelerated and the Route 91 paving will be done this summer. Funding for this project will come from outside the MPA.

Ms. Lamendola moved and Ms. Costa seconded a motion approving the above TIP Amendments. Motion carried.

E. SMART 1 – DRAFT FINAL REPORT

Mr. D'Agostino stated this study builds upon the analysis and findings in the 2014 Syracuse Transit System Analysis (STSA) completed by the NYSDOT as a component of The I-81 Challenge. Mr. Colone gave an overview of the study.

Mr. Bottar inquired, in relation to operating expenses, if there could be an increase in revenue. Mr. Colone stated that they looked at the number of increased riders which would generate additional revenue. The Chairperson stated that the fares they charge are such a small portion of the operating budget. Mr. D'Agostino stated that this system is already in place in Albany. They offset the costs by receiving funding from the University and hospitals in the areas served. There is a very real issue of operating costs that we have to overcome.

Mr. Smith moved and Ms. Driscoll Dunham seconded a motion to acknowledge the completion of the report. Motion carried.

F. ERIE BOULEVARD EAST PEDESTRIAN STUDY – DRAFT FINAL REPORT

Mr. D'Agostino stated that the City of Syracuse and the New York State Department of Transportation requested the SMTC undertake this study. Ms. Krol gave an overview of the study.

Ms. Lamendola inquired if the study identified the adverse effects of all the curb cuts along Erie Blvd. Ms. Krol stated that the study recommends examining it in more detail. Discussion ensued. Mr. D'Agostino stated the City could request the SMTC study this, but the process

may be better handled through a change in policy.

Mr. Bottar moved and Mr. Smith seconded a motion to acknowledge the completion of the report. Motion carried.

G. CARRIER PARK MOBILITY PLAN – DRAFT FINAL REPORT

Mr. D’Agostino stated that this effort is undertaken at the request of the Town of DeWitt. Mr. McKeon gave an overview of the study.

Mr. Bottar inquired if there is a next phase. Mr. D’Agostino stated that our work is complete. Mr. Bottar inquired if there are cost estimates. Mr. McKeon stated that there are some. Mr. McKeon stated that the town is interested in a road diet on Kinne Street. Mr. Bottar inquired if there were any conversations with Carrier about having access through their property. Mr. McKeon stated there were some discussion.

Mr. Bottar moved and Mr. Smith seconded a motion to acknowledge the completion of the report. Motion carried.

H. CONNECTIONS TO TOWNSHIP 5: BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN ASSESSMENT – DRAFT FINAL REPORT

Mr. D’Agostino stated that this effort was performed at the request of the Town of Camillus. Ms. Krol gave an overview of the study.

Mr. Bottar inquired if the recommendations are prioritized. Ms. Krol stated that the recommendations are not prioritized. Mr. Bottar stated it would be helpful if the recommendations were prioritized. Ms. Lamendola inquired if the Pine Grove area was looked at. Ms. Krol stated that it was not examined.

Ms. Costa moved and Ms. Lamendola seconded a motion that the Policy Committee acknowledge the completion of the report. Motion carried.

I. ROUTE 57 BUILD-OUT IMPACT ANALYSIS – TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT

Mr. D’Agostino stated that this item was completed under our Comprehensive Plan Assistance Block. The SMTC provided technical assistance related to the proposed and potential development of the Route 57 corridor between the New York State Thruway and John Glenn Boulevard. Ms. Vitale gave an overview of the analysis.

Ms. Driscoll Dunham moved and Ms. Costa seconded a motion to acknowledge the completion of the technical analysis. Motion carried.

J. 2017-2018 COORDINATED PLAN

Mr. D’Agostino stated that the previous Coordinated Plan was approved by the Policy Committee in 2014. Staff has worked on an update to the 2014 plan as is required every four years. The Coordinated Plan, a required element to award funding from the Federal Transit Administration in a metropolitan area, consists of four key components:

1. Assessment of available services;
2. Assessment of needs for persons with disabilities, seniors and people with low income;
3. Strategies or activities to address gaps in the transportation system; and

4. Priorities for implementation.

This plan has been updated to include 2015 American Community Survey data and input from various human service agencies and transportation service providers in the area. Mr. Colone gave an overview of the Plan.

Mr. Smith moved and Ms. Driscoll Dunham seconded a motion to adopt the Coordinated Plan. Motion carried.

6. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Frechette noted the Bridge webinar on February 22. Mr. D'Agostino urged the city and the county to apply for funding.

The local PSAP submission deadline is March 9. He encouraged people to apply for the funding as well.

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 12:42 p.m.